Order Number: 06-309

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
GILA NATIONAL FOREST
RESERVE, WILDERNESS, AND GLENWOOD
RANGER DISTRICTS

WHITEWATER AND BALDY FIRE EMERGENCY AREA CLOSURE

PROHIBITIONS:

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 551, and 36 CFR § 261.53 (a), the following acts and omissions are prohibited on the areas, roads, and trails described in this Order, and depicted on the attached map incorporated into this order as Exhibit A, the "restricted area," all within the Reserve, Wilderness and Glenwood Ranger Districts, Catron and Grant Counties, Gila National Forest, New Mexico.

1. Going into or being upon the restricted area as described in this order, 36 CFR 261.52(e)

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
2. Owners or lessees of land in the area for the sole purpose of access to their private land
3. Residents in the area for the sole purpose of access to their residence
4. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of any organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of official duty

AREA DESCRIBED:
Campgrounds and Facilities closed:

- Gilita Campground
- Ben Lilly Campground
- Willow Creek Campground and Trailhead
- Catwalk National Recreation Area facilities, parking lot and trailhead

Roads closed:

- Gilita Campground Road (FR 28E)
- No parking or overnight camping is authorized on either side of Catron County Road CAT-C073, (formerly known as FR 507), on Forest System Lands

Trails closed:

- West Fork Corral Trail (FT 814) is closed
- West Fork Trail (FT 151) is closed from Willow Creek Trailhead to the junction with Forest Trail 30
- Whitewater Baldy Trail (FT 172) is closed from the junction with West Fork Trail (FT 151) west to the junction with the Crest Trail (FT 182)
- Mogollon Baldy Trail (FT 152) is closed from the junction with Crest Trail (FT 182) to the junction with Gobbler Canyon Trail (FT 221)
- Gobble Canyon Trail (FT 221) is closed from the junction with Mogollon Baldy Trail (FT 152) to the junction with Mogollon Trail (FT 153)
- Crest Trail (FT 182) is closed
- Redstone Trail (FT 206) is closed

- Deloche Trail (FT 179) is closed
- Whitewater Creek Trail (FT207 is closed from the Wilderness Boundary to the junction with FT182 at Hummingbird Saddle
- South Fork Whitewater Trail (FT 212 is closed from the Wilderness Boundary to the junction with FT 181 at Camp Creek Saddle
- East Fork Whitewater Trail (FT213) is closed
- Little Whitewater Creek Trail (FT 214) is closed
- Holt Gulch Trail (FT 217) is closed
- Straight Up Trail (FT215) is closed
- Holt Apache Trail (FT 181) is closed
- North Fork Big Dry Creek Trail (FT 225) is closed
- Little Dry Creek Trail (FT 180) is closed
- Rain Creek 74 Mountain Trail (FT 189) is closed from the Rain Creek trailhead north and east to the junction with Mogollon Trail (FT153)
- West Fork Mogollon Trail (FT 224) is closed
- Golden Link Trail (FT 218) is closed
- Grouse Mountain Trail (FT 781) is closed
- Bead Spring Trail (FT 138) is closed
- Gilita/Middle Fork Trail (FT 157) from the trailhead near Willow Creek, easterly to the Middle Fork Gila River, just below Snow Lake is closed
- Catwalk National Recreation Trail is closed from the parking lot to the junction with Gold Dust Trail (FT 41)
- Mogollon Creek Trail FT 153 is closed from Trail Canyon westerly to the junction with Rain Creek Trail FT 189
- Turkeyfeather Mtn. Trail FT 102 is closed

Area Closed:

All National Forest System lands (NFSL), roads, and trails within the proclaimed boundary of the Gila National Forest (Exhibit A) contained within the Reserve Ranger District of the Gila National Forest within the following described areas:

- The area on the south and east sides of Bursum Road (NM 159) and FR 28 to the Wilderness Boundary between the south fork of Mineral Creek and Gilita Campground and Trailhead..

PURPOSE:

1. The purpose of this order is for public safety 36 CFR § 261.53 (e)

IMPLEMENTATION:

This Forest Order 06-309 will go into effect promptly at 1:00 pm (MDT), August 31, 2012 and will remain in full force and effect, unless otherwise rescinded, until12:01 am on December 31, 2012. A map identifying the closure area is attached and made part of this Order. Order supersedes any previous orders prohibiting the same acts covered by this Order.

Done at Silver City, New Mexico this 30 day of August, 2012.

Kelly Russell

Kelly M. Russell
Forest Supervisor
Gila National Forest

Violations of these regulations is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor, by a fine of not more than $5000 for an individual or $10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months or both; 16 USC§ 551, and 18 USC§§ 3559 and 3571