

## FOREST ORDER

### USDA FOREST SERVICE

#### MEDICINE BOW-ROUTT NATIONAL FORESTS, BRUSH CREEK/HAYDEN RANGER DISTRICT NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM ROAD and AREA RESTRICTION

##### Occupancy and Use Closure: West Snowy Range Crucial 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 West Snowy Range Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range Closure (the “Restricted Area”), as well as all roads within the restricted area (“Restricted Roads”) and additional sections of further described restricted roads within the Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District of the Medicine Bow National Forest in Carbon County, State of Wyoming.

The **restricted roads** are defined as **National Forest System Roads (NFSRs) 289, 290, 291, 292.1I** (south of the state land boundary in section 10, T17N R82W), **292** (south of the state land boundary in section 10, T17N R82W), **292.1C** (south of the state land boundary in section 10, T17N R82W), **3417** (west of the forest boundary for approximately 6 tenths of a mile), **242.2C, 242.3C, 242.2B** (east of the junction with 242.2C for approximately one tenth of a mile), **242.2D, 242** (east of the junction with 242.2C for approximately one tenth of a mile), and motorized trail **210.1A** (east of the junction with 242.2C for approximately one tenth of a mile), **512.Y, 495, 512.X, 512** (south of the southern boundary of private land in section 30 (T14N R80W), and 512.H (south of the southern boundary of private land in section 30 (T14N R80W). **229.4G, 208.1F, 208.2P, 208.3P, 211, 211.1A, 211.1D, 211.1E, 211.1F, 211.1G, 244.1A, 244.1B, 244.1C, 208** (one tenth of a mile west of section 16, T15N R81W), **244** (two tenths of a mile east of the junction with NFSR 208), **244** (one tenth of a mile east of the junction with NFSR 211), **502, 502.1C, 502.1D, 502.1E, 502.1F, 502.2F, 502.3F, 502.4F, 502.5F, AND 515**. Additionally, (NFSRs) **492.1A, 492.2A, 492.3A, 492.2B, 492.3B, 423, 494, 494.1A**.

The Northern Platte River restricted area is defined as National Forest System (NFS) lands within the area from the south side of NFSR 512 in section 6 (T13N R80W) at the forest boundary, then north along the east side of the forest boundary, then west along the north side of the forest boundary to the south west corner of section 35 (T14N R81W), then north along the east side of the forest boundary to the point one quarter mile south of the North Platte River in section 26 (14N R81W), then east along the southern boundary of private land, then north along the eastern boundary of private land to the southern boundary of the Savage Run Wilderness Area, then east along the southern boundary of the Savage Run Wilderness Area to the west terminus of NFSR 512.Z, then east along the south side of NFSR 512.Z to the private land boundary in section 30 (T14N R80W), east on the south side of the private land boundary, then southeast to the Platte River Wilderness boundary in the southwest quarter of section 27 (14N R80W), then south along the Platte River Wilderness boundary to the intersection with the North Platte River in the southwest quarter of section 32 (T14N R80W), west along the North Platte River to the forest boundary, then north along the Forest boundary to NFSR 512. The area within one quarter mile of the North Platte River is not included in the restricted area; however, NFSRs 512, 512.Y, and 512.X are included in the winter range closure. The Northern Restricted Roads and Restricted Areas are shown on the attached map hereby incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A.

The Southern Platte River restricted area is defined as National Forest System (NFS) lands within the area from the northern side of the Wyoming-Colorado state line at section 23 (T12N R80W), west along the forest boundary, then north along the forest boundary beginning at section 22 (T12N R80W), then east along the south boundary of the Platte River Wilderness Area through the center of section 29 (T13N R80W), then south on the



west side of the western boundary of the Platte River Wilderness Area to the southeast corner of section 32 (T13N R80W), then west along the boundary between section 32 and section 5 for one quarter mile following the boundary of the Sixmile Developed Recreation Area, then south along the west side of the Sixmile Developed Recreation Area boundary to the Platte River Wilderness Area boundary, then south on the west side of the western boundary of the Platte River Wilderness Area until reaching the Wyoming-Colorado state line. The Southern Restricted Roads and Restricted Areas are shown on the attached map hereby incorporated into this Order as Exhibit B.

The Pennock restricted area is defined as National Forest System (NFS) lands within the area from the east side of the forest boundary at the southwest corner of section 25 (T17N R82W) north to the southwest quarter of section 10 (T18N R82W) at the private land boundary, then east to center of the south quarter of section 11 (T18N R82W), then south to the state land boundary in section 11 (T17N R82W), then west on the north side of the state land boundary to the southeast quarter of section 10 (T17N R82W), then east on the south side of the state land boundary to the center of section 11 (T17N R82W), then south to the forest boundary at the south end of section 25 (T17N R82W), then west to the southwest corner of section 25 (T17N R82W). The easternmost boundary of this closure is located in sections 11, 14, 23, 26, and 35 of T18N R82W, and sections 2, 10, 11, 13, 14, 24, and 25 of T17N R82W. Generally, the easternmost boundary is located along the Pennock Mountain ridge and the Troublesome Ridge. The Restricted Roads and Restricted Areas are shown on the attached map hereby incorporated into this Order as Exhibit C.

The northern French Creek restricted area is defined as National Forest System (NFS) lands within the area from the south side of NFSR 229.1G at the forest boundary in section 8 (T15N R81W) east along NFSR 229.1G to the center of section 8 (T15N R81W), then south to the forest boundary in section 28 (T15N R81W), then west along the forest boundary to the southwest corner of section 28 (T15N R81W), then north along the east side of the forest boundary to NFSR 229.1G. The easternmost boundary of this closure is located in sections 8, 9, 16, 17, 20, 21, and 28 of T15N R81W. The easternmost boundary of this closure generally follows the west facing slope located below and to the west of NFSRs 208 and 244. The boundary is generally to the west beginning approximately 1/3 of a mile below the top of the slope.

The southern French Creek restricted area is defined as National Forest System (NFS) lands within the area from the west side of the Savage Run Wilderness boundary at the south end of section 11 (T14N R81W) west along the forest boundary, then north along the east side of the forest boundary to the private land boundary in section 34 (T15N R81W), then east on the south side of the private land boundary to within one quarter mile of NFSR 500.3Q, then south to the north side of NFSR 502, then east along the north side of NFSR 502 to the junction with NFSR 515, then south along the north and east side of NFSR 515 to the Savage Run Wilderness Area boundary, then south along the west side of the Savage Run Wilderness Area boundary to the south end of section 11 (T14N R81W). The easternmost boundary of this closure is located in sections 34 of T15N R81W and sections 2, 3, 10, and 11 of T14N R81W. Generally, the easternmost boundary is the top of the ridge that runs north and west from the junction of NFSRs 502 and 515, until the ridge meets the Forest boundary in section 34. The Restricted Roads and

Restricted Areas are shown on the attached map hereby incorporated into this Order as Exhibit D.

The purpose of this order is to protect crucial deer and elk winter range in the in the Western Snowy Range. This area has been identified by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department as crucial winter range and is identified as crucial winter range in the Forest Plan (management area 3.58). The order is necessary to protect wintering deer and elk from stress caused by motorized vehicles.

This prohibition applies to all wheeled motor vehicles as well as other forms of motorized travel, including travel by motorized over snow vehicles.

**PROHIBITIONS:**

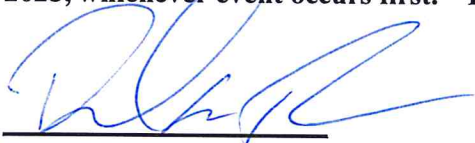
- 1) Using a Motor Vehicle (including over-snow motor vehicle) on the Restricted Roads between November 15 and April 30 of each year. 36 C.F.R. § 261.54 (a)
- 2) Operating or possessing a Motor Vehicle (including over-snow motor vehicles) off National Forest System Roads in the Restricted Area between November 15 and April 30. 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 fire fighting 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 February 24th, 2025, whichever event occurs first. Done at Laramie, Wyoming, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020.**



**Russell Bacon**

**Forest Supervisor**

**MEDICINE BOW-ROUTT NATIONAL FORESTS**

Violation 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).