

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

#### FOREST SERVICE

#### MT. BAKER-SNOQUALMIE NATIONAL FOREST

#### ORDER # 06-05-24-07

#### **Forest Road Closure**

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 CFR § 261.50(a) & (b), to provide for public safety, the following acts are prohibited within the Darrington Ranger District of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest as described below and shown in Exhibit A. This order will be effective from April 29, 2024, until October 15, 2024, unless rescinded sooner.

#### PROHIBITION:

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

#### **CLOSURE AREA DESCRIPTION:**

The closure of FSR 4110 begins at the Forest Service boundary, mile post 0.25, within Township 31 North, Range 8 East, Section 31 and extends through Sections 32, 30, 29, 33, 34 to the road terminus. (See Exhibit A).]

#### EXEMPTIONS:

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

- 1. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire-fighting force in the performance of an official duty.
- 2. Persons with a Valid Forest Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation or Order (Form FS-7700-48), specifically exempting them from this order.

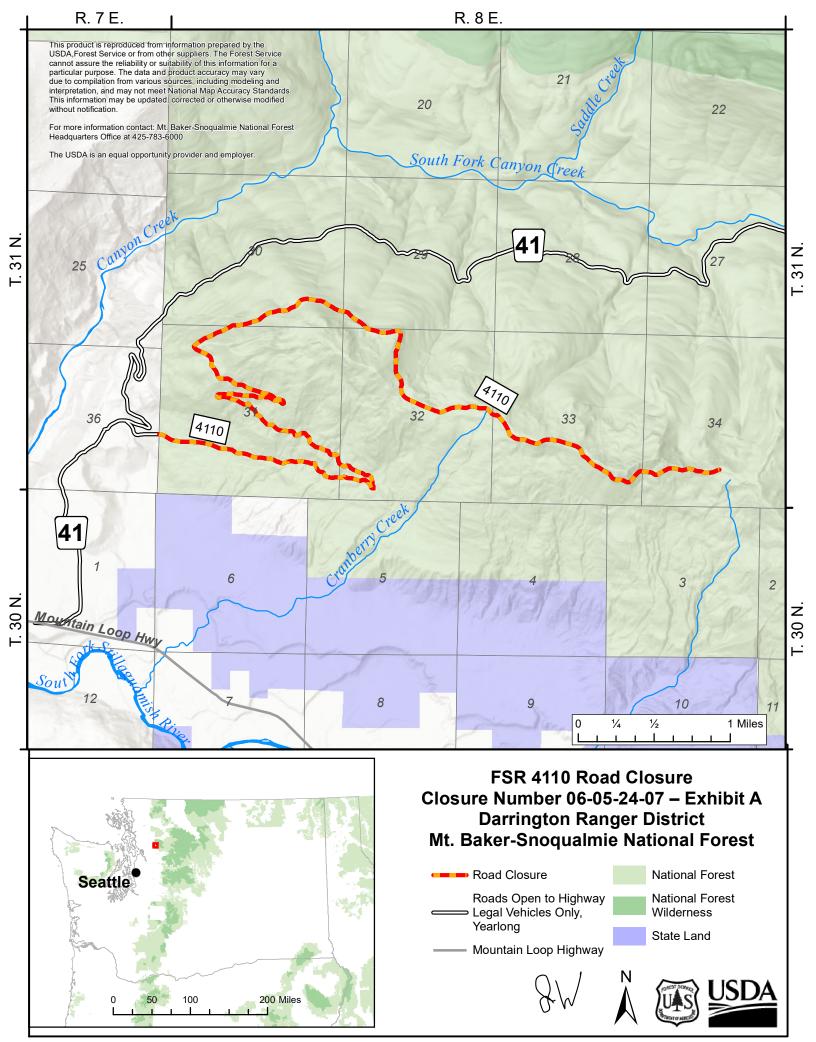
This prohibition is in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

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 Everett, Washington, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.

H Weil

Jody L. Weil し Forest Supervisor Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest





United States Department of Agriculture

Forest Service Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest 1000 SE Everett Mall Way Suite 410 Everett, WA 98208

April 29, 2024

MEMORANDUM

Forest Supervisor Jody L. Weil FROM:

FILE

TO:

SUBJECT: FSR 4110 ROAD CLOSURE #06-05-24-07

FILE CODE: 1950

# **ISSUE:**

The intent of this memorandum is to describe the need for public use restrictions, as outlined in Forest Order #06-05-24-07. 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 and Forest Service personnel safety. The temporary order would be pursuant to 36 CFR § 261.50(b).

The justification for these use restrictions is to provide for protection of the public due to yarding equipment and heavy log truck haul on the road during the logging season. The Green Grouse Integrated Resource Service Contract (IRSC) is operating on the 4110 and blocking the road with skyline yarding equipment to accomplish the restoration goals of the contract.

During IRSC operations roads will be closed to reduce public safety concerns. To mitigate this risk, a temporary closure prohibiting use by any type of traffic or mode of transport will be established in the following areas located within Snohomish County, Washington:

The closure of FSR 4110 begins at the Forest Service boundary, mile post 0.25, within Township 31 North, Range 8 East, Section 31 and extends through Sections 32, 30, 29, and 33, to its terminus in Section 34. (See Exhibit A).

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 appropriate personal protective equipment and other necessary safety measures. The District Ranger is delegated the authority to issue permits within the closure area.

### **SCOPING AND PUBLIC OUTREACH:**

Notices and press releases articulating these prohibitions have been posted on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie 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 Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest have discussed the closure with potentially interested and invested cooperating parties, including Washington State Department of Natural Resources, USDI Bureau of Land Management, Skagit County, and local fire districts.

## **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:

Jody L. Weil

Based on my review, I have determined that this Forest Order is compliant with the Forest Order process and should be authorized.

Weil

Forest Supervisor Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest