ORDER
USDA - FOREST SERVICE
COCONINO, PRESCOTT and TONTO NATIONAL FORESTS VERDE WILD AND SCENIC
RIVER AREA

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

Pursuant to Title 36 CFR 261.50 (a) and (b), the following acts are prohibited in areas as described in this Order on National Forest System lands administered by the Coconino, Prescott and Tonto National Forests, in Yavapai and Gila Counties in Arizona, and as depicted on the attached map, hereby incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A.

PROHIBITIONS:

1. It is prohibited to build, maintain, attend, or use a fire or campfire, except those contained in a camp stove, or a fire pan; 36 CFR 261.52 (a).

   Requirements: Fire pans must be made of a durable metal, be at least 16 inches in diameter with at least a 3 inch lip around its outer edge, and sufficient to contain fire and remains. All fires must be contained in the fire pan. Fire blankets under fire pans are recommended to facilitate total ash removal.

2. It is prohibited to not possess a portable toilet and contain sewage (solid human body waste), to be removed from the Verde Wild and Scenic River Area; 36 CFR 261.57 (b).

   Requirements: Portable toilet must be a washable, reusable toilet system that allows for the carry-out and disposal of solid human body waste, allowing for the sanitary transfer of waste materials to septic vaults or sewage treatment facilities. The system must be adequate for the size of the group and length of the trip, and must be accessible during the daytime. Use of a plastic or paper bag as a receptacle for disposal of solid human body waste is prohibited unless it is part of a specifically engineered bag waste containment system containing enzymes and polymers to treat solid human body waste. Leaving solid human body waste on Public Land or dumping it into vault toilets at Forest Service facilities is prohibited.

EXCEPTIONS:

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

1. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty;

2. Person(s) with a Forest Service permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission; and

3. Persons recreating solely at designated developed sites (Childs and Beasley Flat) so long as they utilize provided toilets and follow campfire regulations.

AREA DESCRIBED:

The restricted area is known as the Verde Wild and Scenic River. River runners typically put in at one of three River Access Points (R.A.P.): from Forest Service Road (FR) C574 (also known as Salt Mine Road) west of Camp Verde, (via FR 384 east to Beasley Flat R.A.P.) or continuing south on FR C574 to Gap Creek R.A.P., or from FR 708 east of Camp Verde, taking FR 502 west to Childs R.A.P. The restricted
areas start at the location known as Beasley Flats and continue southeast to the confluence of Red Creek, with a total stretch of 40.5 miles.

These prohibitions apply to an area that is within 1/4 mile on either side of the Verde Wild and Scenic River. The northern boundary lies at the section line between Section 26 and 27, T13N, R5E, Gila-Salt River meridian. The southern boundary is at the confluence of Red Creek with the Verde River within Section 34, T9 1/2N, R5E. The Verde Wild and Scenic River corridor runs through two wilderness areas. River runners will enter the Cedar Bench Wilderness near River Mile 8.9, exiting near River Mile 13.2. River runners will enter the Mazatzal Wilderness near River Mile 17.7, and remain in this wilderness area through the southern boundary of the Wild and Scenic River designation (at the confluence of Red Creek, River Mile 40.5).

PURPOSE:

This order is needed to protect unique riparian plant and wildlife resources and to protect the public and nearby communities from the threat of wildfires and fecal coliform. In addition, this order is needed to implement the Verde Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive River Management Plan.

IMPLEMENTATION:

1. This Order will be in effect when signed and shall remain in effect for five years from date of signature, or until rescinded, whichever event occurs first.

2. This Order rescinds, replaces and supercedes any previous Orders prohibiting the same acts covered by this Order in the area addressed by Section 4.

Date in Arizona on the 10th day of March, 2017.

LAURA JO WEST
Forest Supervisor
Coconino National Forest

TERESA CHASE
Forest Supervisor
Prescott National Forest

NEIL BOSWORTH
Forest Supervisor
Tonto National Forest

Order Number: 04-17-04-R

Violation of this Order is punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor by a fine of not more than $5,000.00 for individuals, and $10,000.00 for organizations and/or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both. (Title 16 USC 351, Title 18 USC 3985, Title 18 USC 3571, and Title 18 USC 3581.)