

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
NATIONAL FORESTS IN NORTH CAROLINA  
Tropical Storm Helene Emergency Closure Order Appalachian Ranger District  
01/27/2025  
FOREST ORDER# 08-11-08-25-01**

Pursuant to 36 CFR § 261.50 (a) and (b) for the protection of public health and safety (36 CFR § 261.53 (e)) following Tropical Storm Helene, the following acts are prohibited on the Appalachian Ranger District of the Pisgah National Forest. This closure is effective until 10/01/2025 or until rescinded by an authorized Forest Service official, whichever occurs first.

1. Entering or using developed recreation sites listed below - 36 CFR § 261.58(b)
2. Going into or being in the described closure area. 36 C.F.R. § 261.53(e)
3. Being on a National Forest System trail listed below - 36 CFR § 261.55(a)
4. Using a motor vehicle on a National Forest System Road listed below - 36 CFR § 261.54(a)
5. Use by any type of traffic (motorized, pedestrian, bicycle, etc.) and/or being on a National Forest System Road listed below - 36 CFR § 261.54(b)(e)

Under 261.58(b), the following closed developed recreation sites have been identified:

Murray Branch Picnic Area  
Stackhouse Boat Launch  
Black Mountain Campground  
Briar Bottom Campground  
Poplar Boat Launch  
Carolina Hemlocks Campground  
Roan Mountain Recreation Area

Under 261.50(a), the following closure areas have been identified (descriptions below):

Shope Creek  
Big Ivy  
South Toe  
Roan Mountain

**Described Closure Areas, Roads, and Trails**

The described closure areas are within Buncombe, Haywood, Madison, Mitchell, and Yancey Counties and include all NFS lands within the following boundaries:

**Shope Creek:**

All National Forest Lands within the Forest boundary surrounding the Shope Creek drainage.  
This closure area includes the following roads:

FSR 220 Shope Creek  
FSR 220A Verlin Shelton

**Big Ivy and South Toe:**

The closed area is described as all National Forest Lands within the following boundary: Beginning at the junction of State Highway 19E and State Route 226 near Spruce Pine, NC, follow State Route 226 south to the Blue Ridge Parkway. Continue west on Blue Ridge Parkway to State Route 694 near Craven Gap Trailhead. Proceed southwest on State Route 694 to Interstate 40. Continue west on Interstate 40 to State Highway 25 and proceed north to Interstate 26. Continue north on Interstate 26 to State Highway 19 near Mars Hill, NC and proceed east on State Highway 19/19E to the junction with State Route 226 at Spruce Pine, NC. This closure area includes the following roads and trails:

FSR 74 Big Ivy  
FSR 231 Lower Staire  
FSR 63 Stoney Fork  
FSR 63A Hawksbill  
Creek  
FSR 472 South Toe  
River  
FSR 472A Busick  
FSR 472F Black Mt  
Campground  
FSR 5544 Briar Bottom  
Group Campground  
FSR 2074 Neals Creek  
FSR 5529 Roaring Fork  
FSR 5520 Roaring Fork  
Extension  
FSR 5523 Colberts  
Creek  
FSR 5511 Seven Mile  
Ridge  
TR 174 Little Andy  
TR 173 Upper Corner  
Rock  
TR 166 Elk Pen  
TR 165 Walker Creek  
TR 175 Perkins  
TR 183 Staire Creek  
TR 176 Bear Pen  
TR 162 Douglas Falls

TR 170 Snowball  
TR 161 Big Butt Trail  
(Little Butt to Blue  
Ridge Parkway)  
TR 179 Black  
Mountain Crest  
TR 177 Woody Ridge  
TR 178 Colbert Ridge  
TR 191 Buncombe  
Horse  
TR 191A Big Tom Gap  
TR 190 Mt. Mitchell  
TR 190A Higgans Bald  
TR 192 Devils Den  
Nature  
TR 197 Setrock  
TR 200 South River  
Loop  
TR 200A North River  
Loop  
TR 182 Green Knob  
TR 186 Bald Knob  
Ridge  
TR 195 Roaring Fork  
Falls  
TR 1006 Briar Bottom  
Bike  
TR 1003 Hemlock  
TR 201 S. Toe Fishing  
Access

**Roan Mountain:**

The closed area is described as all contiguous Forest Service Land between Roan High Bluff and Carvers Gap. This closure area includes the following roads and trails:

- FSR 130
- FSR 130A
- TR 1000 Cloudland
- TR 1002 Roan Mnt. Gardens NRT
- TR 1002A Roan Mnt. Gardens NRT Loop A
- TR 1002B Roan Mnt. Gardens NRT Loop B

Under 261.50(b), the following activities are prohibited: Being on a National Forest System trail listed below - 36 CFR § 261.55(a):

- TR440-08 Mountains to Sea 08
- TR 196 Lost Cove
- TR 188 Devils Creek
- TR 172 Elk Falls
- TR1-08 Appalachian Trail (Indian Grave Gap to Iron Mt. Gap)
- TR1-08 Appalachian Trail (Iron Mt. Gap to Hughes Gap)

Under 261.50(b), the following activities are prohibited: Using a motor vehicle on a National Forest System Road listed below - 36 CFR § 261.54(a):

- FSR 5554 Ogle Meadows
- FSR 5578 Bowlens Creek
- FSR 233 Haynes Road (Hurricane Creek Road)
- FSR 288 Buzzard Roost
- FSR 289 Old Buzzard Roost

Under 261.50(b), the following activities are prohibited: Use by any type of traffic (motorized, pedestrian, bicycle, etc.) and/or being on a National Forest System Road listed below - 36 CFR § 261.54(b)(e):

- FSR 5582 Iron Mountain
- FSR 5500A Hunt Camp
- FSR 190 Elk Falls
- FSR 5580 Poplar Boat Launch
- FSR 3518 Murray Branch

Pursuant to 36 CFR, § 261.50 (e), the following persons or areas are exempt from this Order:

1. Persons with a special use permit or contract specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act of omission.
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
3. Owners or lessees of land in the area are exempt from road closures that access property.
4. Residents in the area are exempt from road closures that access residence.

Executed in Asheville North Carolina, on 01/27/2025.

