

TERMINATION OF ORDER NO. 10-04-00-22-11

CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST

Effective July 14, 2022, Order No. 10-04-00-22-11, signed July 1, 2022, is terminated.

Executed in Anchorage, Alaska, this 14th day of July, 2022.

/s/ Jeff Schramm

JEFF SCHRAMM

Forest Supervisor

Chugach National Forest

CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST

Seward and Glacier Ranger Districts
Anchorage, Alaska

Order No. 10-04-00-22-11

EMERGENCY FOREST ORDER Fire Restrictions

Temporary Fire Prohibitions

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 CFR § 261.50(a), and to provide for public safety, the following acts are prohibited within the Seward Ranger District and Glacier Ranger District (excluding the Nellie Juan/College Fiord Wilderness Study Area) of the Chugach National Forest as shown on the attached map. The Nellie Juan/College Fiord Wilderness Study Area and the Cordova Ranger District are not included in this order. **This order is effective from July 1, 2022, through August 31, 2022.**

Prohibited Acts:

36 CFR 261.52 – Fire

1. **Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire, campfire or stove fire, including charcoal within the use-restriction area as shown on the attached map. [36 CFR 261.52(a)]. Except for (1) campfires located in designated fire pits of a Developed Campground or Day Use Area and (2) the use of portable stoves or lanterns that have a dedicated on-off controller or switch that utilize gas, jellied petroleum, or pressurized liquid fuel.**
2. **Operating an internal combustion engine within the use-restriction area as shown on the attached map. [36 CFR 261.52(h)]. Except for the use of internal combustion engines on a roadway.**
3. **Welding, or operating an acetylene or other torch with an open flame within the use-restriction area as shown on the attached map. [36 CFR 261.52(i)]. Except for welding and acetylene or other torch use while on a roadway.**

Exceptions:

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

1. Persons with a 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.
2. Any Federal, State or Local Officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

These restrictions are in addition to those enumerated in Subpart A, Part 261, Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations.

Executed in Anchorage, Alaska, this 1st day of July 2022.

