

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
NATIONAL FORESTS IN NORTH CAROLINA
APPALACHIAN RANGER DISTRICT
POPLAR BOAT LAUNCH AREA

FOREST ORDER #08-11-08-26-01

Pursuant to 36 CFR § 261.50 (a) and (b) for the protection of public health and safety following Tropical Storm Helene, the following acts are prohibited in the Poplar Boat Launch Area on the Appalachian Ranger District of the Pisgah National Forest. This closure is effective until 04/30/2026 or until rescinded by an authorized Forest Service official, whichever occurs first.

1. Going into or being in the described closure area. **36 C.F.R. § 261.53(e)**
2. Entering or using developed recreation sites listed below - **36 CFR § 261.58(b)**
3. 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:

Poplar Boat Launch

Under 261.5(e), the following closure areas have been identified (descriptions below):

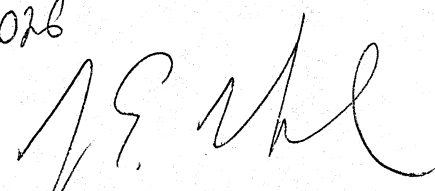
The described closure area is within Mitchell County and includes all NFS lands within the following boundaries: all contiguous Forest Service land within the Poplar Boat Launch area, east of the Nolichucky River and northwest of NC-197. This closure area includes the following roads and trails:

NFR 5580 Poplar Boat Ramp

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 Feb 23, 2026



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.