



Forest Order No. STF-16-2023-05
Stanislaus National Forest
Motor Vehicle Use Map - Season of Use Closure Extension

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 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 April 15, 2023, through May 31, 2023.

Using a motor vehicle on the National Forest System roads listed below and shown on Exhibits A, B, C, D and E. 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.

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).
6. Forest Road No. 4N47.
7. Forest Road No. 4N13
8. Forest Road No. 4N14
9. Forest Road No. 4N39
10. Forest Road No. 4N26 (Crabtree Road).
11. Forest Road No. 6N06 (Fence Creek Road).
12. Forest Road No. 5N28
13. Forest Road No. 5N30

Miwok Ranger District

1. Forest Road No. 3N01
2. Forest Road No. 4N25
3. Forest Road No. 2N07,
4. Forest Road No. 3N07
5. Forest Road No. 2N13
6. Forest Road No. 2N14
7. Forest Road No. 4N85 (Sandbar Flat)
8. Forest Road No. 4N01 (Fraser Flat)
9. Forest Road No. 4N02
10. Forest Road No. 4N16
11. Forest Road No. 4N17
12. Forest Road No. 4N18

Calaveras Ranger District

1. Forest Road No. 4N73Y (Candy Rock Quarry)
2. Forest Road No. 5N85Y
3. Forest Road No. 5N56 (Lower Interface)
4. Forest Road No. 5N77Y
5. Forest Road No. 5N02 (Beardsley Road)
6. Forest Road No. 6N58
7. Forest Road No. 7N23 (Black Springs)
8. Forest Road No. 6N81Y
9. Forest Road No. 6N45
10. Forest Road No. 6N78
11. Forest Road No. 6N51Y (Old Highway)
12. Forest Road No. 6N79
13. Forest Road No. 6N77
14. Forest Road No. 7N68
15. Forest Road No. 7N70
16. Forest Road No. 7N09 (Cabbage Patch)
17. Forest Road No. 7N16X
18. Forest Road No. 7N02 (Sand Flat/ Wolfeboro)
19. Forest Road No. 7N01 (Spicer Road)
20. Forest Road No. 17EV485
21. Forest Road No. 7N35 (Corral Hollow)
22. Forest Road No. 7N40Y (Bloods Creek)
23. Forest Road No. 7N12A
24. Forest Road No. 18EV287
25. Forest Road No. 7N93 (Round Valley/Mt. Reba)
26. Forest Road No. 7N17 (Slick Rock)
27. Forest Road No. 8N13 (Stanislaus Meadow)
28. Forest Road No. 8N12 (Pacific Valley)
29. Forest Road No. 8N06 (Hermit Valley Rec Res)
30. Forest Road No. 8N02 (Deer Valley Trail)
31. Forest Road No. 8N01 (Highland Lakes)
32. Forest Road No. 8N04

36 C.F.R. § 261.54(a).

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

1. Persons with Forest Service Permit No. FS-7700-48 (Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation or Order), specifically exempting them from this Order.

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 C.F.R. Part 261, Subpart A.

