

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
RIO GRANDE NATIONAL FOREST  
DIVIDE RANGER DISTRICT

**West Fork Complex  
Emergency Area Closure**

**PROHIBITIONS:**

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50 (b), the following act is prohibited on the area, roads, and trails as described in this order, within the Divide Ranger District, Rio Grande National Forest until further notice:

1. Going into or being upon the fire area as described below and depicted on the attached map that is closed for the protection of public health or safety. **36 CFR 261.53(e)**
2. Being on a trail described below that is posted as closed. **36 CFR 261.55(a)**

**EXEMPTIONS:**

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

1. Persons with a permit specifically exempting them from the effect of this Order.
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.
3. Private landowners and Lessee's of land in the area solely for the purpose of ingress and/or egress to their owned/leased property.
4. Residents in the area solely for the purpose of ingress and/or egress to their residence.

**AREA DESCRIBED:**

This area closure includes National Forest System lands on all or parts of the following areas:

Papoose Fire Area: Beginning at the junction of the Continental Divide Trail and Forest Service Trail 896 (east of Piedra Peak), running north along Forest Service Trail 896 to its junction with Forest Service Road 523, running north along Forest Service Road 523 to its junction with the Papoose fire edge in T39N R1W Section 6, turn west on FSR 525, then turn northwest following the fire perimeter to its junction with Forest Service Road 520, turning west following the fire perimeter through Crooked Creek, turning southwest following the fire perimeter to its intersection with Forest Service Trail 814 (Squaw Creek), running south along Forest Service Trail 814 (Squaw Creek) to its intersection with the Continental Divide, turning east along the Continental Divide to its intersection with Forest Service Trail 896 (Piedra Peak).

Exceptions within the Closure Area:

- Forest Service Road 520 for travel through the area

- Forest Service Road 533 to private land
- Road Canyon Reservoir for fishing at the reservoir
- Road Canyon Campground for camping at the campground
- Thirty Mile Campground for camping at the campground
- Love Lake for fishing at the lake

West Fork Fire Area: Beginning at the junction of the Continental Divide Trail and Forest Service Trail 896 (east of Piedra Peak), running east along the Continental Divide Trail to its junction with Forest Service Trail 839 (Archuleta Creek), continuing along Forest Service Trail 839 to its junction with Forest Service Road 430, turn north along Forest Service Road 430 to its junction with the fire perimeter, follow the fire perimeter north to Poison Gulch, continue to follow the fire perimeter northwest to Elk Mountain, continue to follow the fire perimeter southwest to Lake Humphreys, at Lake Humphreys follow the south side of the private land to its junction with Forest Service Trail 807, follow Forest Service Trail 807 west to its junction with Forest Service Trail 826 (Fisher Creek), turn southwest along Forest Service Trail 826 (Fisher Creek) to its junction with the Continental Divide Trail.

Additional Road and Trail Closures:

- Forest Service Trail 807 from the junction of Forest Service Trail 807 and Forest Service Trail 826 to the junction of Forest Service Trail 807 and Forest Service Road 528.
- Forest Service Trail 831 from the junction of Forest Service Trail 831 and CO State Highway 160 to the junction of Forest Service Trail 831 and Forest Service Road 430.
- Forest Service Trail 836 from the junction of Forest Service Trail 836 and CO State Highway 160 to the junction of Forest Service Trail 836 and Forest Service Trail 835.

Exceptions within the Closure Area:

- Archuleta Lake for fishing at the lake. Access will be allowed from the Lobo Lookout area.

T38N, R3E, R2E, R1E, R1W, R2W, R3W, R4W; T39N, R3E, R2E, R1E, R1W, R2W, R3W, R4W;  
T40N, R3E, R2E, R1E, R1W, R2W, R3W, R4W.

All roads and trails that comprise the closure boundary or are within the boundaries of this area closure are **closed** due to the West Fork Complex Fire.

**The above-described areas are within the proclaimed and administrative boundaries of the Divide Ranger District, Rio Grande National Forest, Mineral, Hinsdale, and Rio Grande Counties, Colorado.**

**PURPOSE:**

This closure is necessary to provide protection to forest visitors from the current fire safety hazards associated with the **West Fork Complex**.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

1. This Order will be in effect when signed and shall remain in effect until further notice.
2. A map identifying the closure area is attached and made part of this Order.
3. Any violation of this prohibition is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000.00 for a individual or \$10,000 for an organization, and/or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months. [Title 16 USC 551, Title 18 USC 3571 (b)(6), Title 18 USC 3581 (b)(7)].
4. This Order supersedes any previous orders prohibiting the same acts covered by this Order in the above-described area.

Done at Monte Vista, Colorado this  
15th day of July, 2013.

/s/ Adam Mendonca  
Adam Mendonca  
Acting Forest Supervisor  
Rio Grande National Forest

Order Number: RG-2013-13