



**U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service
Cibola National Forest
Magdalena Ranger District**

**Bear Trap Fire Area and Road
Closures**

PROHIBITIONS

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(a) and (b), the following are prohibited in/on the National Forest System (NFS) areas and roads in the Magdalena Ranger District, Cibola National Forest and National Grasslands, described below and shown on the attached map incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A (the "Described Areas/Roads"):

1. Going into or being upon the Described Areas, which consist of the developed recreation sites described below. 36 C.F.R. §§ 261.52(e), 261.53(e), 261.58(b).
2. Using a motor vehicle on the Described Roads. 36 C.F.R. § 261.54(a).

EXEMPTIONS

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Persons with 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 or a written determination by a Forest Service authorized officer that a permit is not required under 36 C.F.R. § 251.50(e)(1) or (2).
2. Any Federal, State, or Local Officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting resource in the performance of official duty.
3. Landowners accessing their private property.

DESCRIBED AREAS/ROADS

The following developed recreation sites are closed to entry: Bear Trap (T5S section 12) and Hughes Mill (T5S section 23) Campgrounds.

The following NFS Roads are also closed and gated: NFS Road 549 (Withington/Beartrap

Road) starting at Monica Saddle in Section 1, Township 5S, Range 6W, on the north, following southwest through Beartrap Canyon, ending on the south end at the top of the canyon in Section 13 Township 6S, Range 8W and NFS Road 73 in Section 15, Township 6S, Range 7W, before dropping into Whitewater Canyon.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Order is to protect public health and safety from post wildfire hazards and flooding.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. This Order shall be in effect from January 1, 2024, at 12:00 a.m. through December 31, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. unless rescinded.
2. A map identifying the Described Areas/Roads is attached and made part of this Order as Exhibit A. For a digital version of this Order and Exhibit A, go to <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/cibola/alerts-notice>
3. Unless otherwise expressly defined in this Order, the terms used in this Order are defined by the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture, 36 C.F.R. Chapter II, Parts 200-299. If there are terms in this Order that are not expressly defined in the Order or 36 C.F.R. Chapter II, Parts 200-299, their meaning shall be determined by their plain language definitions.
4. A violation of the above prohibitions is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, or by imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 U.S.C. § 551; 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559, 3571, and 3581.
5. Contact the Magdalena Ranger District in Magdalena, NM, (575) 854-2281, and Cibola National Forest and National Grasslands Supervisor's Office in Albuquerque, NM, (505) 346-3900, for more information about this Order.
6. This Order supersedes any previous Orders prohibiting the same or similar acts in/on the same Described Areas/Roads.

Signed and issued on December 11, 2023.

Forest Supervisor

Cibola National Forest and National Grasslands