

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE OLYMPIC NATIONAL FOREST ORDER # 06-09-23-02

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 CFR § 261.50(a) & (b), to provide for public safety, the following acts are prohibited within the Pacific Ranger District of the Olympic National Forest as described below and shown in Exhibit A. This order will be effective from May 19, 2023, through December 31, 2023, unless rescinded sooner.

PROHIBITIONS:

- 1. Camping. [36 CFR § 261.58(e)]
- 2. Parking or leaving a vehicle in violation of posted instruction. [36 CFR § 261.58(g)]
 - Parking within the Willaby Campground boat launch parking area is restricted to posted hours.
 - Parking within the Willaby Campground and associated road system is prohibited.

CLOSURE AREA DESCRIPTION:

The closure area encompasses the Willaby Campground, campground road system and the associated boat launch, located within T23N, R10W, Sections 19 and 24 (See Exhibit A).

EXEMPTIONS:

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

- 1. Owners or lessees of land in the area.
- 2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire-fighting force in the performance of an official duty.
- 3. Persons with Forest Service Permit No. FS-7700-48 (Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation Order), specifically exempting them from this order.

This prohibition is in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

Violations of this prohibition are 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 6 months, or both (16 U.S.C. § 551; 18 U.S.C. §§ 3551, 3559, 3571, and 3581).

Executed in Olympia, Washington, this $\frac{19}{9}$ day of May 2023.

Kelly D. Lawrence Forest Supervisor

Olympic National Forest

May 19, 2023

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Forest Supervisor Kelly D. Lawrence

TO: FILE

SUBJECT: Willaby Campground Camping and Parking Closure - # 06-09-23-02

FILE CODE: 1950

ISSUE

The intent of this memorandum is to describe the need for public use restrictions, as outlined in Forest Order # 06-09-23-02. 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.

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BACKGROUND AND NEED

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

In October of 2022, the Forest Service identified three old growth hazard trees within Willaby Campground. These identified hazards require prohibitions and limitations on camping and parking activities, for public safety, in the following manner until the trees are removed:

The parking of vehicles and overnight camping within Willaby Campground will be prohibited.

Day use parking will be allowed at the Willaby Campground boat launch during posted hours to facilitate public access to Lake Quinault.

Hazard tree removal activities are anticipated to be completed prior to the end of 2023.

The prohibitions include the entire Willaby Campground and associated boat launch, located within T23N, R10E, Section 19, and 24 (See Exhibit A).

This Forest Order includes an exemption for the Quinault Indian Nation who own Lake Quinault. It also 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 circumstances of the request. We also may require appropriate personal protective equipment and other necessary safety measures. The authority to sign form FS-7700-48 is held by myself and Olympic National Forest Deputy Forest Supervisor Susan Beall.

SCOPING AND PUBLIC OUTREACH:

Notices and press releases articulating these prohibitions have been posted on the Olympic 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 Olympic 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 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:

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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.

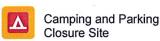
Kelly D. Lawrence

Forest Supervisor

Olympic National Forest



Willaby Campground Closure KAL **Exhibit A Closure Number 06-09-23-02** Olympic National Forest (360) 956-2402



Parking Permitted Only **During Posted Hours**

No Parking or Camping



Forest Service Road



County Road رح



National Forest System Trail







500 Feet