



Plumas National Forest 2024 Unauthorized Group Use Incident June 27, 2024	
Situation or Background	<p>On June 17, the U.S. Forest Service learned about the potential for an Unauthorized Non-Commercial Group Use Incident (Rainbow Family Gathering) to occur on the Plumas National Forest, Mount Hough Ranger District approximately 5 miles north of Antelope Lake Recreation Area in Plumas County.</p> <p>In response, the USDA Forest Service mobilized a National Incident Management Team with experience managing these types of incidents. The team works closely with the local community, including law enforcement agencies, throughout the incident to protect the health and safety of everyone involved, lessen environmental impacts, and enforce laws.</p> <p>For the protection of natural, Tribal and cultural resources, concerns about fire danger, public health and sanitation, and upholding permitted special uses, the Plumas National Forest issued Forest Order 05-11-02-24-05 prohibiting anyone from being in any portion of the Indian Creek Headwaters Area and Road Closure Order on the Mount Hough Ranger District.</p> <p>The Forest Order became effective on June 26, 2024 and will be evaluated daily to determine the appropriate time to lift the order to resume general public use of the area.</p> <p>Current attendance is estimated to be around 410 attendees.</p> <p>For a map and additional information on the Rainbow Gathering Incident please visit http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/rainbowgathering.</p>
Safety Concerns and/or Advisories	<p>Snags are abundant in the area. Snags are dead, standing trees without leaves or needles in the crowns and present a significant threat and may fall without warning, especially in windy conditions.</p>
Closures	<p>For the protection of natural resources and to avoid traffic congestion, the Forest has issued three closure orders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Forest Order 05-11-02-24-05 prohibiting anyone from being in any portion of the Indian Creek Headwaters Area and Road Closure Order on the Mount Hough Ranger District. •Forest Order 05-11-02-24-04 prohibits the parking and leaving of a vehicle in posted areas on Forest Road 28N15. This is to ensure safe ingress and egress in the area for the public and emergency vehicles if there is a need for response,

	<p>as well as to protect natural resources in the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Forest Order 05-11-02-24-03 restricts traffic on Forest Road 28N15 to one-way travel to manage traffic flow and ensure an open roadway throughout the incident and closes Forest Roads 28N15A, 28N15B at the base of Red Peak and Forest Trail number 12M29 a quarter mile from the intersection of Forest Road of 28N15. <p>Stage 1 Fire Restriction went into effect Monday June 24, 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Forest Order Number 05-11-24-01.
Parking Information	<p>No Parking signs have been placed along Forest Road 28N15A in locations where the road is narrow and/or it is not safe to park due to resource concerns. Please follow all posted restrictions.</p>
Weather Janesville, CA	<p>Friday: Sunny, with a high near 81. North wind around 5 mph becoming southwest in the afternoon.</p> <p>Friday night: Clear, with a low around 56. West wind 5 to 15 mph.</p> <p>Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 80. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to 10 to 15 mph in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph.</p> <p>Saturday night: Mostly clear, with a low around 55. West wind 10 to 15 mph decreasing to 5 to 10 mph after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph.</p>
Fire Restrictions	<p>Stage 1 fire restrictions went into effect at 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 23, based on data confirming the Energy Release Component (ERC) is above the 60th percentile and increasing, combined with drying fuels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under Stage 1 restrictions, attending or using a fire, campfire or stove fire, except in a designated recreation site is prohibited. • The order also prohibits welding, using an acetylene torch or operating any torch with an open flame within the boundaries of the Plumas National Forest. • Possession of a valid California Campfire Permit is not an exemption from the prohibitions. However, California Campfire Permit holders can use portable campfire pits, stoves or lanterns that use gas, kerosene, jellied petroleum or pressurized liquid fuel as long as it has a working shut-off valve and is used in an area that is at least 3 feet from any flammable materials. <p>Forest visitors are asked to use extreme caution when fire restrictions are in place. Violations are punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations and/or by imprisonment for not more than six months. Fire prevention and law enforcement will be patrolling, and anyone who violates Stage 1 restrictions will be ticketed. There will be zero tolerance for violations of fire restrictions.</p>

Information	<p>Public Information Line at 530-638-2214 or email SM.FS.RainbowIMT@usda.gov</p> <p>Additional Rainbow Gathering Incident information can be found at http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/rainbowgathering.</p> <p>Plumas County Sheriff Department Dial 911 for emergencies. Non-emergencies: (530) 283-6375</p> <p>For more information on the Plumas National Forest, visit www.fs.usda.gov/plumas, or follow on Facebook at www.facebook.com/USFSPlumas.</p>
Protected Sites	<p>The Forest Service protects many sensitive resource sites. Sensitive resource areas include wildlife areas, cultural sites, riparian areas and wetlands. Restricting access to such areas provides protection for several threatened wildlife species and other aquatic and wildlife species. Excavation and/or removal of prehistoric, historic, or archaeological resources, structures, sites, artifacts, or property is prohibited.</p>