

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
PISGAH NATIONAL FOREST
APPALACHIAN RANGER DISTRICT
MARS HILL, NORTH CAROLINA**

FOREST ORDER NO. 08-11-04-26-01

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50 (a) and (b), for the protection of public health and safety, the following acts are prohibited on and within the Max Patch area as shown on attached map which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. This closure is effective from the date signed by the Forest Supervisor until June 31, 2029, or until terminated by an authorized Forest Service official, whichever occurs first.

- 1. Camping. 36 C.F.R. 261.58(e)**
- 2. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire or stove fire. 36 C.F.R. 261.52(a)**
- 3. Being in the area after 1 hour after sundown or before 1 hour before sunrise. 36 C.F.R. 261.58(l)**
- 4. Use of the area by groups of more than 10 people. 36 C.F.R. 261.58(f)**
- 5. Possessing, storing, or transporting any animal. 36 C.F.R. 261.58(s)**
- 6. Being upon the unauthorized user-created trails depicted on the attached map. 36 C.F.R. 261.53(e) and (f)**
- 7. Landing of aircraft, or dropping or picking up any material, supplies, or person by means of an aircraft, including a helicopter. 36 C.F.R. 261.58(y)**
- 8. Possessing or using a bicycle off National Forest System roads. 36 CFR 261.56**
- 9. Riding, hitching, tethering or hobbling a horse or other saddle or pack animal within the Max Patch area. 36 C.F.R. 261.58(aa)**

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. 261.50 (e), the following persons are exempt from the following prohibitions in this Order:

1. Persons with a special use permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission issued by the District Ranger.
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
3. Persons possessing a service animal pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act are exempt only to violations of 36 CFR 261.58(s) as shown in prohibition #5 of this order.

4. Persons possessing, storing or transporting an animal in a crate or cage or upon a leash not longer than six feet are exempt only from violations of 36 CFR 261.58(s) as shown in prohibition #5 of this order.

Other Prohibitions. These prohibitions are in addition to:

- (a) the General Prohibitions at 36 C.F.R. §§ 261.1–261.23 (Subpart A);
- (b) other Orders currently in effect pursuant to 36 C.F.R. §§ 261.50–261.58 (Subpart B); and
- (c) all other Regional Regulations at 36 C.F.R. § 261.70 (Subpart C).

Executed in Asheville, North Carolina this 17th day of JUNE, 2026.



JAMES E. MELONAS
Forest Supervisor
National Forests in
North Carolina