

**CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST**

**Region 10, Alaska**

Order No. 10-04-00-05-01

**FOREST ORDER**

**WINTER MOTOR VEHICLE CLOSURE**

**PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND**

This closure order implements the direction for winter motorized recreation access contained in the Chugach National Forest Revised Land and Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision (Chugach Plan), signed May 31, 2002. The Chugach Plan analyzes public uses of the forest and provides for a balance of the lands available to fulfill the needs of different user groups with different values and desires for recreational experiences. The Chugach Plan identified the areas of the forest that are closed to meet the needs of all forest users and to manage and protect forest resources.

The purpose of this order is to identify the areas of the Chugach National Forest that are closed to certain types of winter motor vehicle use as determined in the Chugach Plan and to identify the effective dates that these areas are closed. A motor vehicle means any vehicle that is self-propelled or any vehicle that is propelled by electric power obtained from batteries, but not operated on rails (36 C.F.R. § 261.2). A vehicle means any device in, upon, or by which any person or property is or may be transported (36 C.F.R. §261.2). This order closes the areas described below and identified on each area map attached to this order. The type of motorized access prohibited and the effective closure dates are identified.

This order does not prohibit the use and operation of snowmachines (snowmobiles and all motorized over snow vehicles, including off highway vehicles) within a highway right-of-way granted to the State of Alaska. Use and operation of snowmachines within such highway right-of-ways is governed by the applicable laws of the State of Alaska. For purposes of this order, the definition of “subsistence uses” in Section 803 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), 16 U.S.C. § 3113, applies.

This order may be modified by a subsequent order of an authorized Forest Officer. This order, and any modifications, will remain in effect until terminated by an authorized Forest Officer.

Administration of this closure order is under 36 C.F.R. 261.54(a), 36 C.F.R. 261.55(b), 36 C.F.R. 261.56, and 36 C.F.R. 261.58(y). Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(a), the following acts are prohibited on the Chugach National Forest:

## **I. CLOSED TO CERTAIN MOTOR VEHICLE USE EXCEPT FOR SUBSISTENCE USES**

As directed in the Chugach Plan, the following areas are dedicated to nonmotorized winter recreation. The use of snowmachines (snowmobiles and all motorized over snow vehicles, including off highway vehicles) and the landing of, or the dropping or picking up of any materials, supplies, or persons by means of helicopters that are utilized for winter recreational activities is prohibited in the following areas from December 1<sup>st</sup> of each year through April 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. The use of snowmachines by a rural Alaska resident for subsistence uses is allowed provided the individual is lawfully engaged in an authorized subsistence activity during permitted dates, such individual can readily identify himself as a qualified subsistence user, and is in compliance with all public safety regulations.

### **1. HAWKINS ISLAND**

All National Forest System land above the mean high tide line of Hawkins Island as shown on the attached Hawkins Island map, excluding the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill acquired lands which are addressed in a separate Forest Order. The area is within, or partially within Sections 13 thru 15, 19 thru 34, T15S, R4W; Sections 24 thru 26, 31, T15S, R5W; Sections 35, 36, T15S, R6W; Sections 5, 6, T16S, R4W; Sections 5 thru 9, 14 thru 21, 30, T16S, R5W; Sections 1 thru 5, 8 thru 17, 19, 20 thru 30, T16S, R6W, CRM.

### **2. HINCHINBROOK ISLAND**

All National Forest System land in the area bounded on the southeast by the center of Snake Creek and line from Snake Creek due south to Hook Point, bounded on the south and west by the high mean high tide line to a point ½ mile north of Shelter Bay at Sisters monument, bounded on the north by the Eagle Creek and Anderson Creek drainages as shown on the attached Hinchinbrook Island map. The area is within, or partially within Sections 18, 19, 30, 31, T16S, R6W; Sections 13, 14, 20 thru 36, T16S, R7W; Sections 15, 28, 32 thru 36, T16S, R8W; Sections 1 thru 4, 7 thru 23, 27 thru 34, T17S, R6W; Sections 1 thru 36, T 17S, R7W; Sections 1 thru 36, T17S, R8W; Sections 1, 12 thru 14, 23 thru 26, 35, 36, T17S, R9W; Sections 3, 5, 6, T18S, R6W; Sections 1 thru 12, 15 thru 21, 30, T18S, R7W; Sections 1, 5 thru 7, 10 thru 16, 19 thru 36, T18S, R8W; Sections 1, 25, 36, T18S, R9W; Sections 2 thru 6, 8 thru 10, T19S, R8W, CRM.