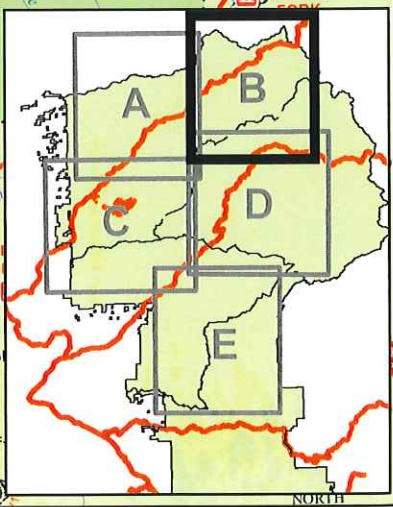
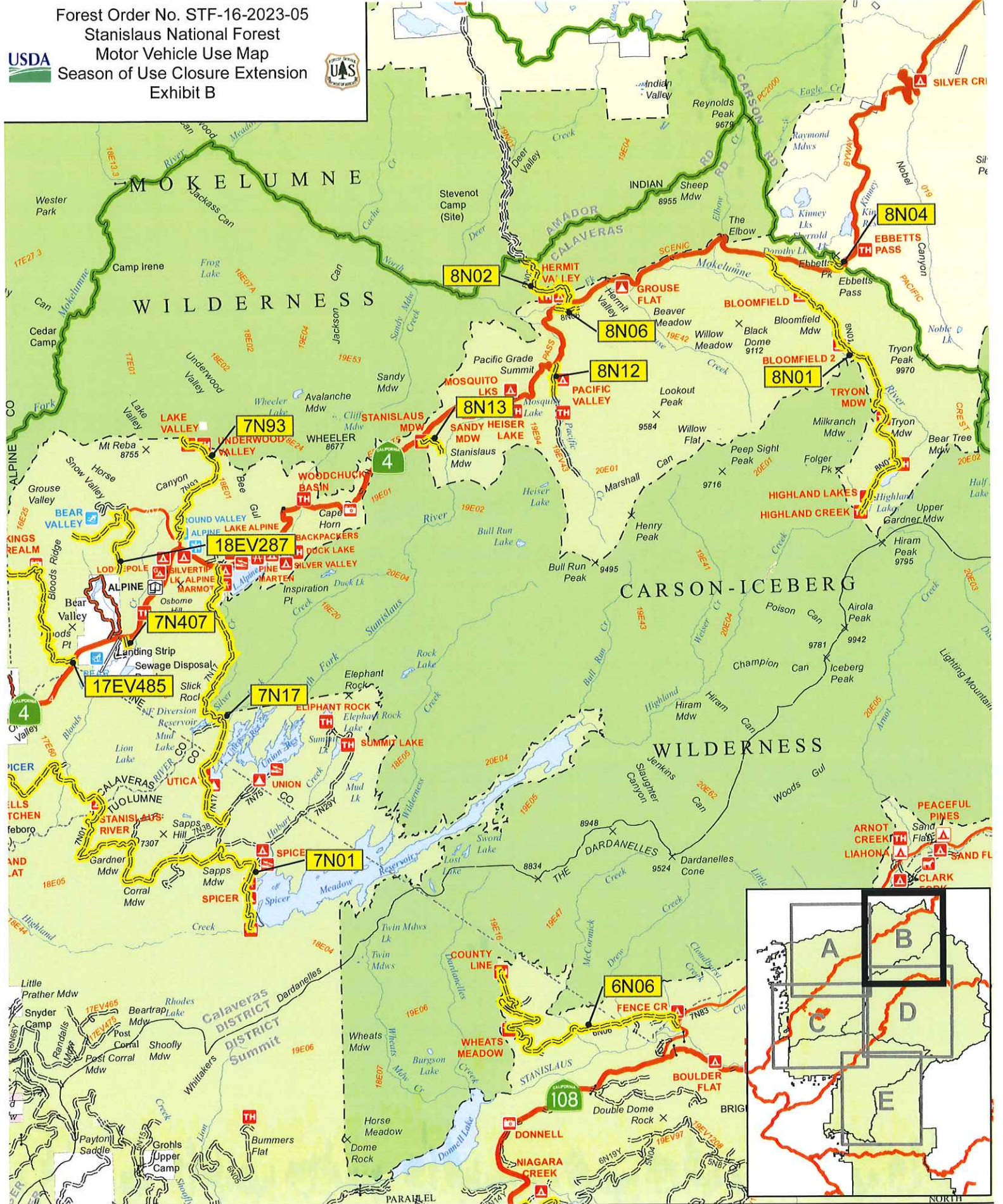
A violation of this prohibition is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559, 3571, and 3581.

Executed in Sonora, CA, this 13th day of April, 2023.