/s/ Jeff Schramm

July 1, 2022

Jeff Schramm
Forest Supervisor
Chugach National Forest

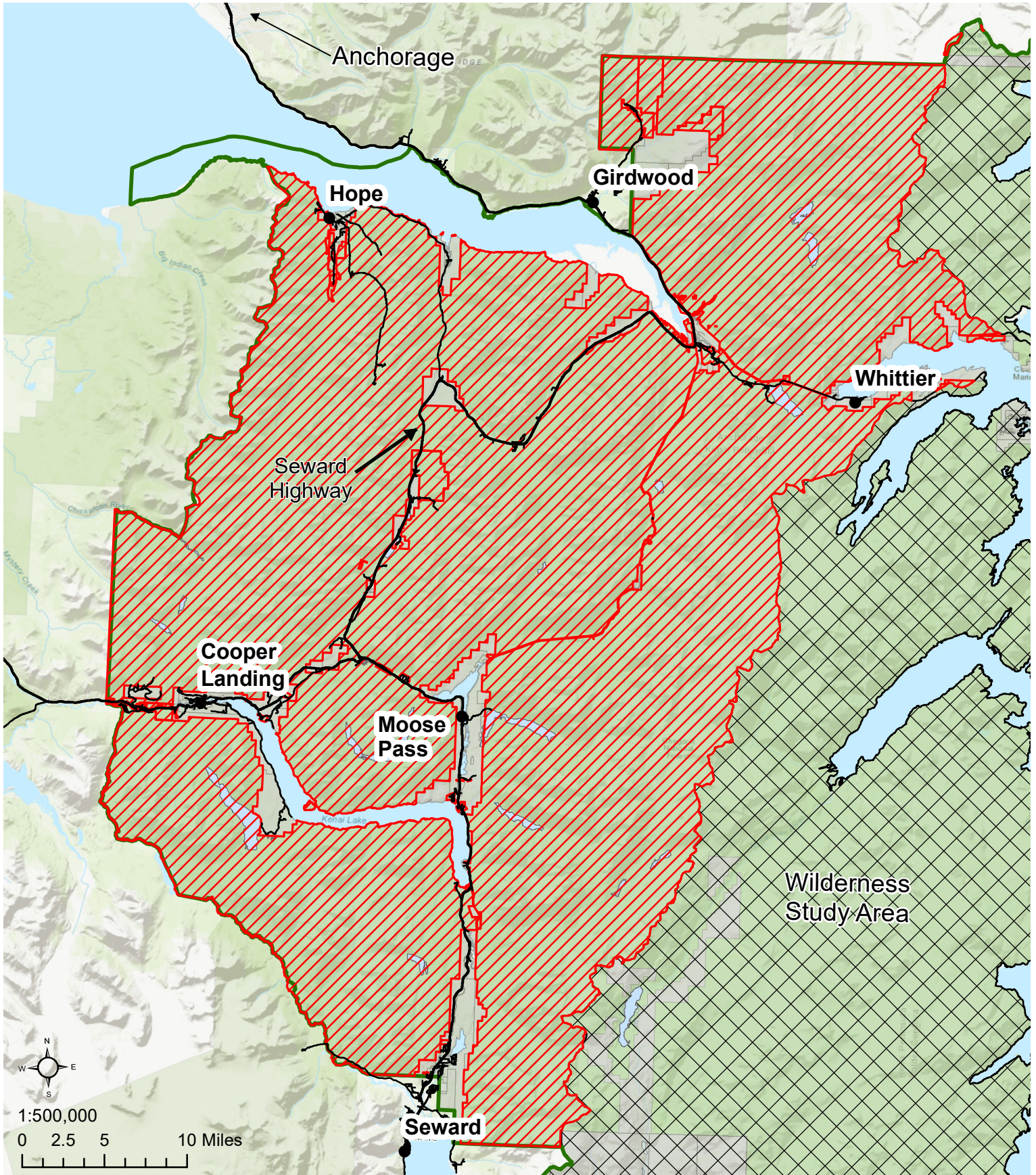
Date






Penalty:

A violation of these Prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six months or both. [16 U.S.C. 551, and 18 U.S.C. 3559, 3571, and 3581.]

Chugach National Forest Emergency Order for Fire Restrictions

KENAI PENINSULA
Glacier and Seward Districts



-  Fire Restrictions
-  National Forest
-  Roads
-  Other Ownership
-  Wilderness Study Area



File Code: 2400**Date:** July 1, 2022**Route To:****Subject:** Forest Order 10-04-00-22-11 Fire Restrictions**To:** File

This document explains my rationale and the regulatory basis for implementing temporary fire restrictions on the Chugach National Forest.

The criteria for activating fire restrictions through Forest Orders are based on Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System indices, fuel moisture conditions, and increased potential for human caused ignitions.

The Chugach National Forest utilizes indices from the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System (CFFDRS) to determine fire danger. The Canadian Forest Fire Weather Index (FWI) is Very High with potential to reach Extreme heading into the 4th of July week on the Kenai Peninsula portion of the Chugach National Forest. The Initial Spread Index (ISI) for new starts is High to Very High. Values of the Build-up Index (BUI) are Extreme with all days forecasted as Extreme. Spruce Adjectives confirm that overall fire potential is now peaking across the state.

These indices are used as threshold criteria for issuing fire restrictions. The Forest Service has determined that these indicators are reliable measurements for predicting increased fire behavior, large fire potential, and fire ignition. Current conditions across the Kenai Peninsula portion of the Forest reflect FWI, ISI and BUI indices at levels which would provoke these dangerous occurrences. The totality of all these factors results in a higher probability of fires starting from activities prohibited by this Order and suggest that any new wildfires would burn with extreme intensity and fire behavior with a high rate of spread. Additionally, beetle killed Black Spruce create additional fire danger concerns that are not reflected in fire danger modeling.

Several large fires are actively burning across the state of Alaska, drawing down firefighting resources. The state of Alaska is currently at Preparedness Level 5 of 5.

Furthermore, the Chugach National Forest is expecting an upward trend in human caused fires due to the approaching 4th of July holiday week. Preventing additional fires through this Order and its prohibitions will provide for public safety and protect natural resources.

The Nellie Juan-College Fjord Wilderness Study Area and the Cordova Ranger District have been exempted from fire restrictions.

This order includes an exemption for Federal, State, and local officers and members of organized rescue and firefighting forces during the performance of their official duties and for persons holding a forest permit for use of roads, trails, or areas restricted by regulation or order (form FS-7700-48). Authorization under this exemption will only be provided if I or my delegate



determine that the risk to personal health and safety is reasonable considering the circumstances of the request. District Rangers Tim Charnon and Ruth D'Amico are delegated the authority to issue permits allowing for the performance of otherwise prohibited acts within the use-restriction area affected by this Order.

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 CFR 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. Scoping efforts include the Chugach National Forest Fire Management staff consulting with Forest Staff Officers, Line Officers, interagency partners, local government cooperators and the adjacent Chugach State Park, Kenai Wildlife Refuge, and Kenai Fjords National Park regarding increasing fire danger across the Kenai Peninsula. I have determined that there are no extraordinary circumstances associated with this temporary closure. Additionally, it has been determined no CRIA is needed. Implementation of the decision may begin immediately.

/s/ Jeff Schramm

JEFF SCHRAMM
Forest Supervisor

Enclosures: Fire Restriction Map
Fire Restriction Order 10-04-00-22-11