UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE NATIONAL FORESTS IN ALABAMA ORDER NUMBER 2012-01-01

CAVE HABITAT OF INDIANA AND GRAY BATS SPECIAL CLOSURES

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50 (a) and (b), and for the protection of endangered and threatened species, the following acts are prohibited in specified caves on the **Bankhead Ranger District**, of the National Forests in Alabama. This closure order is effective from June 30, 2012 through June 30, 2017.

The following acts are **PROHIBITED** as set forth in 36 CFR 261.53:

Going into, or being in caves designated as closed for the protection of endangered, threatened, or rare species of animals. 36 CFR 261.53 (a) and (b)

These protected areas are designated on the ground by signs and are further identified on a map at the District Office

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50 (e) the following are exempt from this order:

Persons with a permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act

Any Federal, State, or Local officer; or member of any organized rescue or fire fighting force, in the performance of their official duties.

Prepared at Montgomery, Alabama, this the 15th day of June, 2012.

STEVEN M. LOHR

Forest Supervisor

National Forests in Alabama

Violation of these prohibitions are punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual and \$10,000 for an organization or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. Title 16 USC Section 551 and Title 18 USC 3559 and 3571.