



WALLOWA-WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST

Forest Order # T-2012-0616-LG-01



WALLOWA-WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST

Pursuant to 36 CFR, Sec. 261.50(a) and (b), the following acts are prohibited on the area described in this order within the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, until further notice.

This closure is to prevent further damage to the resources in the Spring Creek and Mt Emily areas. The forest had a wet spring and if motor vehicles were to drive off road in the areas described in this order they would likely damage the fragile meadow ecosystems since the soils are very soft due to being completely saturated. In past years, both areas have received significant damage from vehicles attempting to travel off road when the forest has had similar wet spring conditions.

- (1.) It is prohibited to operate a motor vehicle off road in the area described in Attachments A and Attachment B of this order
36 CFR 261.56

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

- (1.) Persons with a permit specifically authorizing the prohibited act or omission.
- (2.) Any Federal, State or local law enforcement officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.

These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

Done at Baker City, Oregon, this 20 day of April , 2012.

/s/ Monica J. Schwalbach

MONICA J. SCHWALBACH
Forest Supervisor
Wallowa Whitman National Forest

Violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both. (16 U.S.C. 551 and 18 U.S.C. 3559 and 3571)



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Supporting Documentation

Statement of Need:

This closure is to prevent further damage to the resources in the Spring Creek and Mt Emily areas. The forest had a wet spring and if motor vehicles were to drive off road in the areas described in this order they would likely damage the fragile meadow ecosystems since the soils are very soft due to being completely saturated. In past years, both areas have received significant damage from vehicles attempting to travel off road when the forest has had similar wet spring conditions.

Enforcement Procedures: Enforcement will be done by Law Enforcement Officers, Special Agents and Forest protection Officers. If FPO makes contact with a person suspected of violating this order and it appears that a significant amount of damage has been done by the motor vehicle they have contacted they will need to contact an LEO.

Posting:

Will be provided by the Districts/ Forest and posted at all entrances to the closure areas

Enforcement Plan

<u>Action</u>	<u>Responsible Official</u>	<u>Date</u>
Prepare proposed order	Appropriate Staff with LEI input	
Review proposed order	Patrol Captain	03/18/12
Approve proposed order	Forest Supervisor	
Post order in accordance with 36 CFR 261.51	District Staff Officer and Staff	
Prepare news release for local media describing the order and management objectives	District Ranger PAO	
Civil Rights Assessment	Civil Rights Officer	

Enforcement Plan approved for implementation:

MONICA SCHWALBACH
Forest Supervisor

WALTER MERRITT
Patrol Captain

Date



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Attachment A (Mt Emily area)

The external boundaries of the closure area are as follows

The area located south and east of Forest Rd (FR) 31 starting from its junction with FR 3104 heading northeast along the eastern side of FR31 to the Junction of FR 3120. From that junction the closure area extends due west in a straight line until it reaches the forest boundary. From that point the closure area follows the forest boundary south and then west till it reaches the north side of Interstate 84. From the junction with I-84 it extends northwest along the north side of I-84 until it reaches the forest boundary (near California gulch). From that the point the closure area extends north and east along the forest boundary until it reaches the junction of FR31 and FR 3104.

See attached map A-1

Attachment B (Spring Creek Area)

The external boundaries of the closure area are as follows:

From the Forest Boundary junction with Dark Canyon the boundary extends north along the bottom off Dark Canyon until the canyon's junction with FR 21. At FR 21 the boundary extends north following FR 2135 west northwest. At the Junction of FR 2135 and 2136-400 the boundary follows 2136-400 north to the forest boundary. At the point the closure area extends east following the forest boundary until it reaches the Railroad Canyon Highway 30. At that point it follows the south side of Highway 30 heading south and east until it reaches the junction of I-84. At that junction the boundary then heads southeast following along the south side of I-84 until it reaches the forest boundary. From that point boundary turns and follows the forest boundary south and west until it reaches the junction of Dark Canyon

See Attached Map B-2



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Civil Rights Impact Statement
Spring Creek and Mount Emily Closure
Order Number. T-2012-0616-LG-01

Proposed Action:

Prohibiting off-road travel by motor vehicles in the spring creek and Mt Emily areas described in attachments A and B of this order. The closure areas are necessary during the areas described to prevent damage to the resources from such activity during the spring to prevent further resource damage

1. It is prohibited to operate a motor vehicle off road in the area described in Attachments A and Attachment B of this order 36 CFR 261.56

The following person's are exempt:

- (1.) Any Federal, State or local law enforcement officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
- (2.) Any Forest Service employee when engaged in the performance of their official duties
- (3.) Persons with a permit from an authorized forest service officer specifically authorizing the prohibited act or omission

Duration:

April 1, 2012, to June 1, 2012

Employee/Community Involvement:

The following Special Emphasis Program Managers (SEPM) reviewed and approved this proposed Order:

Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Civil Rights Officer:

Based on input from these subject matter specialists, no further scoping or input is necessary.

