



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
LINCOLN NATIONAL FOREST**

**SPECIAL CLOSURE FOR RESOURCE PROTECTION
WILLS CANYON (Mauldin Spring Occupied Habitat)**

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50 (a), the following act is prohibited in the area encompassing occupied habitat for the New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse (NMMJM) within Wills Canyon – Mauldin Spring riparian area (the “restricted area”), on the Lincoln National Forest, Sacramento Ranger District, Otero County, New Mexico, as described below and as depicted on the attached map, hereby incorporated into this order as Attachment A.

PROHIBITIONS:

1. It is prohibited to go into or be upon the areas of ‘occupied habitat’ as described below and as depicted on the attached map, Attachment A. **36 C.F.R. § 261.53(a).**

EXEMPTIONS:

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt:

- (1) USDA Forest Service employees or agents working on behalf of the Forest Service who have been authorized by the Forest Service to enter the restricted area.
- (2) Any Federal, State or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force engaged in the performance of an official duty.

RESTRICTED AREA DESCRIBED:

The restricted area encompasses the areas of ‘occupied habitat’ described as the Mauldin Spring Riparian areas, including both the existing barbed wired fenced areas and the temporary electric fenced areas, along Wills Canyon in Sections 29 and 30, Township 17 south, Range 12 east (shown on the attached map). Livestock watering lanes (noncontiguous breaks in fenced protected habitat within channel) as shown on the map are provided in order to allow permitted livestock access to water and are considered outside of the restricted area.

PURPOSE:

To allow for protection of the endangered NMMJM occupied habitat encompassing Mauldin Spring in Wills Canyon within the Sacramento Ranger District in compliance with the Endangered Species Act and recent listing of the NMMJM as endangered by the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

IMPLEMENTATION:

1. This order shall be in effect when signed and shall remain in effect until November 30, 2014, unless rescinded sooner.
2. This order supersedes, rescinds, and replaces any previous orders prohibiting the same acts covered by this order.
3. Any violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000.00 for individuals and \$10,000.00 for organizations, by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both. [Title 16 USC 551, Title 18 USC 3571(b)(6), Title 18 USC 3581 (b)(7)].

Signed in Alamogordo, New Mexico, this 14th day of July 2014.



TRAVIS G. MOSELEY
Forest Supervisor
Lincoln National Forest



