

Order No.: 2017-HPBE-135

**FOREST ORDER**  
**USDA FOREST SERVICE**  
**MEDICINE BOW-ROUTT NATIONAL FORESTS &**  
**THUNDER BASIN NATIONAL GRASSLAND**  
**HAHNS PEAK/BEARS EARS RANGER DISTRICT**  
**ROUTT COUNTY, COLORADO**

**Occupancy and Use Restrictions**

Pursuant to 16 United States Code (U.S.C.) and 36 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) 261.50 (a) and (b), the following acts are prohibited on the Hahns Peak/Bears Ears Ranger District of the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests, on National Forest System (NFS) lands described as the "Restricted Area" and "Restricted Trails". The Restricted Area and Trails are described below and illustrated in the attached exhibit.

The purpose of this order is to protect elk their habitat during birthing periods in the Restricted Area and Trails.

**PROHIBITIONS:**

Being on a Restricted Trail or in the Restricted Area, between May 15 and June 15 of each year (36 CFR 261.53 (b) and 261.55 (a)).

**EXEMPTIONS:**

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. 261.50 (e), the following persons may be exempt from this order:

1. Persons with a permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission;
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.
3. Any other person meeting exemption requirements, as specified in this order, which includes the following:
  - a. Forest Service personnel or persons designated by Forest Service personnel.

**RESTRICTED TRAILS AND AREA:**

The Restricted Area is 355 acres of NFS land in Township 7 North, Range 84 West, Sections 25, 26, and 35 of Routt County, Colorado on the Hahns Peak/Bears Ears Ranger District of the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests. The Restricted Area is a designated and mapped Colorado Parks and Wildlife Elk Production Area within the Buffalo Pass Trails Project Area, as designated by the 2016 Buffalo Pass Trails Project

Decision Notice. The Restricted Area does not include a 200 foot buffer on either side of the portion of the Buffalo Pass Road (NFS Road 60) that bisects the Restricted Area.

The Restricted Trails include those trails that were approved in the 2016 Buffalo Pass Trails Decision Notice that are within, or lead to the Restricted Area. The Restricted Area and Trails are illustrated in the attached exhibit, and are hereby incorporated into this order.

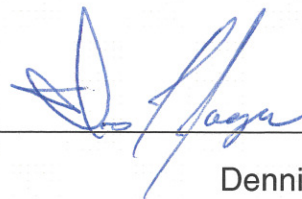
**POSTING:**

The order will be posted in accordance with 36 C.F.R. 261.51 (a) and (b):

1. A copy of the order and the prohibitions will be placed in the offices of the Forest Supervisor and District Ranger;
2. A copy of the order and the prohibitions will be placed in other reasonable locations as to bring the prohibitions to the attention of the public. This will include:
  - a. Posting at trailheads and campground information boards, within and adjacent to the restricted area.
  - b. Distribution of pamphlets and other educational information to the public through campground hosts and Forest Service personnel patrolling the area.
  - c. Announcement in a news release sent to local newspapers, radio stations, and other media outlets, as deemed necessary by Forest Service personnel.

This order shall remain in effect for five years from the date of signature, unless rescinded sooner.

Done at Laramie, Wyoming, this 15th day of May, 2017.



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Dennis L. Jaeger  
Forest Supervisor  
Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests &  
Thunder Basin National Grassland

Violations of this prohibition are punishable as a Class B misdemeanor 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 and 18 U.S.C §§ 3559 and 3571.