Justification:



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Mitigation:

The following are suggested mitigations:

1. Ensure signing is adequate in significant locations.
2. Periodically monitor to see if enforcement is being applied equally to all.
3. Periodic Monitoring of the resources to check for damage and to the soil moisture level

Agency
US Forest Service,
Wallowa-Whitman NF
1550 Dewey Avenue
Baker City, OR 97814

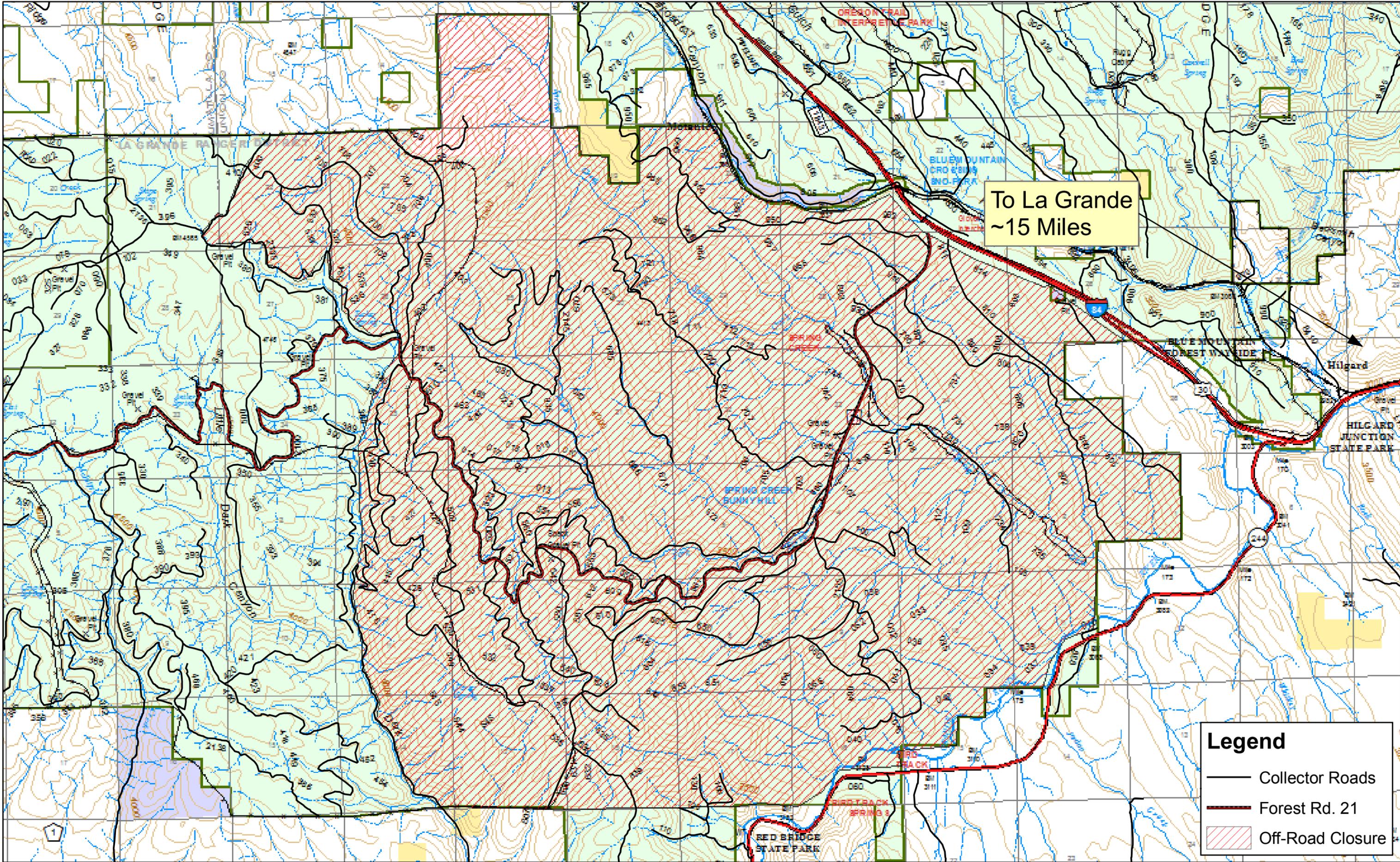
Contact

Bill Gamble, District Ranger- La Grande Ranger District
541-962-8582

Date

Reviewed and approved:

