**Order Number:** 03-12-03-21-480



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE U.S. FOREST SERVICE TONTO NATIONAL FOREST MESA RANGER DISTRICT

# Lower Salt River Seasonal Bald Eagle Closures

#### **PROHIBITIONS**

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. 261.50(a), the following acts are prohibited within the areas described in this Order (the "Restricted Areas") and as depicted on the attached maps, herby incorporated into this Order as Exhibits A and B, within the Mesa Ranger District, Tonto National Forest, Maricopa County, State of Arizona.

1. Going into or being upon the Restricted Areas. 36 C.F.R § 261.53(a).

#### **EXEMPTIONS**

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

- 1. Persons with a written Forest Service authorization specifically exempting them from the effect of this Order.
- 2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of any organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.
- 3. Persons affiliated with the Maricopa Audubon Society or the Arizona Bald Eagle Nest Watch Program while engaged in their official duties.

# **RESTRICTED AREAS**

All National Forest System lands within the boundaries as depicted in Exhibit A and B, and more particularly described as follows:

Goldfield Restricted Area (Exhibit A). The Restricted Area includes portions of Section 33 and 34, Township 3 North, Range 7 East, specifically, all National Forest System (NFS) lands within the boundary starting at the north side of the Salt River, directly across from the Goldfield Recreation Site at reference point 33°33.394' N x -111°37.331' W, then following north

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approximately 0.5 miles to reference point 33°33.845' N x -111°37.339' W, then following west for approximately 0.65 miles to reference point 33°33.844' N x -111°38.013' W, then following southwest for 0.3 miles to reference point 33°33.632' N x -111°38.212' W, then following generally south along the eastern cliff edge for 0.4 miles to the north side of the Salt River at coordinates 33°33.283' N x -111°38.174' W, then following east along the north side of the Salt River for approximately 1 mile, back to the starting point at the north side of the Salt River directly across from the Goldfield Recreation site, as depicted in Exhibit A.

Bulldog Restricted Area (Exhibit B). The Restricted Area is within Township 3 North, Range 8 East, Sections 33-34 and Township 2 North, Range 8 East, Sections 3-5, specifically all NFS lands within the boundary starting at reference point 33°33.445' N x -111°31.857' W, on the Salt River, 0.7 miles south of Stewart Mountain Dam on Saguaro Lake, then following generally southwest along the southern river bank of the Salt River approximately 1.5 miles to Unnamed Drainage 1 located at reference point 33°32.846' N x -111°33.26' W, then following Unnamed Drainage 1 generally southeast for 1.6 miles along the north side to reference point 33°32.316' N x -111°31.823' W, then following Unnamed Drainage 2 generally north for 2 miles along the west side back to the starting point along the Salt River, as depicted in Exhibit B.

# **PURPOSE**

To protect Bald Eagle nest sites during the breeding season in areas of recreation use where noise is likely to adversely affect the success of nesting and fledgling eagles.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION**

- 1. This Order will be effective on December 01, 2021, at 12:00 p.m. and shall remain in effect seasonally from December 1 through June 30 each year through June 30, 2023, or until rescinded, which occurs first.
- 2. Maps identifying the Restricted Areas are attached and made part of this Order as Exhibits A and B. For a digital version of the Order maps for the Tonto National Forest, navigate to <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/tonto/alerts-notices">https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/tonto/alerts-notices</a>.
- 3. Any violation of this prohibition is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, or by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both (see 16 U.S.C. § 551, 18 U.S.C. § 3571(b)(6), and 18 U.S.C. § 358(b)(7)).
- 4. Further information regarding this Order may be obtained at the Mesa Ranger District located in Mesa, AZ, telephone number 480-610-3300, and at the Tonto National Forest Supervisor's Office in Phoenix, AZ, telephone number 602-225-5200.
- 5. This Order supersedes any previous orders prohibiting the same act covered by this Order.

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Done this 1st day of December, 2021 at Phoenix, Arizona.

**NEIL** 

**BOSWORTH** 

Digitally signed by NEIL BOSWORTH Date: 2021.12.01 12:46:33 -07'00'

# **NEIL BOSWORTH**

Forest Supervisor

Tonto National Forest