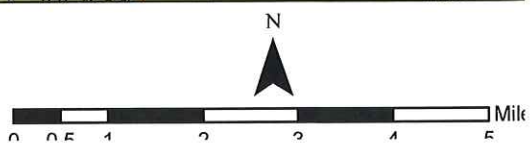


Jason Kuiken
Forest Supervisor
Stanislaus National Forest

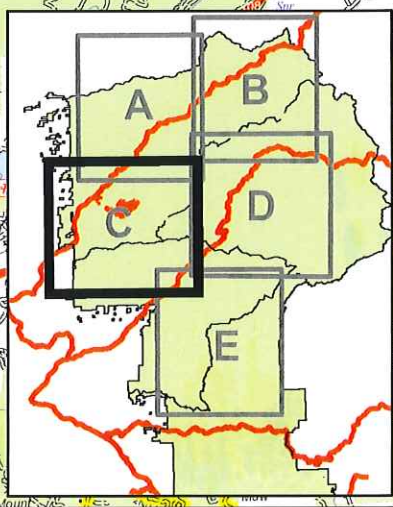
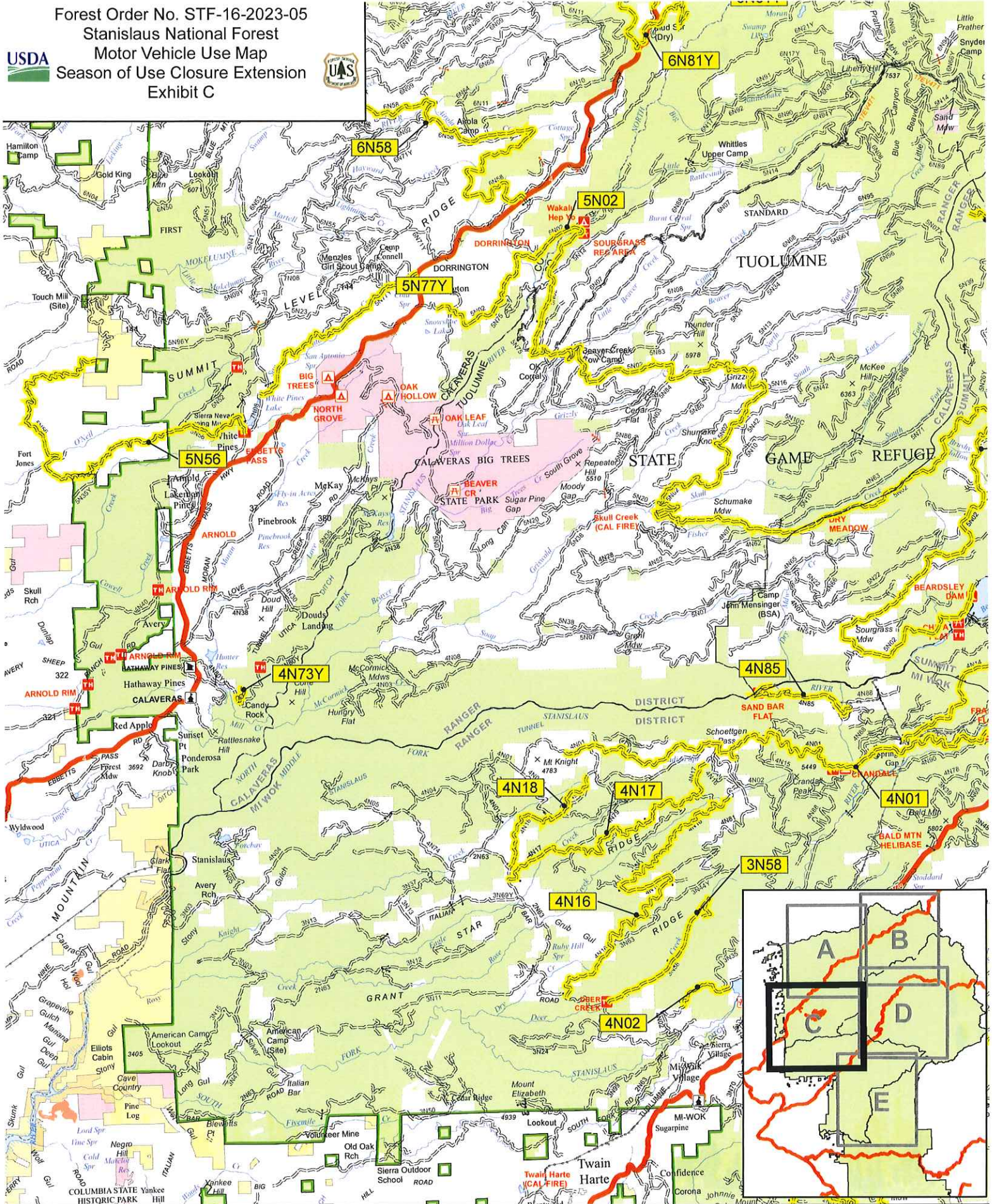
Forest Order No. STF-16-2023-05
Stanislaus National Forest
Motor Vehicle Use Map
Season of Use Closure Extension
Exhibit B



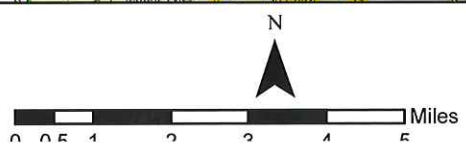
Legend
 Forest Roads Highway County Road Closed Roads



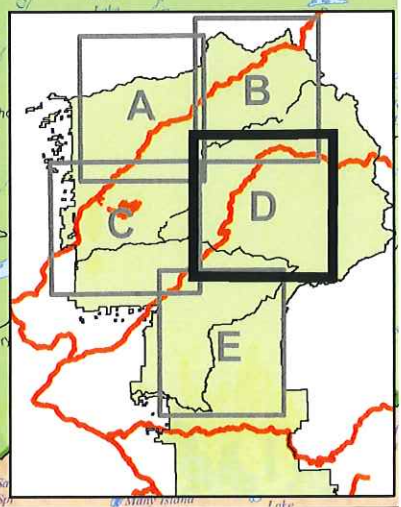
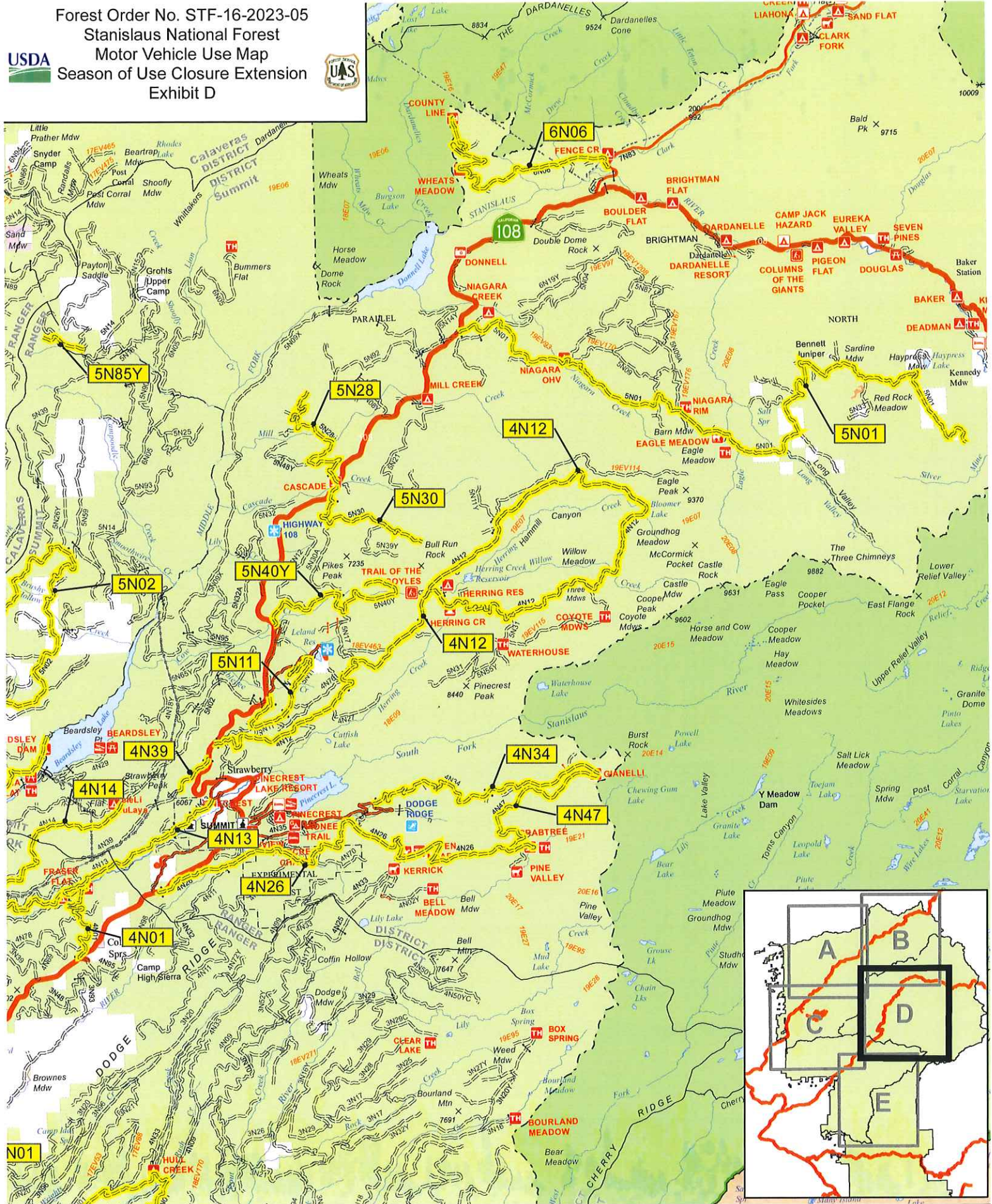
Forest Order No. STF-16-2023-05
 Stanislaus National Forest
 Motor Vehicle Use Map
 Season of Use Closure Extension
 Exhibit C