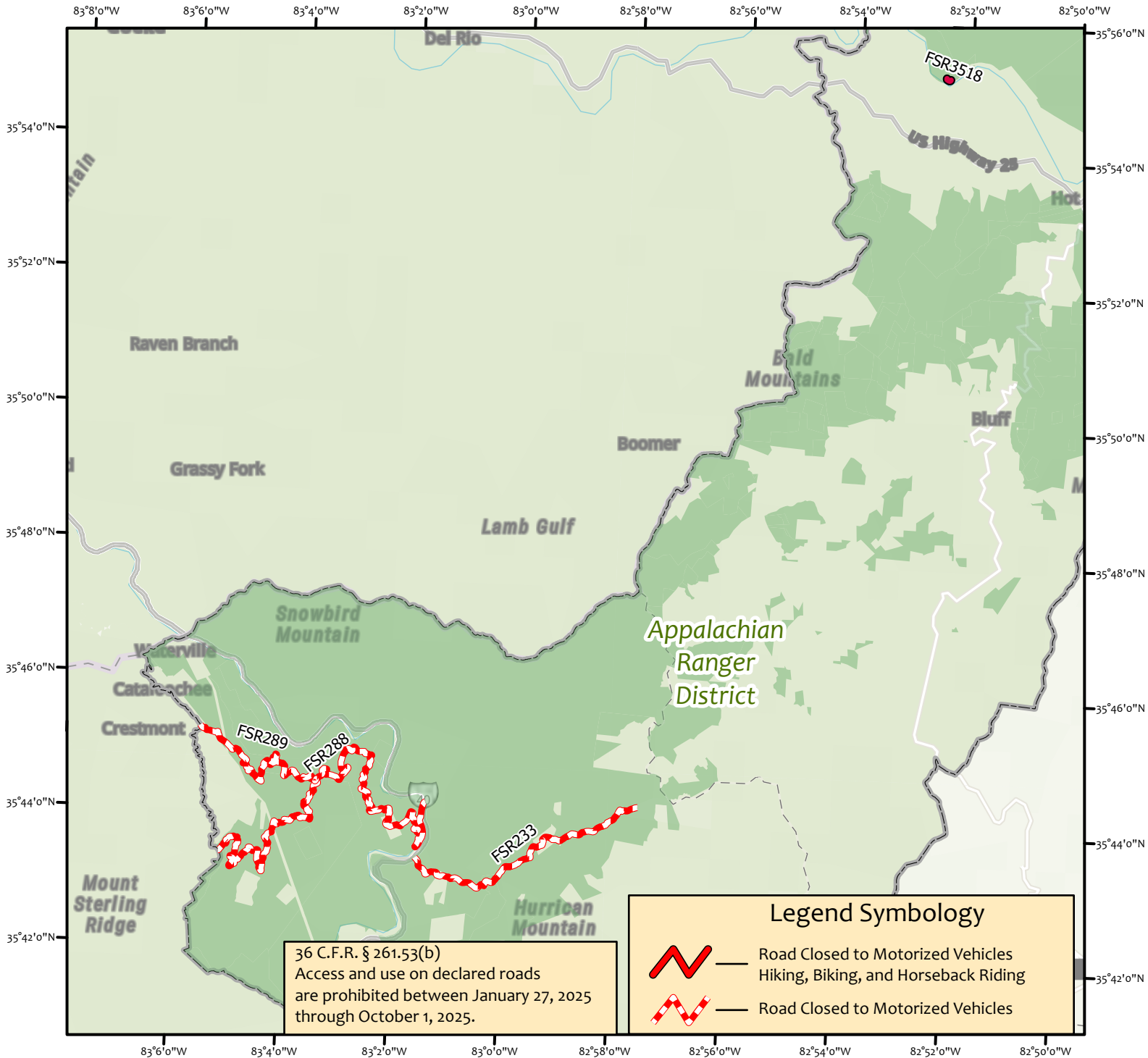


JAMES MELONAS  
FOREST SUPERVISOR  
NATIONAL FORESTS IN NORTH  
CAROLINA

Violations of the above prohibition are punishable by a fine of not more than \$5000.00 for an individual and \$10,000 for an organization or imprisonment for not more than six months or both. Title 16 USC 551 and Title 18 USC 3559 and 3571.



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## Disclaimer

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## Road Closures Legend

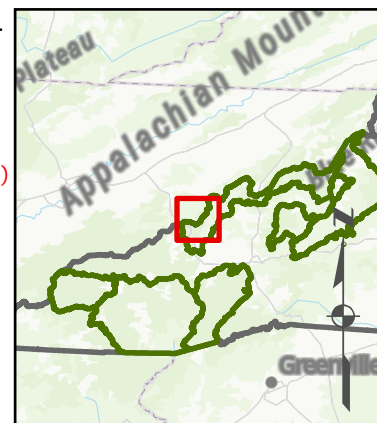
**Road Closed to Motorized Vehicles  
Hiking, Biking, and Horseback Riding**

FSR 3518 Murray Branch

**Closed Roads to  
Motorized Vehicles**

FSR 288 Buzzard Roost  
FSR 289 Old Buzzard Roost  
FSR 233 Haynes Road (Hurricane Creek Rd)

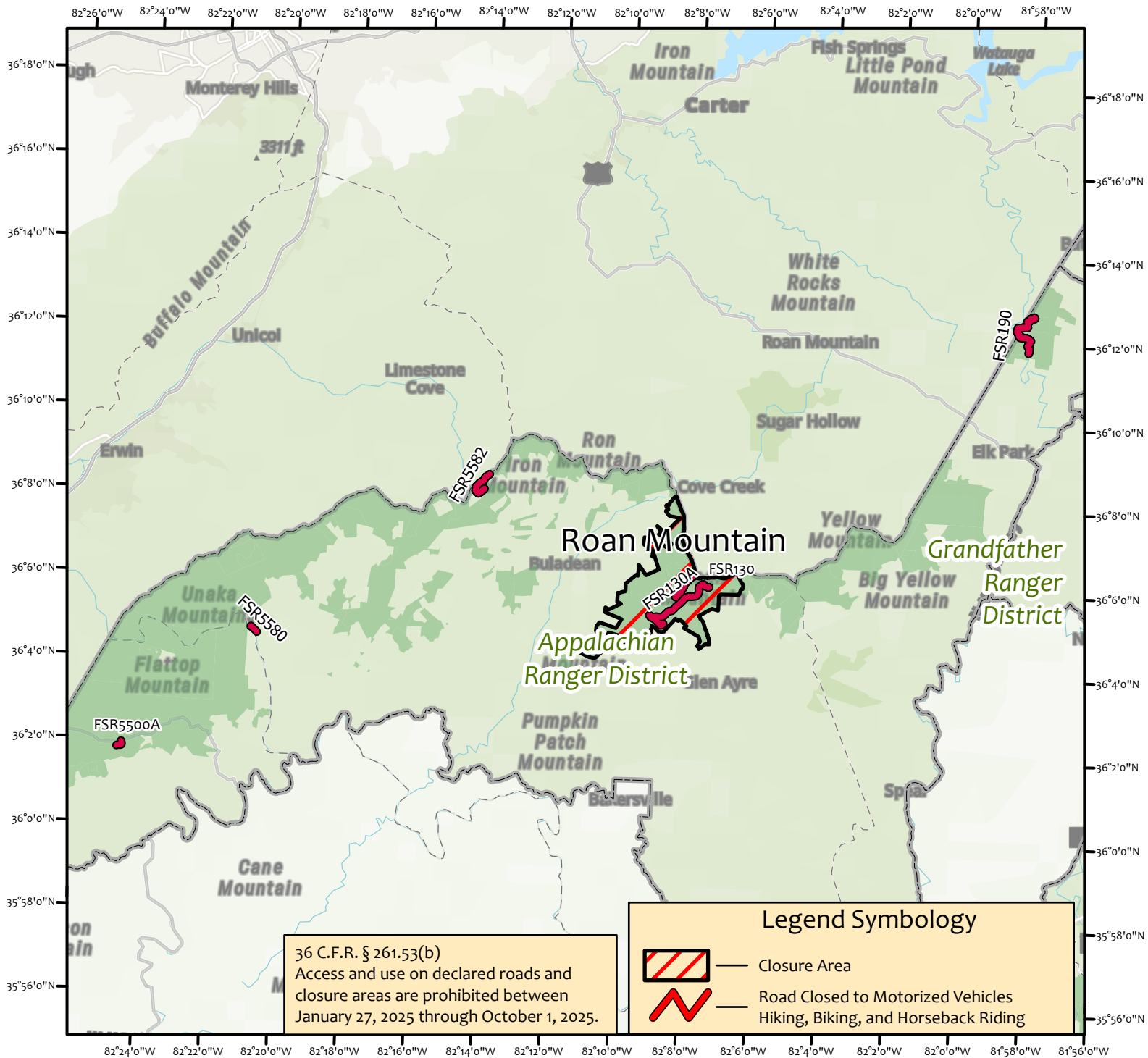
0 0.75 1.5 3  
Miles





# Pisgah National Forest Appalachian Ranger District Closure Order

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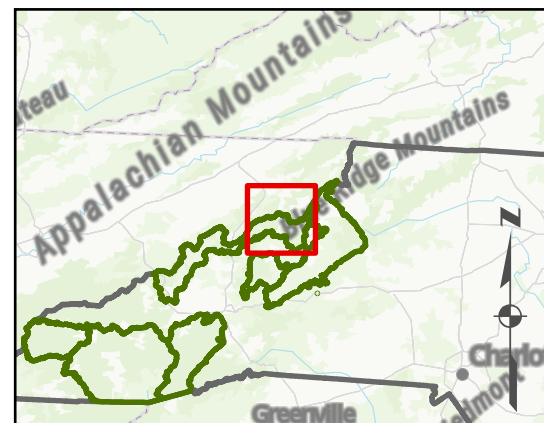
### Road Closures Legend

