



Forest  
Service

National Forests in North Carolina  
Croatan National Forest  
Croatan Ranger District

141 East Fisher Avenue  
New Bern, NC 28560-8468  
252-638-5628

File Code: 7730  
Route To: (5300)

Date: February 26, 2013

Subject: Road Closure Order, FR 126, Great Lake Road

To: Forest Supervisor

I am requesting a temporary Forest Closure Order (03-05-2013) for Forest Road 126, also known as Great Lake Road. I have attached a map, the CRIA documentation and news release regarding the potential closure that was released in August 2012. This closure is necessary due to storm damage that occurred in 2010 and repairs are currently being applied through ERFO funding from Federal Highways Administration. Maintenance activities scheduled to be performed will improve the overall safety and manageability of the road.

Please proceed with the approval of the enclosure closure order, and the CRIA justification so this action may be implemented immediately. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

/s/ Deborah L. Walker  
DEBORAH L. WALKER  
District Ranger, Uwharrie Ranger District

Enclosure's (3)

cc: Lynn L Hicks  
Cliff Northrop



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
NATIONAL FORESTS IN NORTH CAROLINA  
COATAN NATIONAL FOREST  
CROATAN RANGER DISTRICT

*Order Number 03-05-2013*

**Temporary Closure of National Forest System Road 126**

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50 (a) and (b), the following acts are prohibited on National Forest System Road 126, as shown on attached map. Prohibitions contained in this Order become effective at 12 Midnight March 5, 2013 and will remain in effect until rescinded or until 12 Midnight May 31, 2013 whichever event occurs first.

The purpose of this action is to provide for the public's health and safety during the emergency construction activities associated with emergency storm repairs within the Croatan National Forest.

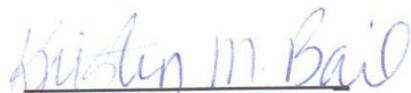
**For public health and safety, it is prohibited to go into or be upon any area which is closed by sign, gate or barricade. 36 CFR 261 53 (e)**

**Possess or use of a motorized vehicle on the specified portion of National Forest System Road 126 which is closed by sign, gate or barricade. 36 CFR 261.54 (a) and (e)**

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

1. Persons with a permit from the authorized Forest Service Officer specifically authorizing an otherwise prohibited act or omission.
2. Any Federal, State or local officer or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force working in the performance of an official duty.
3. Owners or lessees of land accessed by the specified trails or roads are exempt from the prohibitions listed above to the extent necessary to gain access to their land.

Executed in Asheville, North Carolina this 28<sup>th</sup> day of February 2013



KRISTIN BAIL  
Forest Supervisor  
National Forests in North Carolina

## CIVIL RIGHTS IMPACT ANALYSIS

Closure Order

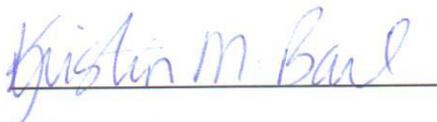
Great Lake Road, Forest Road 126

Croatan Ranger District, National Forests in North Carolina

The need for conducting a Civil Rights Impact Analysis has been considered for Forest Closure Order 03-05-2013. Consultation with Forest personnel and an analysis of the user groups identified using the Great Lake Road (Forest Road 126) show no reason to believe that any protected groups will be disproportionately impacted by the order.

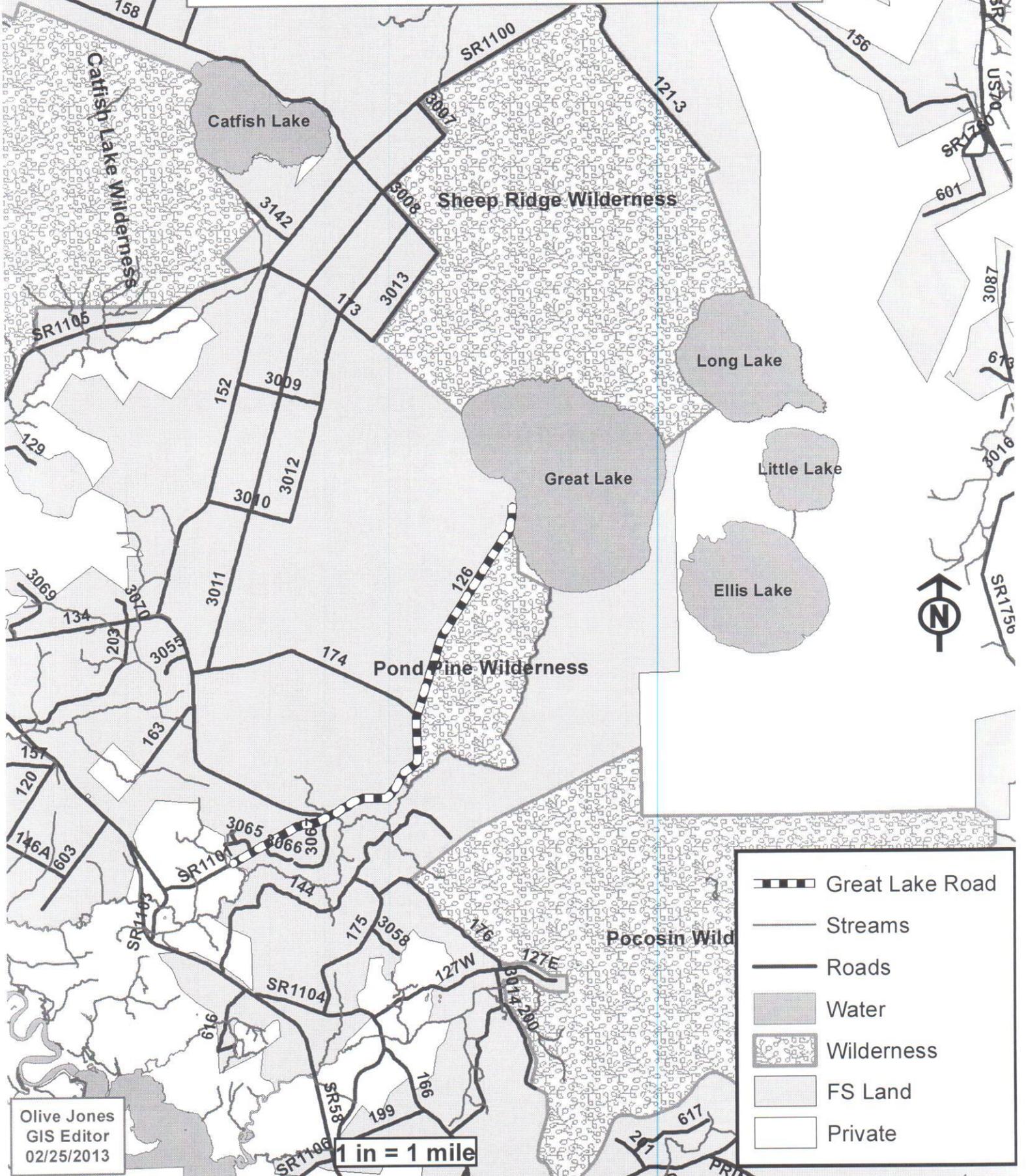
The road in question is being temporarily closed for maintenance to improve user safety and is typically used by a cross section of the public. No single group of the public will be impacted more than any other. There will be no negative effects to Forest Service employees and the order will improve the safety of all those using this road.

