

**Order Number: # 03-12-03-24-08**



**U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service  
Tonto National Forest  
Mesa Ranger District**

**Hewitt Station Temporary Closure Order  
For Public Health & Safety**

**PROHIBITIONS**

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(a) and (b) the following is prohibited on the National Forest System (NFS) lands, road, and trails in the Mesa Ranger District, Tonto National Forest, described below and shown on the attached map incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A (the “Described Area/Roads/Trails”).

1. Going into or being upon the Described Area which is closed for public health and safety. 36 C.F.R. § 261.53(e).
2. Being upon the roads within the Described Area. 36 C.F.R. § 261.54(e).
3. Being upon the trails within the Described Area. 36 C.F.R. § 261.55(a).

**EXEMPTIONS**

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from the provisions of 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 any organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

## **DESCRIBED AREA/ROADS/TRAILS**

The Described Area includes all NFS lands, roads, and trails within the boundary beginning at the junction of NFS Road (NFSR) 357 and the National Forest boundary, then following the National Forest boundary, reference point (33°16.791' N x -111°16.137' W), south and east for approximately 2 miles to the north side of U.S. Highway 60, then following along the north side of Highway 60 east for approximately 5 miles to the boundary between NFS lands and the Boyce Thompson Arboretum State Park, then following the boundary of Boyce Thompson Arboretum State Park to the intersection of U.S. Highway 60 and NFSR 357, then following northwest along the south side of NFSR 357 for approximately 1.7 miles to its intersection with Motorized Trail (MT) 252, then following north and west along the west side of MT-252 for approximately 1.5 miles to the intersection of MT-1903, then following north along the west side of MT-1903 approximately 3 miles to the Reference Point, 33° 20.550' N / -111° 10.877' W, on MT-1903, then following in a northwesterly direction for approximately 0.75 miles to Preston Well, then following northwesterly for approximately 1.25 miles to the Reference Point, 33° 21.912' N / -111° 12.240' W, on NFSR 172 just southeast of Byous Butte, then following directly west for approximately 3.75 miles along the north Section lines 8-11 and PB43 within Township 1S, Range 11E, Gila and Salt River Meridian, Arizona, to the National Forest boundary at Reference Point, 33° 21.908' N / -111° 16.147' W, then following south along the National Forest boundary for approximately 5.9 miles back to the point of beginning at the intersection with NFSR 357 and the National Forest boundary, reference point (33°16.791' N x -111°16.137' W), as depicted in Exhibit A of this Order.

## **PURPOSE**

To protect the health and safety of participants in an educational field day event taking place in the Described Area/Roads/Trails under a Forest Service Special Use Permit.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

1. This Order shall be in effect from 6:00 a.m. through 6:00 p.m. on February 14, 2024, unless rescinded.
2. A map identifying the Described Area/Roads/Trails 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/tonto/alerts-notices>
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 Mesa Ranger District located in Mesa, AZ, (480) 610-3300 and the Tonto National Forest Supervisor's Office in Phoenix, Arizona, (602) 225-5200, for more information about this Order.
6. This Order supersedes any previous Orders prohibiting the same or similar acts in the same Described Area/Roads/Trails.

Signed and issued on February 12, 2024.

NEIL  
BOSWORTH

Digitally signed by NEIL  
BOSWORTH  
Date: 2024.02.12 11:54:28  
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Neil Bosworth  
Forest Supervisor  
Tonto National Forest