



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

Wildcat Fire Public Safety and Burned Area Recovery Closure

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, roads, 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, Roads, and Trails):

1. Going into or being up the Described Area which is being closed for the protection of public health and safety. **36 C.F.R. § 261.53(e).**
2. Being on any Described Road. **36 C.F.R. §261.54(e).**
3. Being on any Described Trails. **36 C.F.R. §261.54(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, ROADS, AND TRAILS

The Described Area consists of all NFS lands and trails within the boundary starting at the intersection of National Forest System Road (NFSR) 19 (Commonly referred as Bartlett Dam Rd.) and NFSR 24 (Commonly referred as Cave Creek Rd./Seven Springs Rd.) near the Cave Creek Ranger District Office, then following generally south and east along the Non-Forest Service Ownership Boundary approximately 18.5 miles to the junction with Rio Verde Dr., then following east along the north side of Rio Verde Dr. approximately 0.75 miles to the intersection with NFSR 20 (Commonly referred as Needle Rock Rd.), then following generally north along the west side of NFSR 20 approximately 3 miles to the junction with the Verde River near Needle Rock Beach, then following generally north along the west side of the Verde River approximately 4.5 miles to the junction with NFSR 19, then following north along the west side of NFSR 19 approximately 4 miles to the intersection with NFSR 459 (Commonly referred as North Lake Rd.), then following northeast along the west side of NFSR 459 for approximately 2 miles to the intersection with Motorized Trail (MT) 42, then following northwest along the northeast side of MT-42 approximately 5.25 miles to the intersection with MT-532, then following northeast along the southeast side of MT-532 approximately 0.75 miles to the junction with the Verde River, then following generally northwest along the west side of the Verde River approximately 5 miles to the junction with Reference Point $33^{\circ} 57.689' N \times -111^{\circ} 42.269' W$, then following directly south for approximately 0.1 miles to the Reference Point $33^{\circ} 57.633' N \times -111^{\circ} 42.285' W$ to NFS Road 205 (Commonly referred as Horseshoe Dam Rd.), then following southwest along the southeast side of NFSR 205 approximately 6.25 miles to the intersection with MT-1058, then following generally southwest along the south side of MT-1058 approximately 5.5 miles to the junction with Non-Forest Service Ownership, then following southwest and northwest along the Non-Forest Service Ownership boundary approximately 0.5 miles to the junction with NFSR 1058, then following southwest along the north side of NFSR 1058 for approximately 0.5 miles to the intersection with NFSR 24, then following southwest along the east side of NFSR 24 approximately 1 mile to the junction with the Non-Forest Service Ownership, then following south along the Non-Forest Service Ownership approximately 2 miles back to the point of beginning at the intersection of NFSR 24 and NFSR 19.

All National Forest System roads within the Described Area are also closed, with the exception of NFSR 19 and NFSR 205, which remain open to the public.

Additionally, the portions of MT-42, MT-532, MT-1058, and NFSR 1058 which bound the Described Area are also closed by this Order.

Note: The following roads which bound the Described Area remain open: Rio Verde Dr., NFSR 19 (Bartlett Dam Rd.), NFSR 20 (Needle Rock Rd.), NFSR 459 (North Lake Rd.), NFSR 205 (Horseshoe Dam Rd.), and NFSR 24 (Cave Creek Rd./Seven Springs Rd.).

Needle Rock Picnic Area/Beach remains open.

The Cave Creek Ranger District Office also remains open during normal business hours.

PURPOSE

To provide for public health and safety due to increased flash flood potential, and allow for natural resource protection and recovery, within the Wildcat Fire burned area.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. This Order shall be in effect from June 22nd, 2024, at 8:00am through September 30th, 2024, at 6:00pm, 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 <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 03-12-01-24-21, dated May 23rd, 2024.

Signed and issued on June 21, 2024.

NEIL
BOSWORTH

Digitally signed by
NEIL BOSWORTH
Date: 2024.06.21
16:10:24 -07'00'

Neil Bosworth
Deputy Forest Supervisor
Tonto National Forest