**Road Closed to Motorized Vehicles  
Hiking, Biking, and Horseback Riding**

- FSR 130 Roan Mountain Rec Area
- FSR 130A Balsam
- FSR 190 Elk Falls
- FSR 5582 Iron Mountain
- FSR 5500A Hunt Camp
- FSR 5580 Poplar Boat Launch

**Closure Areas**  
Roan Mountain

0 1.5 3 6  
Miles

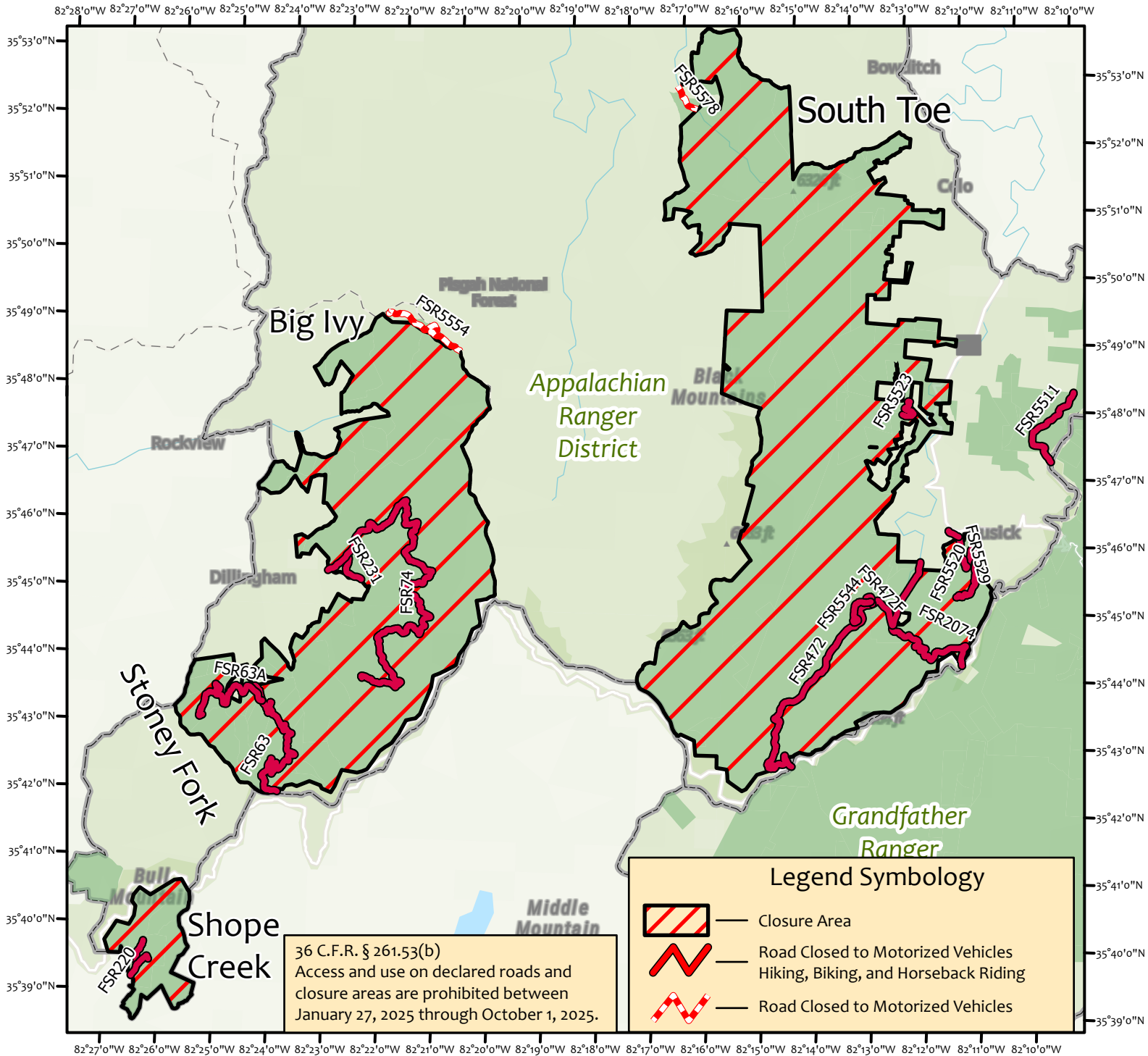






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0 0.75 1.5 3  
Miles

### Road Closures and Areas Closures Legend

#### Road Closed to Motorized Vehicles Hiking, Biking, and Horseback Riding

FSR 220 Shope Creek  
FSR 220A Verlin Shelton  
FSR 74 Big Ivy  
FSR 231 Lower Staire  
FSR 63 Stoney Fork  
FSR 63A Hawksbill Creek  
FSR 472 South Toe River  
FSR 472F Black Mt Campground  
FSR 2074 Neals Creek  
FSR 5529 Roaring Fork  
FSR 5520 Roaring Fork Extension  
FSR 5523 Colberts Creek  
FSR 5544 Briar Bottom Group Campground