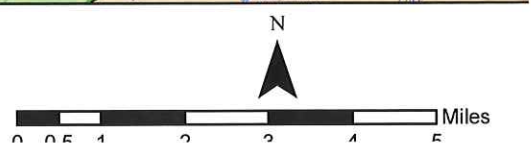
Legend
 == Forest Roads Highway County Road Closed Roads



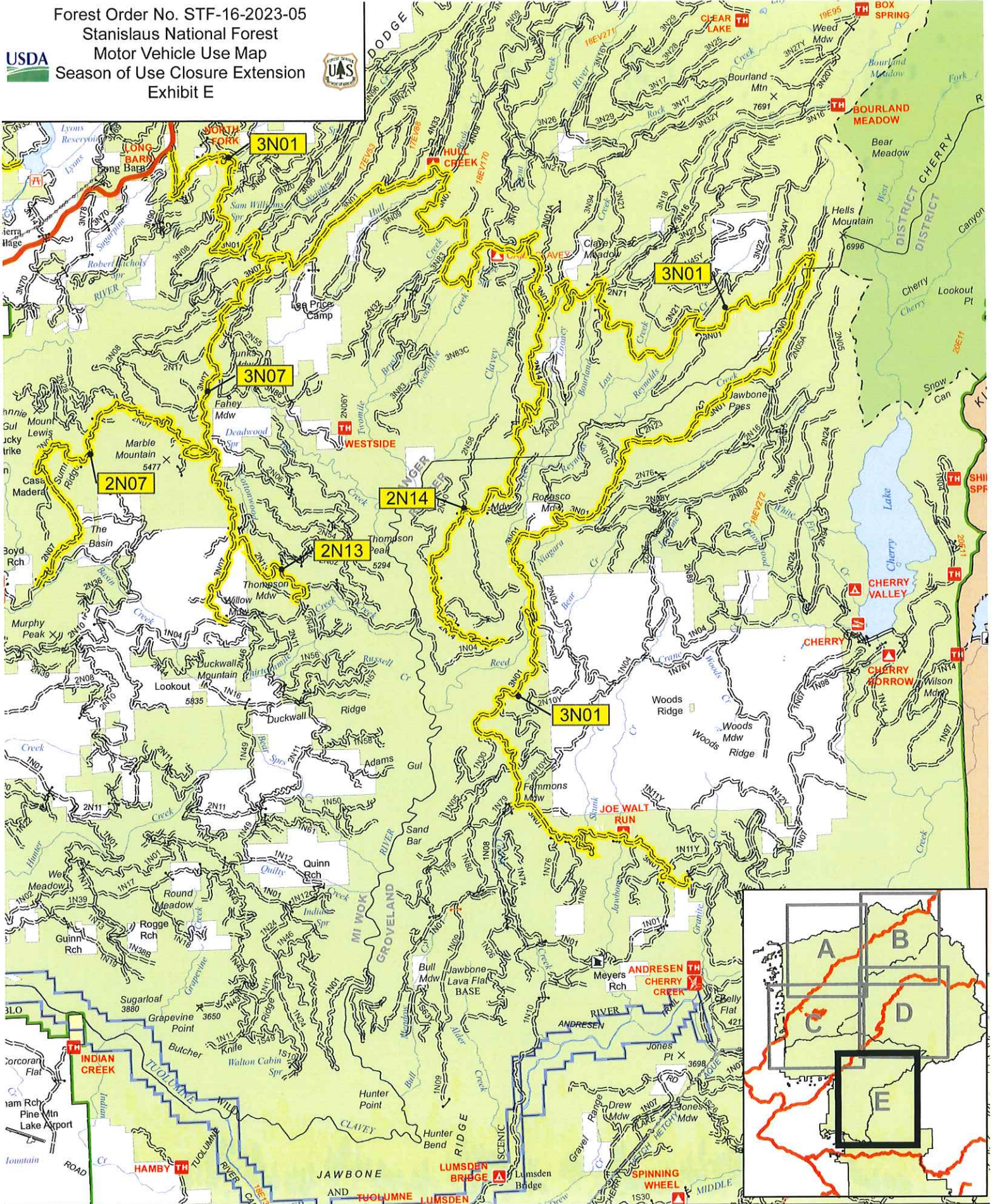
Forest Order No. STF-16-2023-05
 Stanislaus National Forest
 Motor Vehicle Use Map
 Season of Use Closure Extension
 Exhibit D



