

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE

OLYMPIC NATIONAL FOREST

ORDER # 06-09-22-10

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 CFR § 261.50 (b), to provide for public safety, the following acts are prohibited within the Pacific Ranger District of the Olympic National Forest in the area described below and shown in Exhibit A. This order will be effective from August 18, 2022, until December 31, 2023, unless rescinded sooner.

PROHIBITION:

1). Being on the road. [36 CFR § 261.54(e)]

CLOSURE AREA DESCRIPTION:

- Forest Service Road (FSR) 2900, from mile post 10.5 to mile post 33.8 (T28N, R12W and R11W, and T29N, R10W);
- FSR 2922, from mile post 5.1 to its junction with FSR 29 (T29N, R11W and T29N, R10W);
- FSR 3067, from mile post 1.3 to mile post 3.5 (T30N, R11W); and
- FSR 3000, from mile post 9.9 to mile post 13.8 (T30N, R10W).

(See Exhibit A).

EXEMPTIONS:

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

- Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire-fighting force in the performance of an official duty.
- Persons with Forest Service Permit No. FS-7700-48 (Permit for Use of Roads, 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 / day of August 2022.

Kelly D. Lawrence Forest Supervisor

Olympic National Forest

Forest Service Olympic National Forest

1835 Black Lake Blvd SW Olympia, WA 98201

August 18, 2022

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Forest Supervisor Kelly D. Lawrence

TO: FILE

SUBJECT: FSR 29/30 Road Closure Order #06-09-22-10

FILE CODE: 1950/1010

ISSUE:

The intent of this memorandum is to describe the need for public use restrictions, as outlined in Forest Order #06-09-22-10. 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.

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).

During a flooding event in November 2021, National Forest System Roads No. 2900/3067/2922/3000 were washed away and heavily damaged by landslides in mountainous areas to the east of Forks, WA. Vehicular travel on these impacted roadways could potentially put users at risk of injury and cause damage to their vehicles. To mitigate this risk, the following sections of these four roads will be closed until December 31, 2023:

- Forest Service Road (FSR) 2900, from mile post 10.5 to mile post 33.8 (T28N, R12W and R11W, and T29N, R10W);
- FSR 2922, from mile post 5.1 to its junction with FSR 29 (T29N, R11W and T29N, R10W);
- FSR 3067, from mile post 1.3 to mile post 3.5 (T30N, R11W); and
- FSR 3000, from mile post 9.9 to mile post 13.8 (T30N, R10W).

(See Exhibit A).

EXEMPTIONS

This Forest Order 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. An agency representative will be delegated the authority to issue permits within the identified closure area. I hereby delegate the authority to sign Form FS-7700-48 granting an exemption to this Forest Order to the Deputy Forest Supervisor of the Olympic National Forest.

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 with District and 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:

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

Kellindfalllelli

