

FOREST ORDER
USDA FOREST SERVICE
MEDICINE BOW NATIONAL FOREST
LARAMIE RANGER DISTRICT
NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM ROAD and AREA RESTRICTION
Occupancy and use Closure: Pole Mountain Deer and Elk Winter Range

Pursuant to 16 United States Code (U.S.C.) § 551 and 36 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) § 261.50 (a) and (b), the following acts are prohibited on those National Forest Service lands described as the Pole Mountain Deer and Elk Winter Range closure area (the “Restricted Area”) as well as all roads within the Restricted Area, located within the Laramie Ranger district of the Medicine Bow National Forest in Albany County, State of Wyoming.

The Restricted Roads are defined as National Forest System Roads (NFSRs) as shown in the table below:

FSR 728	FSR 713.F	FSR 712.DA
FSR 728.B	FSR 713.G	FSR 712.E
FSR 726	FSR 713.CA	FSR 710
FSR 726.A	FSR 713.C	FSR 710.B
FSR 726.D	FSR 709	FSR 701.B
FSR 703.C	FSR 709.A	FSR 701.D
FSR 703.F	FSR 714.D	FSR 701.DC
FSR 703.FA	FSR 712.C	FSR 701.G
FSR 703.G	FSR 701.E	FSR 701.GA
FSR 708.A	FSR 708	FSR701.GB
FSR 708.B	FSR 708.AA	FSR 708.D
FSR 712.D	FSR 712 east of its junction with FSR 714	

The Restricted Area is split into two sub-units. These areas are defined as all of those National Forest System (NFS) lands:

East sub-unit: East of NFSR 701 to the eastern Forest boundary and north to the NFSR 712 junction. The closure remains south of, and does not include NFSR 712 west of its junction with NFSR 714. East of the

NFSR 712 / 714 junction the closure continues north, including NFSR 712. Closure does not include NFSR 714; closure continues to the north all the way to the northern Forest boundary. The closure extends to the eastern Forest boundary throughout its full extent. This includes all or part of T15N R71W Sections 1 – 3, 11 – 16, 21 – 27, and 34 – 36; T14N R71W Sections 1, 2, 3, 11, and 12. See the attached map for a visual representation of both .

West sub-unit: West of Interstate 80, approximately 1.5 miles east of the exit for Happy Jack Highway (Lincoln head), the closure extends west to the Forest boundary and north past Interstate 80, remaining west of NFSR 703 to the northern Forest boundary. The closure area extends to the west Forest boundary throughout its full extent. This includes all or part of T15N R72W Sections 3, 10, 11, 14, 15, 22, 23, 26, 27, 34 and 35.

Please refer to the attached area map for a graphic representation of the closure area.

In accordance with the Medicine Bow National Forest Land Use and Management Plan (Forest Plan) the purpose of this order is to protect deer and elk winter range and birthing areas from motorized disturbance on Pole Mountain.

Forest Plan (Page 1-41) Guideline 5:

“Apply seasonal restrictions as needed on motorized use of travelways to reduce disturbance in sensitive big game areas, such as birthing areas and winter range.”

The area has been identified as winter and parturition range by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department and is identified as deer and elk winter range in the Medicine Bow National Forest Revised Land and Resource Management Plan (management area 5.41).

The order is necessary to protect deer and elk from stress caused by motorized vehicles and over-the-snow vehicles leading into and during parturition on winter range. Due to the nature and time of year of this closure order, the order applies to all motorized vehicles, to include over-snow and tracked vehicles.

PROHIBITIONS:

- 1) Using a Motor Vehicle, including over-snow motor vehicles, on the Restricted Roads between February 1 and May 25 of each year. 36 C.F.R. § 261.54
- 2) Operating or possessing a Motor Vehicle, including over-snow motor vehicles, off National Forest System Roads in the Restricted Area between February 1 and May 25. 36 C.F.R §261.56

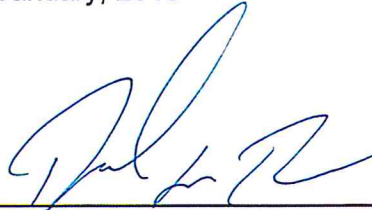
EXEMPTIONS:

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

- 1) Persons with a Forest Service permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
- 2) Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.

This order will be in effect when signed and shall remain in effect until rescinded or until May 25th 2022, whichever event occurs first.

Done at Laramie, Wyoming, this 18th day of January, 2018



RUSSELL M. BACON
FOREST SUPERVISOR
MEDICINE BOW-ROUTT NATIONAL FORESTS
AND THUNDERBASIN NATIONAL GRASSLAND

Violations of this prohibition are punishable by a fine of not more than \$5000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six (6), or both. 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559 and 3571.