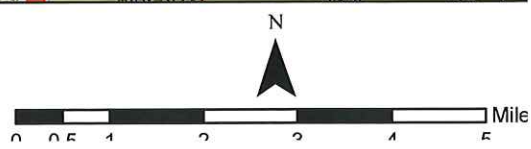
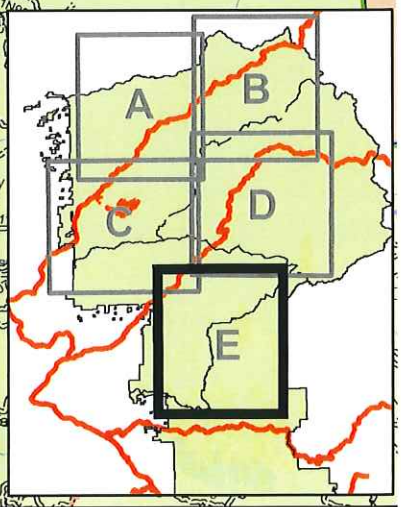
Legend
 --- Forest Roads **—** Highway **—** County Road **==** Closed Roads



Forest Order No. STF-16-2023-05
 Stanislaus National Forest
 Motor Vehicle Use Map
 Season of Use Closure Extension
 Exhibit E



Legend
 == Forest Roads Highway County Road Closed Roads





File Code: 1010
Route To: (1950)

Date: April 13, 2023

Subject: Forest Order No. STF-16-2023-05, Summit, Mi-Wok & Calaveras Ranger District's MVUM Season of Use Closure Extension through May 31, 2023

To: Project Files

From: Jason Kuiken, Forest Supervisor

I am issuing a forest order to extend the seasonal road closures identified in the forest's Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM). The forest experienced possibly the heaviest snow year on record that brought heavy precipitation from the Fall of 2022 through Spring of 2023. Multiple high wind events resulted in trees falling and causing power outages of up to one to two weeks at a time throughout the area. As a result, downed trees and late winter snow accumulations across forest roads continue to prevent safe travel on some roads in the middle and high elevation zones subject to seasonal closures. Additionally, unprecedented snow levels have made it difficult for Forest staff to fully assess the extent of the damage caused to roads throughout the Forest. These roads will not be passable to motorized vehicles by the scheduled road opening date of April 15, 2023, on the forest's MVUM. A recent evaluation of on-the-ground high elevation road conditions indicates that allowing vehicles to travel these roadways would put vehicle occupants at risk.

As a result, I am extending the seasonal road closure from April 15, 2023, through May 31, 2023 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)
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Mi-Wok Ranger District

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28. Forest Road No. 8N12 (Pacific Valley)

29. Forest Road No. 8N06 (Hermit Valley Rec Res)
30. Forest Road No. 8N02 (Deer Valley Trail)
31. Forest Road No. 8N01 (Highland Lakes)
32. Forest Road No. 8N04

Forest Road Nos. 5N01, 4N12, 5N40Y, 7N09, 7N23 and 17EV485 may continue to be used by over-snow vehicles. In order to utilize over-snow vehicles on these routes, users must determine that there is a minimum of 12 inches of snow on the route. Routes have an adequate snow depth of at least 12" when snow is seen covering small down trees, rocks and other impediments. Adequate snow depth provides for user safety and enough clearance between the over-snow vehicle and the ground surface to protect resources.

This order will be in effect through May 31, 2023. If I determine the roads are sufficiently clear of snow and downed trees and free of significant road failures or impacts to allow for safe travel and to protect resources and roads from damage, the order may be partially or wholly terminated prior to May 31, 2023.

The purpose of this closure is to protect members of the public. Internal scoping and review confirmed road conditions not yet favorable for public use. Proposed extended closure of high elevation roads was shared with local community leaders and law enforcement agencies with support from these entities. The Forest Service will install signs and post notices to alert the public to these prohibitions.

This Forest Order includes an exemption for persons with a Forest Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation or Order (Form FS-7700-48). Authorization for entry under this exemption will only be provided if I or my delegate determines that the risk to personal health and safety is reasonable considering the circumstances of the request. I may also require appropriate personal protective equipment and other necessary safety measures. I hereby delegate the authority to sign Form FS-7700-48 granting an exemption to this Forest Order to the District Rangers of the Stanislaus National Forest.

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 C.F.R. § 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.