

# U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service

## Pike-San Isabel National Forests & Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands San Carlos Ranger District

### East Bear Gulch Trail (NFST 1333) - Seasonal Closure

#### PROHIBITIONS

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(a), the following is prohibited on the National Forest System (NFS) lands in the San Carlos Ranger District, Pike-San Isabel National Forests & Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands, described below and shown on the attached map incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A (the "Described Area"):

 Going into or being upon the Described Area annually from April 1<sup>st</sup> through July 31<sup>st</sup>. 36 C.F.R. § 261.53(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 force in the performance of an official duty.

#### DESCRIBED AREA

The Described Area is further defined as the NFS lands within the following boundaries: beginning at a point ten yards north of the intersection of East Bear Gulch Trail (NFST 1333) and Fremont County Road 143; then west along a line that is ten yards north of the trail for 2,904 feet (0.55 miles) to the intersection with the upper contour of the cliff face; then north and east along the upper contour of the cliff face to Fremont County Road 143 at a point 633 feet (0.12 miles) north of East Bear Gulch Trailhead; then southwest and south along the west side of Fremont County Road 143 to the point of beginning.

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of this Order is to protect the Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) nesting sites. The Peregrine Falcon is listed by Colorado Parks and Wildlife as a species of State Special Concern, and guidelines have been identified that calls for no human encroachment activities within  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile of the nest cliff(s) during the nesting season.

#### IMPLEMENTATION

- 1. This Order shall remain in effect from August 2, 2023, at 12:00 am, through August 1, 2026, at 11:59 pm, or unless rescinded.
- 2. A map identifying the Described Area is attached and made part of this Order as Exhibit A. For a digital version of this Order and Exhibit A, go to <u>Pike-San Isabel</u> <u>National Forests & Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands - Alerts &</u> <u>Notices (usda.gov)</u>
- 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 San Carlos Ranger District at (719) 269-8500, and Pike-San Isabel National Forests & Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands Supervisor's Office at (719) 553-1400 for more information about this Order.
- 6. This Order supersedes any previous Orders prohibiting the same or similar acts in the same Described Area.

Signed and issued on \_\_\_\_\_.

DIANA M. TRUJILLO Forest and Grassland Supervisor Pike-San Isabel National Forests & Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands