



**U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests
Ouray Ranger District**

Blue Lakes Area, Roads, and Trails Closure

PROHIBITIONS

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(a) and (b), the following are prohibited on National Forest System (NFS) lands, roads, and trails in the Ouray Ranger District on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests, described below and shown on the attached map incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A (the "Described Area, Roads and Trails"):

1. Going into or being upon the Described Area. 36 C.F.R. § 261.53(e)
2. Being on the Described Roads and Trails. 36 C.F.R. § 261.54(e), 261.55(a)

EXEMPTIONS

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

1. Persons who are employees or contractors of Clarke & Co working on the Blue Lakes Trailhead Reconstruction Project, employees of San Juan Huts and Camp 9091, employees or contractors of National Forest Foundation, San Juan Mountains Association, and Double RL working on projects within the area.
2. 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).
3. Any Federal, State, or Local officer or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force performing an official duty.

DESCRIBED AREA, ROADS, AND TRAILS

The Described Area, Roads, and Trails are in Ouray County, Colorado, in Sections 24, 25, 35, and 36 of Township 44 North, Range 9 West of New Mexico P.M.

The Described Area is the Blue Lakes Trailhead and access areas, located along NFS Road 851.1, 851.1C, and 851.3B, which encompasses the trailhead, 500-foot buffer of roads, 100-foot buffer of trails and pathways in the vicinity of the trailhead.

The Described Roads are the entirety of NFS Road 851.1, 851.1C, and 851.3B,

beginning at Forest boundary and continuing to the Blue Lakes Trailhead.

The Described Trails are NFS Trail 201, Blue Lakes Trail, beginning at its junction with NFS Trail 200 and ending at its Mount Sneffels Wilderness boundary; NFS Trail 202, Wilson Creek Trail, beginning at its junction with NFS Trail 200 and ending at the Forest Service boundary; and NSF Trail 200, Dallas Trail, beginning at the Blue Lakes Trailhead and ending at its junction with NSF Trail 202.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Order is to protect public safety during the Blue Lakes Trailhead reconstruction activity.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. This Order shall be in effect from June 2, 2025 at 7:00am through December 31, 2025 at 5:00pm, unless rescinded.
2. A map identifying the Described Area, Roads, and Trails is attached and made part of this Order as Exhibit A. For the digital web address of this Order and Exhibit A, please contact the Ouray Ranger District in Montrose CO, (970) 240-5300, or Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests Supervisor's Office in Delta CO, (970) 874-6600.
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 Ouray Ranger District in Montrose CO, (970) 240-5300, and Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests Supervisor's Office in Delta CO, (970) 874-6600, for more information about this Order.
6. This Order supersedes any previous Orders prohibiting the same or similar acts in or on the same Described Area, Roads, and Trails.

Signed and issued on April 8, 2025.

 Digitally signed by CHAD
STEWART
Date: 2025.04.09 08:37:26
-06'00'

Chad Stewart

Forest Supervisor

Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests



Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests | Ouray Ranger District