Spring Creek Area Off-Road Closure

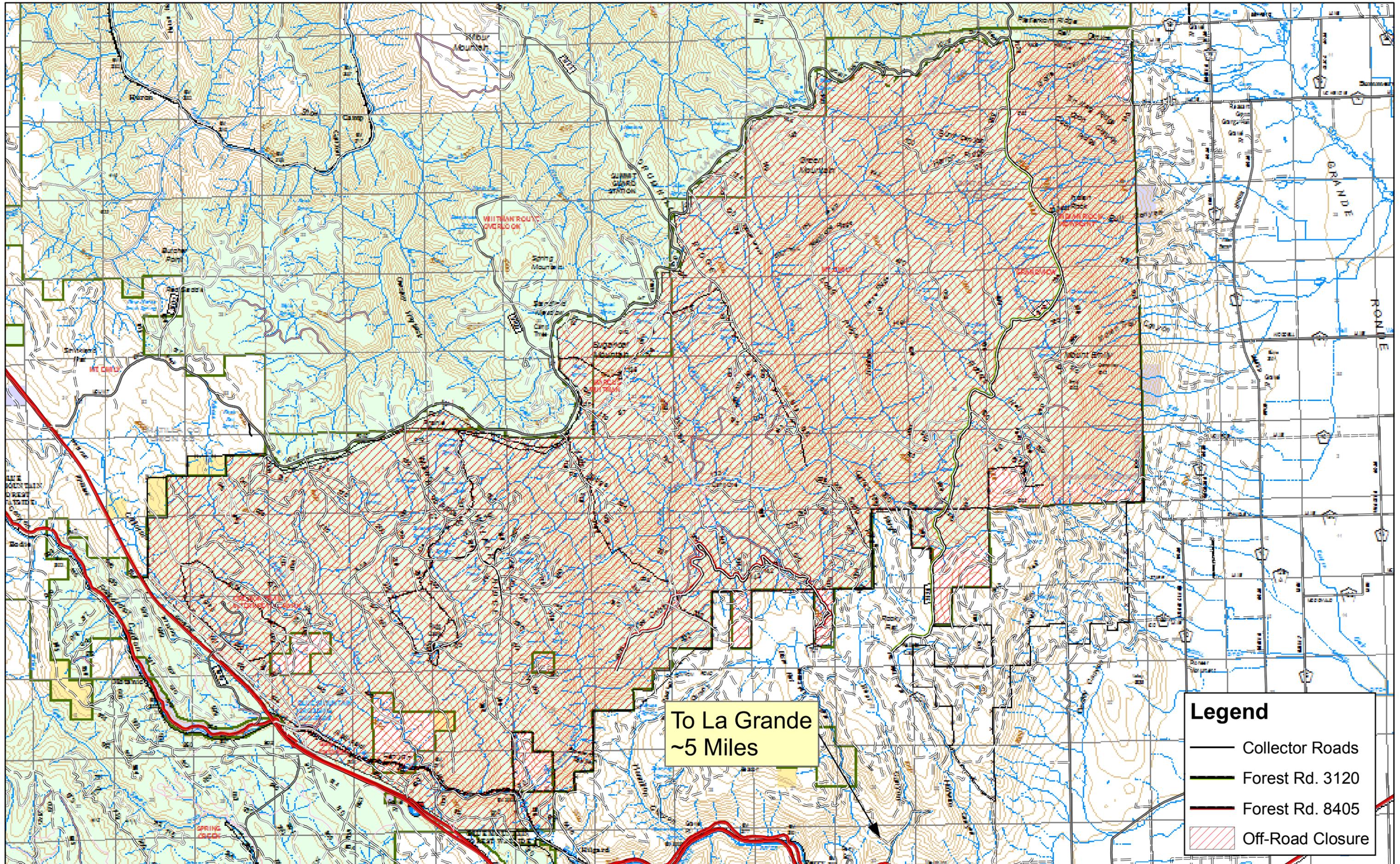


To La Grande
~15 Miles

Legend

- Collector Roads
- Forest Rd. 21
- ▨ Off-Road Closure

Mt. Emily Area Off-Road Closure



To La Grande
~5 Miles

Legend

- Collector Roads
- Forest Rd. 3120
- Forest Rd. 8405
- Off-Road Closure