



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
CIBOLA NATIONAL FOREST  
SANDIA RANGER DISTRICT**

**WILDERNESS OCCUPANCY REGULATIONS**

**PROHIBITIONS:**

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(a) the following acts are prohibited within the area of the Sandia Mountain Wilderness of the Cibola National Forest, Sandoval and Bernalillo Counties, State of New Mexico as described in this Order and depicted on the attached map hereby incorporated into this Order as Exhibits A & B.

1. Entering or being in the area designated as “Transition” with greater than 25 persons at one time (PAOT\*). **36 CFR 261.57(a).**
2. Entering or being in the area designated as “Semi-Primitive” with greater than 10 persons at one time (PAOT\*). **36 CFR 261.57(a).**

\*Persons At One Time (PAOT) is defined as “an organized or loosely formed group of individuals taking a wilderness trip whereby the group usually, but not always, begins and ends the trip as one collected party.”

**EXEMPTIONS:**

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

1. Persons with a Forest Service permit specifically exempting them from the effect of this Order (including, but not limited to, the annual “La Luz Trail Run”, which is limited to 400 PAOT).
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

**RESTRICTED AREA:**

These restrictions apply to all National Forest System Lands within the Sandia Mountain Wilderness, Cibola National Forest.

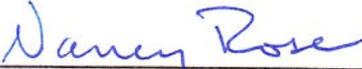
**PURPOSE:**

This Order is necessary for the protection and maintenance of "wilderness character" within the Sandia Mountain Wilderness per the Cibola National Forest Plan.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

1. This Order will be in effect December 19, 2011, and shall remain in effect until December 19, 2013 or rescinded, whichever occurs first..
2. Any violation of this prohibition 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. [Title 16 USC 551, Title 18 USC 3559, 3571, and 3581]
3. This Order supersedes, rescinds and replaces any previous Orders prohibiting the same acts covered by this Order.

Done at Albuquerque, New Mexico this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2011.

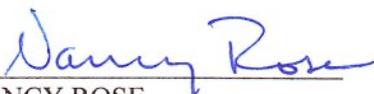
  
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NANCY ROSE  
Forest Supervisor  
Cibola National Forest

Assessment of Need (Justification) and Enforcement Plan

1. Background. This order is being prepared to manage group size within the Sandia Mountain Wilderness per the Cibola National Forest Plan. An order is needed to be able to cite persons unwilling to comply with the special closure.
2. Intent of Subpart B order. This order is written to provide for the protection and maintenance of "wilderness character" within the Sandia Mountain Wilderness.
3. Enforcement Plan. The following activities will occur in order to implement this special order in a manner that results in public acceptance and safety:

<u>Action</u>	<u>Responsible Official</u>	<u>Date</u>
Prepare proposed order	Kerry Wood, Sandia Ranger District, Cibola National Forest	12/12/11
Review proposed order (Law Enforcement) Approve proposed order	Aban Lucero, Patrol Captain, Southwest Region, USFS Nancy Rose, Forest Supervisor, Cibola National Forest	12/13/2011
Post order in accordance with 36 CFR 261.51	Volunteers, Forest Service LEOs and FPOs, and all available staffs	
Notify special use permitties, update permits and MOU's	Special Use Administrator Grants and Agreements Administrator	
Prepare news release for local media describing the order and management objectives/post to website/notify COIDC/copy to each receptionist/frontliners	PAO, Wilderness Mgr	
Notices will be used at access points/kiosks advising of the order for implementation. Wilderness Ranger/Volunteer patrollers will be trained on new guidelines.	Appropriate Staff Law Enforcement Officers Forest Protection Officers Cibola National Forest Employees, Volunteers	

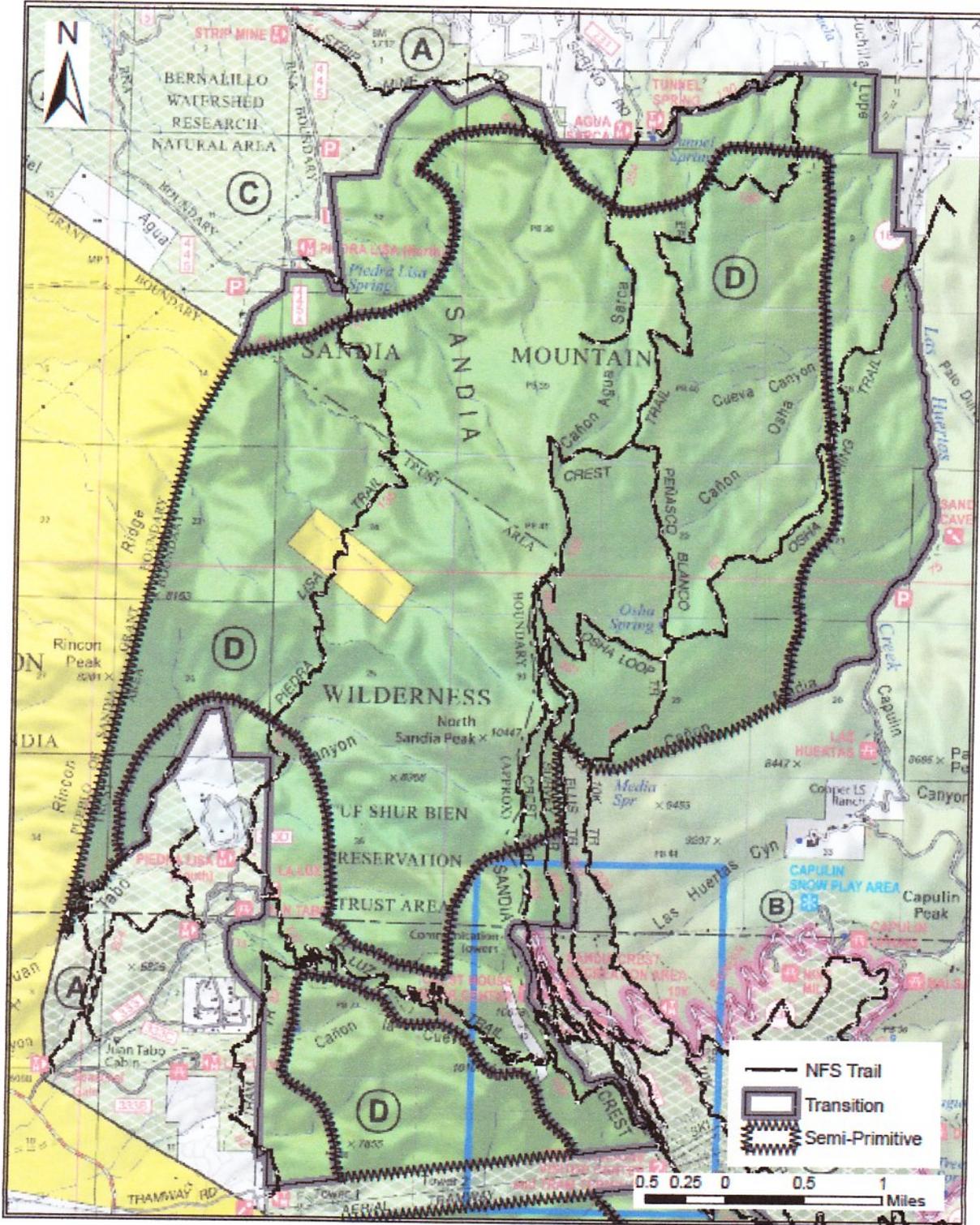
Enforcement Plan approved for implementation:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
NANCY ROSE  
Forest Supervisor  
Cibola National Forest

DATE 12/15/11

EXHIBIT A

SANDIA MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS-GROUP SIZE LIMITS (MAP 1 of 2) - ORDER #



**EXHIBIT B**

**SANDIA MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS-GROUP SIZE LIMITS (MAP 2 of 2) - ORDER #**

