

ORDER
USDA - FOREST SERVICE
COCONINO and TONTO NATIONAL FORESTS
FOSSIL CREEK WILD AND SCENIC RIVER AREA

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

Pursuant to Title 36 CFR 261.50 (a) and or (b), the following acts are prohibited in areas as described in this Order on National Forest System lands administered by the Coconino and Tonto National Forests, in Gila and Yavapai Counties in Arizona, and as depicted on the attached map (the “restricted area”), hereby incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A.

PROHIBITIONS:

1. Camping is prohibited on either side of Fossil Creek within the parameters specifically described in this order and specifically shown on the attached map; the “no camping” parameters do not cover the entire restricted area, but a majority thereof. **36 CFR 261.58(e)**.
2. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire or stove fire is prohibited within the entire restricted area. **36 CFR. 261.52(a)** *Exception: the use of pressurized liquid or gas stove is permitted.*
3. Possessing or using any type of motorized vehicle off National Forest System Roads is prohibited within the entire restricted area. **36 CFR 261.56.**

EXEMPTIONS:

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50 (e) the following persons are exempt from this order:

1. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty; and
2. Person(s) with a Forest Service permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.

AREA DESCRIBED:

This area is known as Fossil Creek and is accessed by Highway 260 east of Camp Verde, or Highway 87 north of Strawberry. The restricted areas southern boundary starts near the area known as Stehr Lake and continues 10 miles upstream in a north and northeasterly direction following Fossil Creek to the confluence of Sandrock Creek and Calf Pen Creek.

CAMPING is prohibited within ¼ mile on either side of Fossil Creek starting at the Fossil Creek Bridge in Township 12 North, Range 7 East, Section 29 and continuing upstream north east 3.6 miles to the Fossil Creek Dam site located in Section 14. Camping is prohibited within 100 ft on both sides of Fossil Creek starting in the southern boundary (Stehr Lake area) and continuing 4 miles upstream to the Fossil Creek Bridge. The areas where camping is prohibited is a majority of the restricted area, as shown on the attached map.

CAMPFIRES and POSSESSING/USING VEHICLES OFF NFS ROADS are prohibited within 1/4 mile on either side of Fossil Creek beginning in the vicinity of Stehr Lake and upstream northeast 10 miles to the confluence of Sandrock Creek and Calf Pen Creek located in Section 7; the entire restricted area as shown on the attached map.

PURPOSE:

This order is needed to protect unique riparian plant and wildlife resources and to protect the public and nearby communities from the threat of wildfires.

IMPLEMENTATION:

1. This Order will be in effect when signed and shall remain in effect until February 28, 2012 or until rescinded, whichever event occurs first.
2. This Order rescinds, replaces and supersedes any previous Orders prohibiting the same acts covered by this Order in that area addressed by Exhibit A.

Done at Flagstaff, Arizona this 1st day of March, 2010.

/s/ Joe Stringer
JOE STRINGER
Acting Forest Supervisor
Coconino National Forest

/s/ Gene Blakenbaker
GENE BLAKENBAKER
Forest Supervisor
Tonto National Forest

Violation of this Order is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of not more than \$5,000.00 for individuals, and \$10,000.00 for organizations and/or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both. [Title 16 USC 551, Title 18 USC 3885, Title 18 USC 3571, and Title 18 USC 3581].

Order Number: 04-10-02-R

CASE FILE
 FOR THE CLOSURE OF THE FOSSIL CREEK AREA TO CAMPFIRES, DISPERSED CAMPING AND CROSS-COUNTRY TRAVEL

