

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
NATIONAL FORESTS IN NORTH CAROLINA
APPALACHIAN RANGER DISTRICT
RAY MINE AREA**

FOREST ORDER #08-11-08-25-09

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 Ray Mine Area on the Appalachian Ranger District of the Pisgah National Forest. This closure is effective until 10/01/2027 or until rescinded by an authorized Forest Service official, whichever occurs first.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)

Under 261.53(e), the following closure areas have been identified (descriptions below):

The described closure area is within Yancey County and include all NFS lands within the following boundaries:

Ray Mine:

The closed area is described as all contiguous Forest Service Land within the Bowlens Creek drainage that is east of Ray Mine Road (SR-199), north of Joe Young Ridge and northwest of Bowlens Pyramid.

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 9/11/25



**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.