



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
CUSTER GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST  
BOZEMAN RANGER DISTRICT  
BOZEMAN, MONTANA**

**EMERGENCY ORDER  
OCCUPANCY AND USE  
DISCHARGING A FIREARM, AIR RIFLE, OR GAS GUN**

**PROHIBITION:**

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551, 36 C.F.R. § 261.50 (a) and (b) the following acts are prohibited on the Bozeman Ranger District, Custer Gallatin National Forest:

1. Discharging a firearm, air rifle or gas gun [36 C.F.R. § 261.58 (m)].

**AREA DESCRIPTION:**

The prohibition applies to all National Forest System (NFS) lands depicted on the attached map (Attachment A) also known as the “Hyalite Drainage.”

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this order is to protect public health and safety. The narrow geography of this glaciated valley, the density of roads, trails and developed and undeveloped sites, and the volume of people who recreate in this area make it unsafe for unmanaged target shooting. This order is being issued as an emergency order in accordance with 16 U.S.C. § 7913. This emergency order combined with the existing state and federal hunting and shooting closures will provide for a safe environment in the closure area.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

This order will be in effect starting April 21, 2024, and shall remain in effect until April 21, 2025, or until the order is rescinded, whichever occurs first.

These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 C.F.R. Part 261, Subpart A.

**EXEMPTIONS:**

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

(1) Persons with a special use authorization or other Forest Service authorization specifically exempting them from the effect of this order.

(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 engaged in the lawful act of hunting game or non-game species.

**VIOLATION:**

Violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both. (16 U.S.C. §551 and 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559, 3571 and 3581(b)(7)).

**INFORMATION:**

Further information regarding this Order may be obtained at the Bozeman Ranger District Office located at 3710 Fallon Street Suite C, Bozeman Montana 59718 (406) 522-2520, and at the Custer Gallatin National Forest Supervisor's Office located at 10 E. Babcock, Bozeman, Montana, (406)587-6701.

Executed in Bozeman, Montana, this 1st<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.

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Kathy Minor  
Forest Supervisor (Acting)