



Forest Order No. STF-16-2020-04 Stanislaus National Forest Motor Vehicle Use Map - Season of Use Closure Extension

Pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(b), and to provide for public safety, the following act is prohibited within the Summit and Calaveras Ranger Districts of the Stanislaus National Forest. This Order is effective from May 2, 2020, through June 30, 2020.

Using a motor vehicle on the National Forest System roads listed below and shown on Exhibits A, B and C. This prohibition does not apply to over-snow vehicles on National Forest System Road Nos. 5N01, 4N12, 5N40Y, 7N09, 7N23 and 17EV485, when there is a minimum of 12 inches of snow on the road.

- 1. Forest Road No. 4N12 (Herring Creek Road)
- 2. Forest Road No. 5N01 (Eagle Meadow Road)
- 3. Forest Road No. 5N11
- 4. Forest Road No. 5N40Y
- 5. Forest Road No. 4N34 (Gooseberry Road)
- 6. Forest Road No. 4N47
- 7. Forest Road No. 7N01
- 8. Forest Road No. 7N17
- 9. Forest Road No. 8N12
- 10. Forest Road No. 8N02
- 11. Forest Road No. 8N01
- 12. Forest Road No. 7N93
- 13. Forest Road No. 7N09
- 14. Forest Road No. 17EV485
- 15. Forest Road No. 7N23
- 16. Forest Road No. 7N02

36 CFR 261.54(a).

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from the Order:

- 1. Persons with a permit from the Forest Service 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 prohibition is in addition to the general prohibitions contained in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

A violation of this prohibition is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 USC 551 and 18 USC 3559, 3571, and 3581.

Executed in Sonora, CA, this ____ day of _____, 2020.

Jason Kuiken

Forest Supervisor

Stanislaus National Forest

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File Code: 1010 Date: May 1, 2020

Route To: (1950)

Subject: Forest Order No. STF-16-2020-04, Summit & Calaveras Ranger District's MVUM

Season of Use Closure Extension to June 30, 2020

To: Project Files

From: Jason Kuiken, Forest Supervisor

During the winter of 2019-2020, the Stanislaus National Forest (STF) experienced average snowfall overall. After initial storm cycles in late December and January, February was a record dry month. Spring storms in March and April however, were not only heavy in precipitation but included several high wind events as well. Many trees came down causing several days of power outages throughout the area. As a result, late winter snow accumulations and downed trees across forest roads continue to prevent safe travel on some roads in the high elevation zones subject to seasonal closures. These roads were not passable to motorized vehicles by the scheduled road opening date of April 15. Since April 15, these roads have remained closed due to other COVID-19 road and area closures in place on the STF. A current re-evaluation of onthe-ground high elevation road conditions indicates that allowing vehicles to travel these roadways would put vehicle occupants at risk and would damage the forest's road infrastructure and surfaces.

As a result, I have decided to extend the seasonal road closure from May 2, 2020, through June 30, 2020, for the following roads:

Summit Ranger District

- 1. Forest Road No. 4N12 (Herring Creek Road)
- 2. Forest Road No. 5N01 (Eagle Meadow Road)
- 3. Forest Road No. 5N11
- 4. Forest Road No. 5N40Y
- 5. Forest Road No. 4N34 (Gooseberry Road)
- Forest Road No. 4N47

Calaveras Ranger District

- 1. Forest Road No. 7N01
- 2. Forest Road No. 7N17
- 3. Forest Road No. 8N12
- 4. Forest Road No. 8N02
- 5. Forest Road No. 8N01
- 6. Forest Road No. 7N93



- 7. Forest Road No. 7N09
- 8. Forest Road No. 17EV485
- 9. Forest Road No. 7N23
- 10. Forest Road No. 7N02

It is noted that Forest Road Nos. 5N01, 4N12, 5N40Y, 7N09, 7N23 and 17EV485 may continue to be used by over snow vehicles, as long as there is a minimum of 12 inches of snow on the route.

This order will be in effect until June 30, 2020, or until I determine the roads are sufficiently clear of snow and downed trees to allow for safe travel and to protect resources and roads from damage.

The purpose of this closure is to protect members of the public. My staff has determined that anticipated effects of this proposed action would be administrative in nature. Contacts with local community leaders and area permittees were favorable. The Forest Service will install signs and post notices to alert the public to these prohibitions.

I have concluded that this decision may be categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act. This action falls within the category identified in 36 CFR 220.6(d)(1) – prohibitions to provide short-term resource protection or to protect public health and safety – and does not require documentation in a decision memo, decision notice, or record of decision. I have determined that there are no extraordinary circumstances associated with this temporary closure. Implementation of the decision may begin immediately.

cc: Mike Cone, Sarah LaPlante, Ray Cablayan, Andy Welsh, Dawn Coultrap





