

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOREST SERVICE

MT. BAKER-SNOQUALMIE NATIONAL FOREST ORDER # 06-05-24-09

Forest Road Closure

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 CFR § 261.50(a) and (b), to provide for public safety, the following acts are prohibited within the Snoqualmie Ranger District of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest as described below and shown in Exhibit A. This order will be effective from June 25, 2024 until Oct 15, 2024, unless rescinded sooner.

PROHIBITION:

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

Going into or being upon any closed area. [36 CFR § 261.53(e)]

Entering or using a developed recreation site or portion thereof. [36 CFR § 261.58(b)]

CLOSURE AREA DESCRIPTION:

The closure of FSR 5510 and all spur roads along FSR 5510 begins at the intersection with FSR 5500 (Tinkham Road), within T22N, R10E, Section 15 and extends through Sections 22, 23, 26, and 27, to its terminus in Section 28. (See Exhibit A).

The area closure begins in T22N, R10E, Section 15 and extends through Section 22. Section 15 is closed everywhere south of the Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail Boundary. Section 22 is closed completely.

Harris Lake TH parking area, located within T22N, R10E, Section 28 (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 25th day of June 2024.

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

June 25, 2024

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Forest Supervisor Jody L. Weil

TO: FILE

SUBJECT: FSR 5510 ROAD CLOSURE #06-05-24-09

FILE CODE: 1950

ISSUE:

The intent of this memorandum is to describe the need for public use restrictions, as outlined in Forest Order #06-05-24-09. 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(a) and (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 Humpback DxP SBA is operating on the 5510 and falling timber along the road, running road maintenance equipment, and blocking the road with skyline yarding equipment to harvest trees for the sale.

During sale 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 King County, Washington:

The closure of FSR 5510 and all spur roads along FSR 5510 begins at the intersection with FSR 5500 (Tinkham Road), within Township 22 North, Range 10 East, Section 15 and extends through Sections 22, 23, 26, and 27, to its terminus in Section 28. (See Exhibit A).

The area closure begins in Township 22 North, Range 10 East, Section 15 and extends through Section 22. Section 15 is closed everywhere south of the Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail Boundary. Section 22 is closed completely.

Harris Lake TH parking area is closed, located within Township 22 North, Range 10 East, Section 28 (See Exhibit A)

AUTHORIZATIONS FOR FOREST PERMIT HOLDERS:

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 circumstances of the request. We also may require 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 King County Search and Rescue.

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:

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

Jody L. Weil

Forest Supervisor

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest