

News Release
USDA Forest Service
Pisgah National Forest
Pisgah Ranger District



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Contact: Odell Sanders: 828/877-3265
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Yellow Gap Road (Forest Service Road 1206) Closed Until Further Notice

In an effort to increase visitor safety, the Pisgah Ranger District has decided to close the majority of Yellow Gap Road (FSR 1206) until further notice. This closure expands the existing closure which was put up in November when Forest Service Law Enforcement personnel determined that the possibility of unexploded ordnances and other hazardous devices may exist in the area.

According to Acting District Ranger Odell Sanders, “reports of individuals disregarding the posted restrictions and entering the area are occurring too frequently and these additional measures should enhance visitor protection”. New gates will be installed on Yellow Gap Road just beyond North Mills River Campground in Henderson County and near the intersection of Highway 276 in Transylvania County. All uses (hiking, horseback, mountain biking, and all motorized activities) will be prohibited behind the gates on Yellow Gap Road and within the original closure area.

In conjunction with the road closure, a prescribed burn is currently being planned to reduce the risk of any unexploded ordnances or other hazardous devices. The Pisgah District hopes to conduct the prescribed burn within the next few weeks, but since precise environmental and atmospheric conditions must be met there is no way to accurately predict when the burn may occur. Sanders went on to state “we realize that these actions will likely inconvenience many of our forest users, but our ultimate management objective is to make sure the public is safe.”

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