### **3. GREEN ISLAND/LITTLE GREEN ISLAND**

All National Forest System land draining to the south and the southern unnamed creek on the eastern side of Green Island above the mean high tide line as shown on the attached Green Island/Little Green Island map. The area is within, or partially within Sections 2, 3, T1N, R11E; Sections 1, 24 thru 26, 35, T2N, R11E; Sections 3 thru 5, 9, 10, 15 thru 21, 28, 30, T2N, R12E; Section 32, T3N, R12E, SM.

#### **4. EASTERN PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND MAINLAND**

All National Forest System land on the mainland down to the mean high tide line, from the eastern boundary of the Raging Creek drainage to the topographic divide between Valdez Arm and Columbia Bay as shown on the attached Eastern Prince William Sound Mainland map. The area is within, or partially within Sections 19, 30, 31, T9S, R6W; Sections 21 thru 36, T9S, R7W; Sections 17 thru 23, 25 thru 31, 33 thru 36, T9S, R8W; Sections 13 thru 17; 20 thru 26, 28, 29, 31 thru 36, T9S, R9W; Sections 30 thru 33, T10S, R5W; Sections 6 thru 8, 15 thru 36, T10S, R6W; Sections 1 thru 28, 35, 36, T10S, R7W; Sections 1, 4, 5, 8 thru 17, 21 thru 24, T10S, R8W; Sections 3 thru 6, 8 thru 10, 16 thru 20, 29 thru 32, T10S, R9W; Sections 24, 25, 35, 36, T10S, R10W; Section 31, T11S, R3W; Sections 17 thru 21, 26 thru 36, T11S, R4W; Sections 2 thru 36, T11S, R5W; Sections 1 thru 3, 10, 11, T11S, R10W; Sections 19, 29 thru 32, T12S, R2W; Sections 5 thru 10, 14 thru 36, T12S, R3W; Sections 1 thru 36, T12S, R4W; Sections 1 thru 36, T12S, R5W; Sections 12, 21, 22, 25 thru 29, 31 thru 33, 36, T12S, R6W; Sections 5 thru 9, 16 thru 20, 30, 31, T13S, R2W; Sections 1 thru 36, T13S, R3W; Sections 1 thru 26, 28 thru 31, 35, 36, T13S, R4W; Sections 1, 2, 4 thru 8, 11 thru 14, 23 thru 25, 30, T13S, R5W; Sections 1 thru 30, T13S, R6W; Sections 22, 23, 25, 26, T13S, R7W; Sections 4 thru 6, 8, 9, T14S, R7W; Section 31, T16S, R1E; Sections 19 thru 23, 25 thru 36, T16S, R1W; Sections 25, 35, 36, T16S, R2W; Section 6, T17S, R1E; Sections 1 thru 8, T17S, R1W; Section 36, R17S, R2E; Sections 1, 2, R17S, R2W; Sections 20 thru 29, 31 thru 36, T17S, R3E; Sections 17, 19, 20, 29 thru 33, T17S, R4E; Sections 1, 11 thru 15, 22 thru 27, T18S, R2E; Sections 1 thru 30, T18S, R3E; Sections 4 thru 9, 16 thru 21, 29, 30, T18S, R4E, CRM.

#### **5. EVANS ISLAND**

All National Forest System land above the mean high tide line of Evans Island as shown on the attached Evans Island map. The area is within, or partially within Sections 16, 20 thru 22, 27 thru 29, 32 thru 36, T1S, R8E; Sections 12, 13, 24, T2S, R7E; Sections 2 thru 5, 7 thru 9, 16 thru 20, T2S, R8E, SM.

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(e) and 36 CFR 261.56, the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Persons with a permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
2. Any Federal, State or Local Law Enforcement Officer or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.
3. Any Forest Service contractors or permittees in the performance of their contract or permit

These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

Executed in Anchorage, Alaska, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2004.

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JOE L. MEADE  
Forest Supervisor  
Chugach National Forest

Violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual and \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. (16 USC 551 and 18 USC 3559 and 3571)