For these reasons, I have determined that a CRIA is not necessary for implementing this action.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kristin M. Baul". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

KRISTIN BAIL  
Forest Supervisor

# CROATAN NATIONAL FOREST FOREST SUPERVISOR CLOSURE ORDER GREAT LAKE ROAD



- Great Lake Road
- Streams
- Roads
- Water
- Wilderness
- FS Land
- Private

Olive Jones  
GIS Editor  
02/25/2013

1 in = 1 mile

**National Forests in North Carolina**  
**U.S. Forest Service**  
**160A Zillicoa St.**  
**Asheville, N.C. 28801**  
**Online:** [www.fs.usda.gov/nfsnc](http://www.fs.usda.gov/nfsnc)

## **NEWS RELEASE**

Contact: Stevin Westcott, 828-257-4215  
Aug. 29, 2012

For Immediate Release

### **Forest Service to Improve Roads across Croatan National Forest**

NEW BERN, N.C. -- The USDA Forest Service today announced a large-scale effort to improve roads across the Croatan National Forest, with work scheduled to begin in early September. The projects will improve safety and accessibility for all users of the popular national forest.

"The road work is a long-term investment in the future of the Croatan National Forest that will pay dividends for the community in the form of safe, passable roadways and more enjoyable visits," said Acting District Ranger Barry Garten. "While the temporary road closures will be a short-term inconvenience, the repairs are needed to increase safety on our roadways, which is a top priority for the Forest Service."

The agency will improve the following roadways in the next six months:

- Millis Road (National Forest Service Road [NFSR] 128) will be closed from Sept. 5 to Oct. 3, 2012 to repair drainage structures, ditches and road surface conditions.
- Between September and December, Morton Field Road (NFSR 129), Belangia Road (NFSR 163) and Haywood Landing Road (NFSR 146) will be temporarily closed for repairs of drainage structures, ditches and road surfacing.
- Pettiford Creek Road (NFSR 206) will remain closed for approximately one more year for repairs involving ditches, road surface and the replacement of a major drainage structure.
- Riceground Branch Road (NFSR 3014) will be closed from mid-late October through November for a major culvert replacement.
- This fall, the following roads will also receive repairs and experience periodic closures:
  - Great Lake Road (NFSR 126)
  - Hunters Creek Road (NFSR 144)
  - Neds Creek Road (NFSR 616)

- Farrior Farm Road (NFSR 121-A)
- Middle Little Road (NFSR 121-2)
- Brown Road (NFSR 121-D)
- Pine Grove Road (NFSR 156)

The improvements will repair damages incurred during severe weather in the last two years. The repairs will cost an estimated \$823,000. The projects are funded by the Federal Highway Administration's Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads program.

For a list of road closures at the Croatan National Forest, visit:  
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/nfsnc/alerts-noticees?cid=stelprdb5379710>

Roads are an important part of the Croatan National Forest's infrastructure. Roadways serve as vital arteries into the coastal forest, giving residents access to their homes and visitors access to recreational opportunities. Well-maintained roads allow Forest Service employees to perform their jobs as they care for the land and serve people. Additionally, and most importantly, national forest roads enable emergency personnel to respond in times of need.

The Croatan National Forest encompasses 160,000 acres along the Atlantic Coast. For more information about the national forest, visit [www.fs.usda.gov/nfsnc](http://www.fs.usda.gov/nfsnc).