#### Closed Roads to Motorized Vehicles

FSR 5578 Bowlens Creek  
FSR 5554 Ogle Meadows

#### Closure Areas

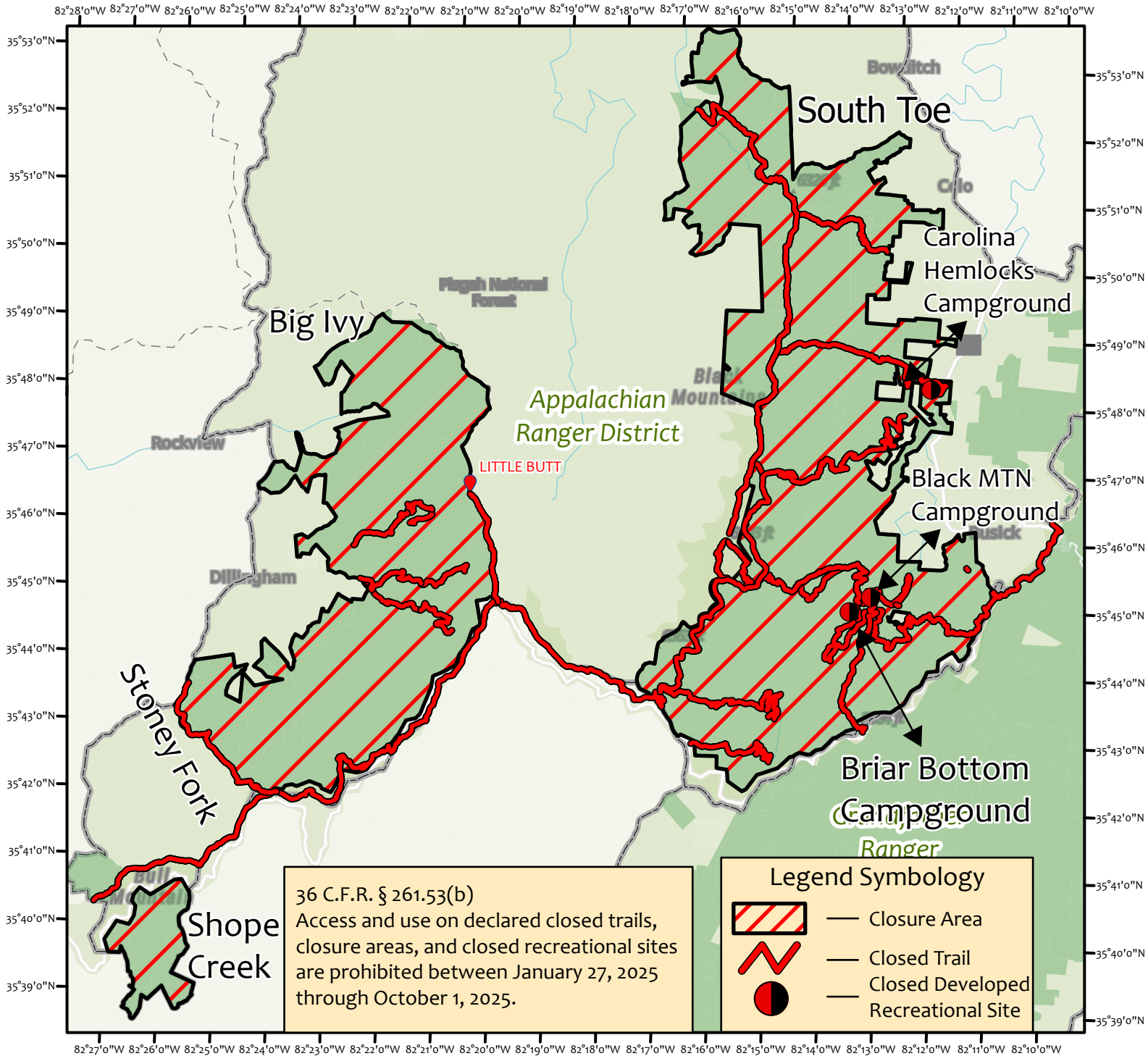
- Shope Creek  
- Big Ivy  
- South Toe





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0 0.75 1.5 3 Miles

### Legend

#### Closure Areas

- Shope Creek
- Big Ivy
- South Toe

#### Closed Trails

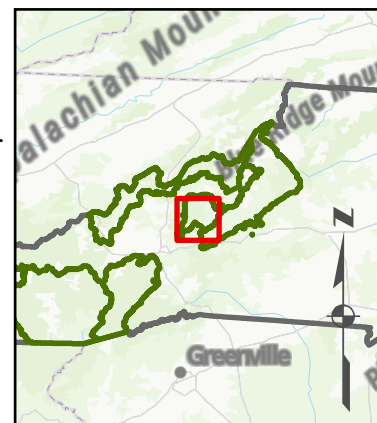
- TR1003 HEMLOCK
- TR1004 HEMLOCK
- TR1005 HEMLOCK
- TR161 BIG BUTT
- TR166 ELK PEN
- TR170 SNOWBALL
- TR173 UPPER CORNER ROCK
- TR174 LITTLE ANDY
- TR175 PERKINS

#### Closed Developed Rec Sites

- Black Mountain Campground
- Carolina Hemlocks Campground
- Briar Bottom Campground

- TR176 BEAR PEN
- TR177 WOODY RIDGE
- TR178 COLBERT RIDGE
- TR179 BLACK MOUNTAIN CREST
- TR182 GREEN KNOB
- TR183 STAIR CREEK
- TR186 BALD KNOB RIDGE
- TR190 MT MITCHELL
- TR190A HIGGANS BALD
- TR191 BUNCOMBE HORSE

- TR191A BIG TOM GAP
- TR192 DEVILS DEN NATURE
- TR195 ROARING FORK FALLS
- TR197 SETROCK
- TR200 SOUTH RIVER LOOP
- TR200A NORTH RIVER LOOP
- TR201 SOUTH TOE FISHING ACCESS
- TR440-8 MTNS TO SEA

