

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE**

**CHATTAHOOCHEE – OCONEE NATIONAL FOREST**

**OCONEE RANGER DISTRICT**

ORDER NUMBER CO—13-34

**Hitchiti Experimental Forest**

Pursuant to Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 261.50 (a) and (b), the following acts or omissions are prohibited at the Hitchiti Experimental Forest located on the Oconee Ranger District within the Chattahoochee – Oconee National Forest. (See attached map.) This closure is effective from July 25, 2013 through July 25, 2023.

1. Use of any type of traffic or mode of transportation other than foot travel on the Hitchiti Trail, Brender Trail, and Double Bridges Trail. 36 CFR 261.55(c)
2. Riding, hitching, tethering or hobbling a horse or other saddle or pack animal except on open system roads. 36 CFR 261.58(aa)
3. Bicycle use except on open system roads. 36 CFR 261.56
4. Use of horses on open system roads during designated deer or turkey season. 36 CFR 261.54(e)
5. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire or stove fire without a permit. 36 CFR 261.52(a)
6. For public health and safety, discharging a firearm, air rifle, gas gun, bows or crossbows for other than the purpose of taking legal game during designated hunts in designated areas. 36 CFR 261.53(e)
7. Camping without a permit. 36 CFR 261.58(e)

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(e) the following persons are exempt from this Order.

1. Any federal, state or local officer or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in performance of an official duty.
2. Persons with a permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act.
3. Registered Participants of the Annual Kids Fishing Rodeo.

Pursuant to the provisions of Title 36 C.F.R, Section 261.50 (e), the following persons are exempt from the above prohibition:

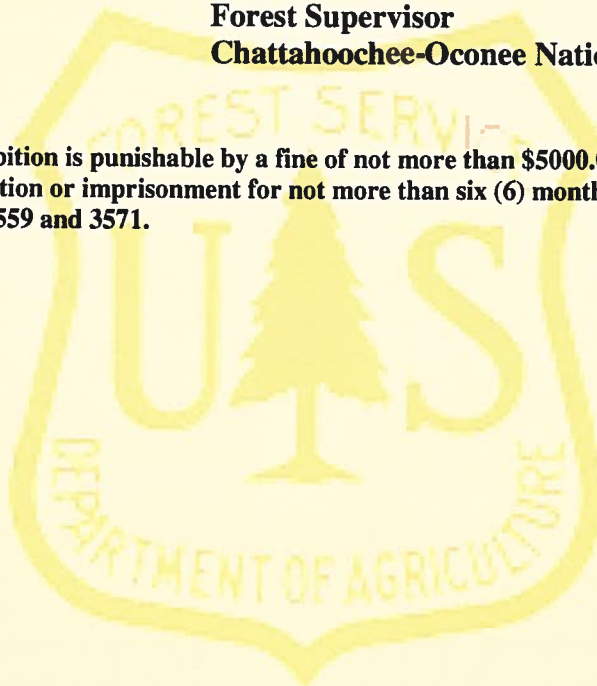
1. Any Federal, State, or Local Law Enforcement Officer or firefighter or organized rescue, U. S. Forest Service Employee or designee, or Military personnel engaged in the official performance of their duties.
2. Persons with a permit specially authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.

Prepared at Gainesville, Georgia this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2013.



**Betty A. Mathews**  
**Forest Supervisor**  
**Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests**

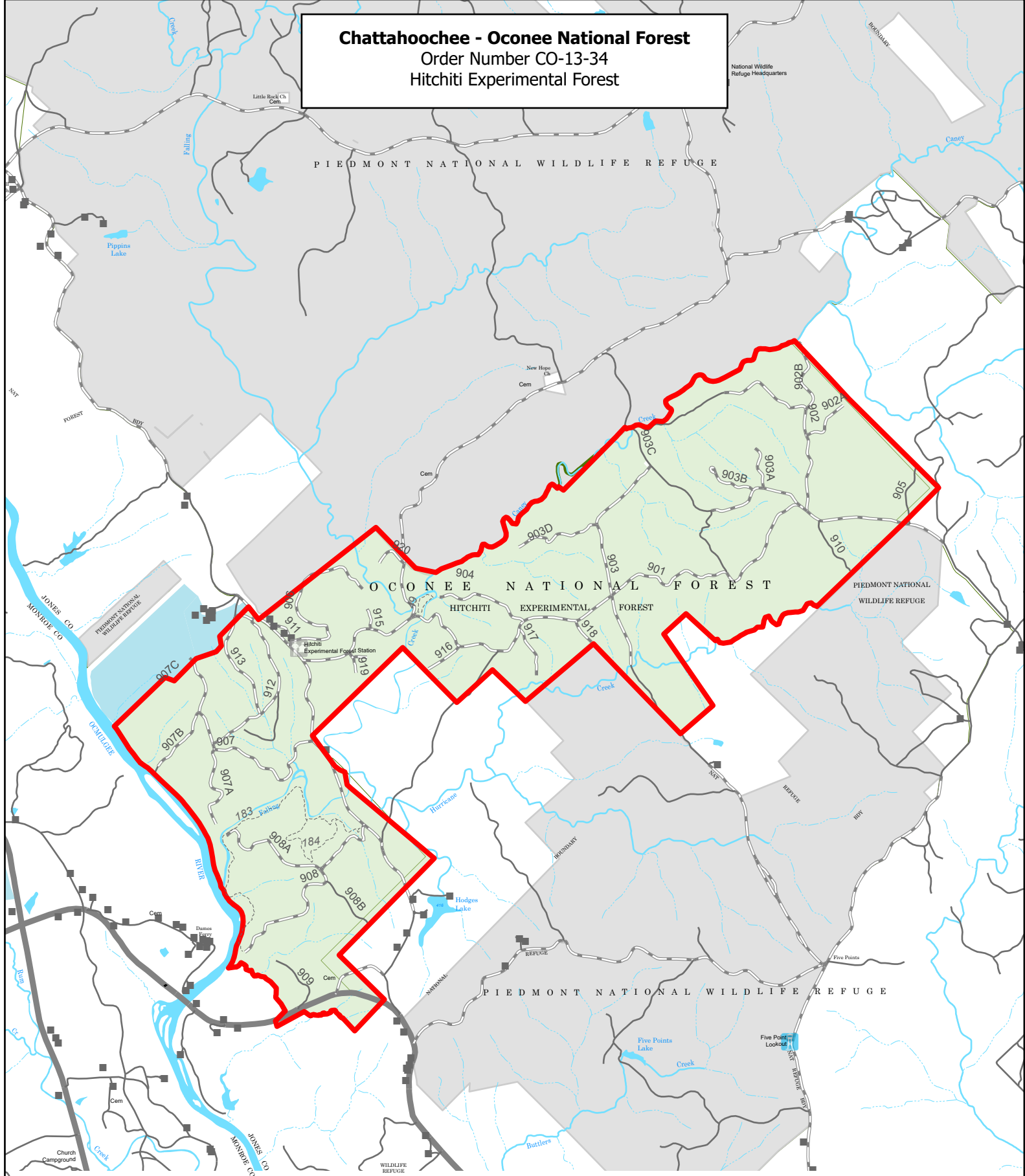
Violations of this prohibition is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5000.00 for an individual and \$10,000 for an organization or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months or both. Title 16 USC 551 and Title 18 USC 3559 and 3571.




