



**U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service  
Routt National Forest  
Hahns Peak/Bears Ears Ranger District  
Area and Trail Closure**

**PROHIBITIONS**

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50 (a) and (b), the following are prohibited on the National Forest System (NFS) lands and trails in the Hahns Peak/Bears Ears Ranger District of the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests, described below and shown on the attached map incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A (the “Described Area” and “Described Trails”):

1. Being in the Described Area from May 15<sup>th</sup> to June 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. 36 C.F.R. § 261.53(a).
2. Being on the Described Trails from May 15<sup>th</sup> to June 15<sup>th</sup> each year. 36 C.F.R. § 261.55(a).

**EXEMPTIONS**

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

1. Persons with Forest Service Permit No. FS-7700-48 (Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation or Order), specifically exempting them from this Order or a written determination by a Forest Service authorized officer that a permit is not required under 36 C.F.R. § 251.50(e)(1) or (2).
2. Any Federal, State, or Local Officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.

**DESCRIBED TRAILS AND AREA**

The Described Area is 355 acres of NFS land in Sections, 25, 26, and 35, Township 7 North, Range 84 West, 6th P.M., Routt County, Colorado. The Described Area does not include the 200 feet on either side of the portion of the Buffalo Pass Road (NFS Road 60) within the boundaries of the Described Area.

The Described Trails are the NFS trails that were approved in the 2016 Buffalo Pass Trails Decision Notice that are within or lead to the restricted area. These trails, or portions of trails, include NFST 1022.1 (Flash of Gold), 1023.1 (GWB), and 1028.1

(BTR), see map associated with Order.

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Order is to protect elk and their habitat during birthing periods.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

1. This Order shall be in effect from April 15, 2025, at 12:00 am through April 14, 2030 at 12:00 pm, unless rescinded.
2. A map identifying the Described Area and Trails is attached and made part of this Order as Exhibit A. For a digital version of this Order and Exhibit A, go to <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detailfull/mbr/alerts-notice/>.
3. Unless otherwise expressly defined in this Order, the terms used in this Order are defined by the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture, 36 C.F.R. Chapter II, Parts 200-299. If there are terms in this Order that are not expressly defined in the Order or 36 C.F.R. Chapter II, Parts 200-299, their meaning shall be determined by their plain language definitions.
4. A violation of the above prohibitions is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, or by imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 U.S.C. § 551; 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559, 3571, and 3581.
5. Contact the Hahns Peak/Bears Ears Ranger District in Steamboat Springs CO, (970) 870-2299, and Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland Supervisor's Office in Laramie WY, (307) 745-2300, for more information about this Order.
6. This Order supersedes any previous Orders prohibiting the same or similar acts in or on the Described Area and Trail.

Signed and issued on October 7, 2024.

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Milton Stubbs  
Acting Forest and Grassland Supervisor  
Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland