

**Special Order  
AREA CLOSURE FOR OCCUPANCY AND USE  
RIO GRANDE NATIONAL FOREST**

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C § 551, and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(a) and (b), the following acts are prohibited annually from October 15<sup>th</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup> of the following year in that area depicted on the "Wolf Creek Pass Winter Recreation Area Map" hereinafter the "Restricted Area" hereby attached and incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A and on all Trails located within the Restricted Area hereinafter the "Restricted Area". This order is necessary to protect public health and safety and to reduce user conflicts on National Forest System lands.

**PROHIBITIONS:**

To go into or be upon the Restricted Area while using or possessing an over snow vehicle; 36 C.F.R. §261.53(e);  
Using an "over snow vehicle" on the Restricted Trails 36 C.F.R. § 261.55(b);  
Possessing or using an "over snow vehicle" within the Restricted Area 36 C.F.R. § 261.56.

**DEFINITION:**

As prohibited by this Order, an "over snow vehicle" is defined to include any motorized equipment designed or used to travel over the snow. This includes, but is not limited to, Snowmobiles, Snow Cats, Off Highway Vehicles ("OHV's") and All Terrain Vehicles ("ATV's").

**EXEMPTIONS:**

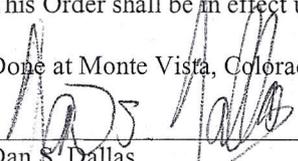
Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 261.50 (e), the following persons are exempt from this order;

- 1) Any Federal, State or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force engaged in the performance of an official duty; 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(e)(4).
- 2) Persons with a Forest Service Permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission; 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(e)(1).
- 3) Persons are permitted to use "over snow vehicles" on Forest Service Road 402, as depicted on Exhibit A, up to the Lobo Overlook parking area. This exemption only includes using the area directly over Forest Service Road 402's existing road bed; 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(e)(6).

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

This Order shall be in effect until rescinded or until April 30, 2016, whichever event occurs first.

Done at Monte Vista, Colorado, this <sup>6</sup> day of December 2011.

  
Dan S. Dallas  
Forest Supervisor, Rio Grande National Forest

12/06/2011

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SAN LUIS VALLEY PUBLIC LANDS CENTER

Violations of these regulations is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor, by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both. 16 U.S.C. §551, and 18 U.S.C. §§ 3571 and 3559.