

## **Enforcement Plan**

**National Forests – Rogue River-Siskiyou, Fremont-Winema, Umpqua, Willamette, Olympic, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie, Okanogan-Wenatchee, Colville, Deschutes, Ochoco & Crooked River Grassland, Umatilla, Siuslaw, Wallowa-Whitman and Malheur**

**Background:** To provide for the protection of public health and safety and prevent the spread of COVID-19, the Forest Service has decided to implement a public safety closure for all developed recreation sites within the forests listed above. This decision was made based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as well as state and local health authorities to be consistent with the States of Oregon and Washington Executive Orders. Recreation sites within the forests listed above experience extremely high levels of recreational use that make social distancing difficult, if not impossible. Use of forest areas along certain roads is also exceedingly high, both on and outside of developed recreation sites. As state and local parks in the area have closed in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, National Forest System lands are becoming increasingly congested. The Forest Service is focused on ensuring the health and safety of our employees, their families, and the public while maintaining our ability to provide mission critical services including emergency response to fire, law enforcement, and support for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

**Enforcement Plan:** The Forest Service will develop a communication plan to promote public awareness and understanding of the safety concerns surrounding recreation and COVID-19. Efforts will address key audiences including our partners and visitors. We will also provide online notification of the closure through website and social media platforms through **Forest PAO's**.

Forest Service staff will post closure signs at all recreation sites on NFS lands within forests listed above. **Developed Recreation Leads at field units will work with field staff to ensure sites are properly signed.**

Upon the signing of the order by the Regional Forester, media notifications and posting of the impacted areas, enforcement of this order will be performed by Law Enforcement Officers, Special Agents and Forest Protection Officers utilizing “Smart Patrol” tactics. Smart Patrol tactics include practice of standard officer safety tactics enhanced attention to CDC recommended practices recommended to reduce the spread of coronavirus. Within this context the immediate physical safety of officers, employees, and visitor safety always take precedence.

Appropriate, fair and impartial enforcement actions will be made to address violations of this order. These actions may include: education, verbal warnings, citations, or arrest. The goal of all enforcement activities associated with this order will be to gain voluntary compliance for the protection of forest users, employees and natural resources.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE

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ORDER # 06-00-00-20-01  
FOREST ORDER  
OCCUPANCY AND USE

Pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50 (a), and to provide for public health and safety, the following acts are prohibited in the areas described in this order within the administrative boundaries of each of the forests listed above. This Order will become effective upon signature and shall be in effect until September 30, 2020, unless rescinded.

**PROHIBITION:**

1. Entering or using a Developed Recreation Site or portion thereof **§ 261.58 (b)**

*Developed recreation site means an area which has been improved or developed for recreation, § 36 CFR 261.2. Refer to individual National Forest's visitor use maps.*

**EXEMPTIONS:**

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

1. Persons with a permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of their official duties.
3. Volunteers and hosted enrollees (defined as any non-Forest Service employee who is officially participating in a Forest Service program).
4. Persons engaged in essential activities specifically allowed by Governors' orders in Oregon and in Washington.

These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

Executed in Portland, Oregon, on this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.



GLENN P. CASAMASSA  
Regional Forester  
Pacific Northwest Region

Violations of these prohibitions are punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000.00 for an individual or \$10,000.00 for a corporation or imprisonment for not more than six months or both. Title 16 USC Section 551.