

United States Forest Service
Tonto National Forest
BALD EAGLE PROTECTION CLOSURE (SEASONAL)
Cave Creek Ranger District

Pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50 (a) and (b), the following acts and omissions are prohibited on the areas, roads, and trails described in this Order, and as depicted on the attached map hereby incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A, within the Tonto National Forest, Maricopa County, Arizona:

PROHIBITIONS

1. Going into or being upon the area, between the dates of December 1 and June 30 of each year. 36 CFR 261.53(a)

EXEMPTIONS

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

1. Persons with a permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of any organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.
3. Persons engaged in a business, trade, or occupation in the area; i.e., any person employed by the Maricopa Audubon Society, or the Arizona Bald Eagle Nest Watch Program, including contractors and volunteers, while engaged in their official duties.

AREA DESCRIBED

All National Forest System lands, roads and trails within the boundaries as depicted on the attached map, and more particularly described as follows:

That portion of Sections 13, 19 & 24, Township 7 North, Range 6 East, west of the Verde River, east of Forest Road 205 and Forest Road 42 approximately 2.75 miles downstream of Horseshoe Dam as shown on the attached map.

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PURPOSE

To provide protection from disturbance caused by human activity in a high-intensity recreation area, for Bald Eagle nesting, incubation, nestlings, and fledglings during the critical reproductive period.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. Prohibitions contained in this Order become effective upon execution and will remain in effect until July 01, 2012, unless terminated sooner. If by March 31 of any year, the breeding pair is not occupying the breeding area (BA) or the specific nest this closure protects, or the pair in an occupied BA does not lay eggs in a nest within the closure, then the closure can be lifted and the area opened to the public.
2. These restrictions are in addition to the general prohibitions found at 36 CFR 261, Subpart A.
3. Violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both. [16 USC 551, 18 USC 3559, 3571 and 3581].
4. This Order supersedes, rescinds, and replaces Order No. 12-58-3R, and any other previous orders prohibiting the same acts covered by this Order.

Done this 19th day of January, 2012, at Phoenix, Arizona.



GENE BLANKENBAKER
Forest Supervisor

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Cliff Sensitive Species Area
Seasonal Closure