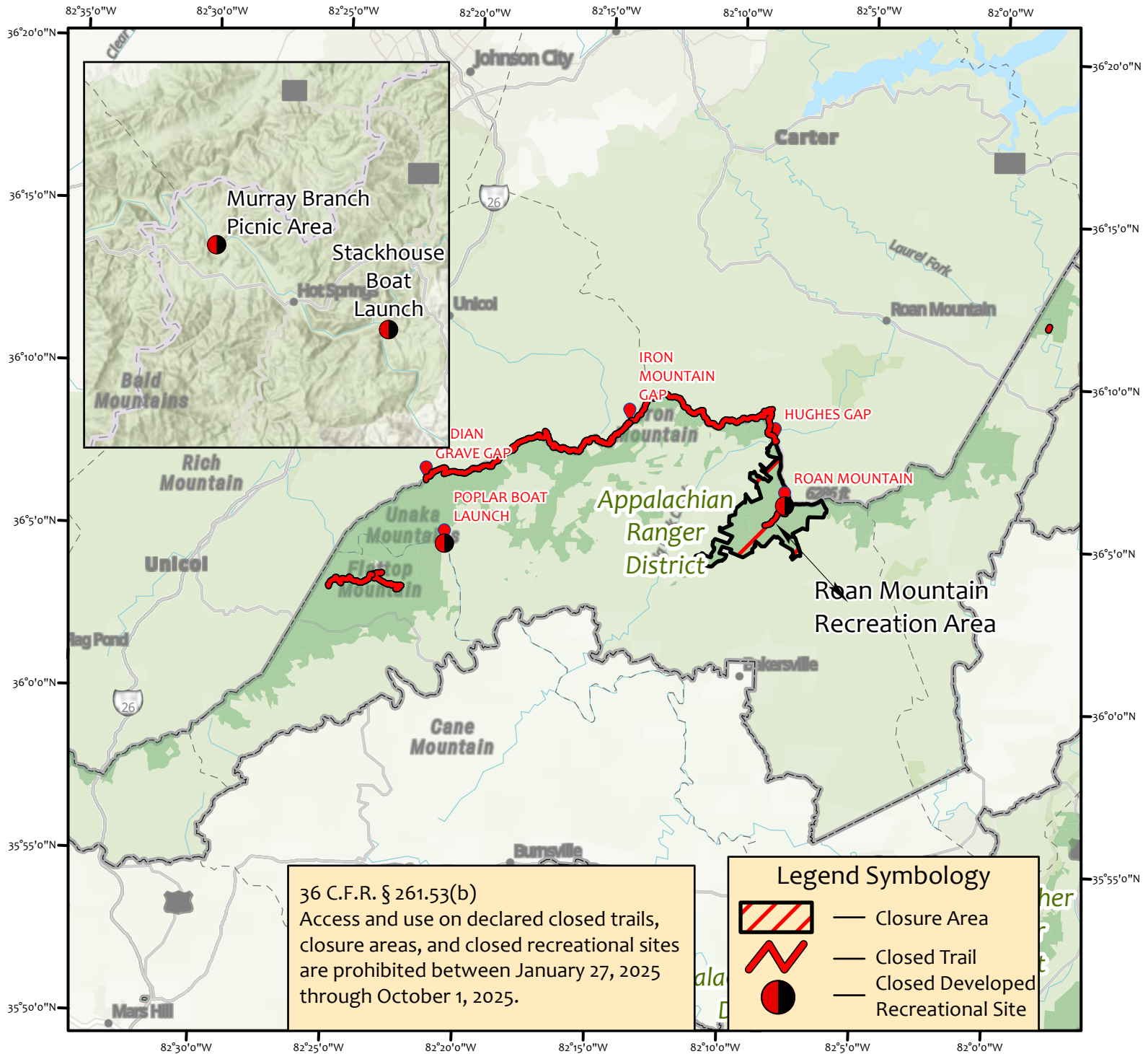






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36 C.F.R. § 261.53(b)  
Access and use on declared closed trails, closure areas, and closed recreational sites are prohibited between January 27, 2025 through October 1, 2025.

### Legend Symbology

- Closure Area
- Closed Trail
- Closed Developed Recreational Site

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### Legend

#### Closure Areas

- Roan Mountain

#### Closed Developed Rec Sites

- Murray Branch Picnic Area
- Stackhouse Boat Launch
- Poplar Boat Launch

#### Closed Trails

- TR196 LOST COVE
- TR188 DEVILS CREEK
- TR1002A ROAN MTN GARDENS
- NRT LOOP A
- TR1002B ROAN MTN GARDENS
- NRT LOOP B
- TR1002 ROAN MTN GARDENS NRT
- TR1000 CLOUDLAND
- TR172 ELK FALLS

#### Appalachian Trail Sections Closed

- TR1-08 ANST - Iron Mountain Gap to Hughes Gap
- TR1-08 ANST - Indian Grave Gap to Iron Mountain Gap

0 1.5 3 6  
Miles

