




April 1, 2025

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Forest Supervisor Jody L. Weil 
TO: FILE
SUBJECT: Lake 22 Trail and Trailhead Closure #06-05-25-04
FILE CODE: 2300

ISSUE:

The intent of this memorandum is to describe the need for public use restrictions, as outlined in Forest Order #06-05-25-04. This action is categorically excluded from further analysis and documentation in an EIS or EA and does not require a decision memo (36 CFR § 220.6(d)(1)) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This memorandum also serves as the Civil Right Impact Analysis.

BACKGROUND AND NEED:

The justification for this temporary closure is for public safety. The temporary order would be pursuant to 36 CFR § 261.50(a) and (b).

From July 15th, 2025, through October 31st, 2025, on the Darrington Ranger District in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, heavy maintenance work will begin on the Lake 22 Trail. The trail is a popular destination open year-round. The trail will be receiving heavy maintenance with the contractor using a mini-excavator and other power equipment.

During construction, Lake 22 Trailhead and Lake 22 Trail #702 will be closed to public access from July 15th, 2025, through October 31st, 2025, Monday through Friday, to reduce public safety concerns. To mitigate this risk, a temporary closure prohibiting use by any type of traffic or mode of transport will be established in the following areas located within Snohomish County, Washington:

Lake 22 Trailhead and Lake 22 Trail #702, located within Township 30N, Range 8E, Sections 22, 23, and 27.

AUTHORIZATIONS FOR FOREST PERMIT HOLDERS

This Forest Order includes an exemption for persons with a Forest Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation or Order (Form FS-7700-48). Authorization under this exemption will be provided only if I or my delegate determine that the risk to personal health and safety is reasonable considering the appropriate personal protective equipment and other necessary safety measures. The District Ranger is delegated the authority to issue permits within the closure area.

SCOPING AND PUBLIC OUTREACH:

Notices and press releases articulating these prohibitions have been posted on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest website and provided to local media outlets for distribution. Closure signage has been posted on the ground and in proximity to the affected areas. Supervisory staff of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest

have discussed the closure with potentially interested and invested cooperating parties, including local cooperating agencies.

REASONS FOR CATEGORICALLY EXCLUDING THE ACTION:

Based on a review of the proposed order and consultation with District and Forest resource specialists, I have concluded that this decision may be categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act. This action falls within the category identified in 36 C.F.R. § 220.6(d)(1) - prohibitions to provide short-term resource protection or to protect public health and safety - and does not require documentation in a decision memo, decision notice, or record of decision. I have determined that there are no extraordinary circumstances associated with this temporary closure. Implementation may begin immediately.

CIVIL RIGHTS IMPACT ANALYSIS:

I have determined that this closure will have no impacts on civil rights as it will apply to all individuals. No one group or person will be affected more than another group or person.

SUMMARY:

Based on my review, I have determined that this Forest Order is compliant with the Forest Order process and should be authorized.



Jody L. Weil

Forest Supervisor

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest