

SPECIAL ORDER

**USDA – FOREST SERVICE
FLAT TOP MOUNTAIN SEASONAL CLOSURE
GUNNISON NATIONAL FOREST**

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(a), the following acts are prohibited within the Flat Top Mountain Area on the Gunnison Ranger District of the Gunnison National Forest, Gunnison County, State of Colorado, hereinafter referred to as the Restricted Area. The Restricted Area is depicted on the attached map, hereby incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A. This Order is necessary to protect the special biological communities of deer and elk on critical winter range, and the Gunnison Sage-Grouse during the spring breeding, nesting and early brood-rearing periods. The effective dates of this closure will be from midnight December 15 or after the end of the last Colorado elk hunting season, whichever occurs latest, until midnight June 15, of each year.

PROHIBITIONS:

Going into or being upon the Restricted Area while possessing or operating any vehicle excluding wheelchairs or similar vehicles necessary to provide compliance with the American's with Disabilities Act. 36 C.F.R. § 261.53(b).

EXEMPTIONS:

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

1. Persons with a Forest Service 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.

This Order shall remain in effect until rescinded, or until June 15, 2013, whichever event occurs first.

Done at Delta, Colorado, this 29th day of September 2011.



Charles S. Richmond
Forest Supervisor
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison National Forests

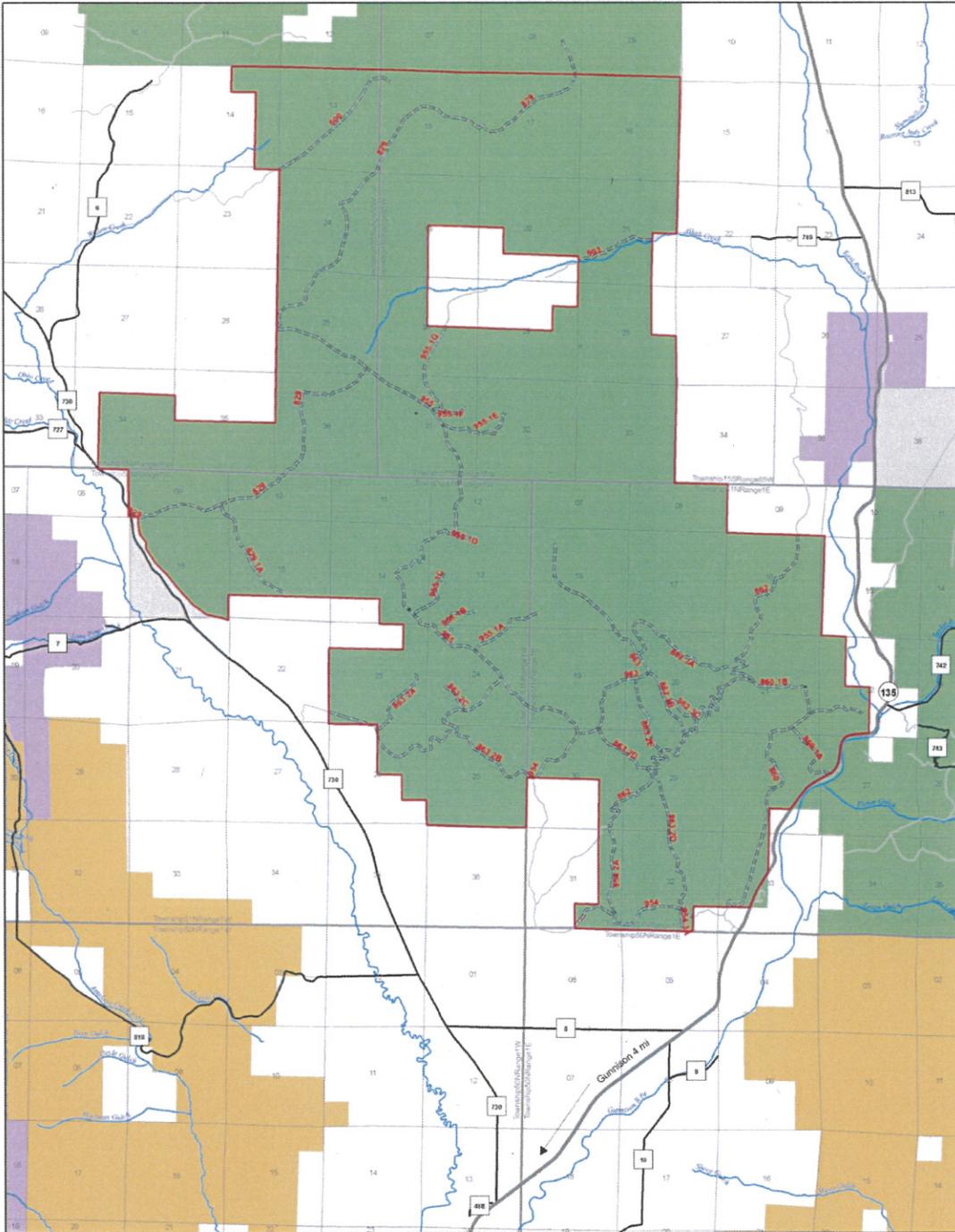
Violation of these prohibitions is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both. (16 U.S.C. § 551 and 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559 and 3571).

Exhibit A

Flat Top Area Road Closures

These roads are closed for the protection of wintering deer and elk; and the Gunnison Sage-Grouse during the breeding, nesting and early brood-rearing periods.

Closure Dates: December 15 - June 15



Flat Top Road Closures to Motorized and Mechanized Uses

-  Flat Top Area
-  BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
-  COLORADO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE
-  COLORADO STATE LAND BOARD
-  U.S. FOREST SERVICE