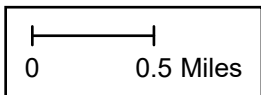
**Chattahoochee - Oconee National Forest**  
Order Number CO-13-34  
Hitchiti Experimental Forest

National Wildlife  
Refuge Headquarters

PIEDMONT NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE



 Occupancy and Use Prohibition Area





Forest Service

Chattahoochee-Oconee National  
Forest  
Supervisor's Office

1755 Cleveland Highway  
Gainesville, GA 30501  
770-297-3000  
Fax: 770-297-3011

**File Code:** 1010; 5300

**Date:** July 25, 2023

**Route To:**

**Subject:** Extension of Forest Closure Orders

**To:** Forest Leadership Team, Frontliners, Law Enforcement and Public Affairs

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(a) and (b), for the protection of public health and safety, the following closure orders applicable to the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest are extended while undergoing analysis and review:

- CO-13-01 - Occupancy and Use - Morganton Point Campground and Recreation Area - Blue Ridge Ranger District (RD) - Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest (NF)
- CO-13-02 - Occupancy and Use - Davenport Mountain ATV Trail and Beasley Knob OHV Area - Blue Ridge RD - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF
- CO-13-08 - Occupancy and Use - Desoto Falls - Blue Ridge RD - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF
- CO-13-09 - Occupancy and Use - Dockery Lake and Dockery Lake Recreation Area - Blue Ridge RD - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF
- CO-13-16 - Occupancy and Use - Whissenhunt Off Road Vehicle Area - Blue Ridge RD - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF
- CO-13-17 - Anna Ruby Falls - Chattooga River RD - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF
- CO-13-20 - Currahee Mountain Electronic Site - Chattooga River RD - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF
- CO-13-21 - Lake Russell - Chattooga River RD - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF
- CO-13-22 - Raven Cliffs Climbing, Rappelling, and Camping - Chattooga River RD - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF
- CO-13-23 - Tallulah River Camping - Chattooga River RD - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF
- CO-13-25 - Occupancy and Use - Cottonwood Patch Campground, Iron Mountain Trailhead, and Forest System Road 16-A - Conasauga RD - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF
- CO-13-28 - Songbird Management Area - Conasauga RD - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF
- CO-13-32 - Town Creek Bike Trail - Oconee RD - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF
- CO-13-33 - OHV Trails - Oconee RD - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF
- CO-13-34 - Hitchiti Experimental Forest - Oconee RD - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF
- CO-13-35 - Forest-Wide Closure Motor Vehicle Regulations - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF
- CO-13-36 - General Forest Orders - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF
- CO-14-05 - Developed Recreation Area - Rabun Beach Swim Area - Chattooga River RD - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF
- CO-14-06 - Parking-Tallulah River Road - Chattooga River RD - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF
- FMS-13-01 - Chattooga River Corridor - Chattooga River RD - Chattahoochee-Oconee NF

The original purpose and need for these closure orders have not changed, and no new conditions exist that fall outside the scope and range of effects in the original assessments.



These closures are effective from the original date signed by the Forest Supervisor until July 25, 2025, or until terminated by an authorized Forest Service official, whichever occurs first.

Executed in Gainesville, Georgia, this 25th day of July 2023, and effective as of this date.

X 

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Signed by: JUDY TOPPINS  
JUDY TOPPINS  
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure (1)

cc: Amanda Gee