

Order Number: # 03-12-01-24-18



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

**Horse Fire Area and Motorized Trails Emergency Closure
for Public Health and Safety**

PROHIBITIONS

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

1. Going into or being upon the Described Area. **36 C.F.R. § 261.53(e)**
2. Being on the Described Trail. **36 C.F.R. § 261.55(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 an official duty.

DESCRIBED AREA AND TRAILS

The Described Area is within Township 7 North Range 6 East Sections 13, 14, 23, 24, 25, PB37, and PB38 and Township 7 North Range 7 East Sections 18, 19, and 30.

It consists of all National Forest System lands and trails within the Boundary starting at the intersection of National Forest System (NFS) Road 205 (Horseshoe Dam Rd) and Motorized Trail (MT) 42, then following generally north along the east side of NFS Road 205 (Horseshoe Dam Rd) approximately 1.75 miles to the junction with an unnamed drainage at Reference Point 33° 57.633' N x -111° 42.285' W, then following directly north along the unnamed drainage approximately 0.1 miles to the junction with the Verde River at Reference Point 33° 57.689' N x -111° 42.269' W, then following generally southeast along the shoreline west of the Verde River to the junction with MT-532, then following southwest along the northwest side of MT-532 approximately 0.75 miles to the intersection with MT-42, then following generally northwest along the northeast side of MT-42 approximately 4.25 miles back to the point of beginning at the intersection of MT-42 and NFS Road 205.

Note: Routes along the Described Area boundary NFS Road 205 (Horseshoe Dam Rd), MT-42, and MT-532 are open.

Routes within the Described Area MT-161 and MT-2109 are closed.

PURPOSE

To provide public health and safety due to firefighting operations and fire danger associated with the Horse Fire on the Tonto National Forest.


IMPLEMENTATION

1. This Order shall be in effect from May 18, 2024, at 06:00am through June 07, 2024, at 6:00pm, unless rescinded.
2. A map identifying the Described Area and 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-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 Cave Ranger District in Scottsdale, AZ, (480) 595-3300, and Tonto National Forest Supervisor's Office in Phoenix, AZ, (602) 225-5200, for more information about this Order.

6. This Order supersedes Order 03-12-01-24-15, dated May 08, 2024.

Signed and issued on May 17, 2024.

NEIL
BOSWORTH



Digitally signed by NEIL
BOSWORTH
Date: 2024.05.17 12:55:00
-07'00'

Neil Bosworth
Deputy Forest Supervisor
Tonto National Forest