



File Code: 1950

Date: May 14th, 2026

Route To:

Subject: Documentation of Civil Rights Impact Analysis (CRIA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Compliance for 36 CFR Subpart B Prohibition – Public Use Restrictions due to high fire danger. **#06-01-26-03**

To: Project File

Proposed Action: Issuing a Title 36 CFR Subpart B Order (Order) that will prohibit certain activities on all lands within the Deschutes National Forest, except the Three Sisters, Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Thielson, Mt. Washington, and Diamond Peak Wilderness areas, due to high fire danger and limited resource availability. This closure will be effective May 18, 2026, through November 30, 2026, unless rescinded sooner.

BACKGROUND AND NEED:

The intent of this document is to justify the categorical exclusion decision and detail the civil rights impact analysis conducted in implementing Forest Order(s) that prohibit certain fire-related activities due to high fire danger and limited resource availability.

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

SCOPING AND PUBLIC OUTREACH:

Scoping occurred with Deschutes National Forest Line Officers, Staff Officers, interagency partners, local government cooperators and the adjacent National Forests staff regarding increasing fire danger across the Deschutes National Forest.

REASONS FOR CATEGORICALLY EXCLUDING THE ACTION:

Based on a review of the proposed order and consultation with District and Forest resource specialists, 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 restriction. Implementation of the decision may begin immediately.

CIVIL RIGHTS IMPACT ANALYSIS:

The order applies equally to all user groups; no one group is expected to be displaced or experience a disproportionate burden as a result of the order. Accordingly, the order will not impact civil rights.

KEVIN LARKIN
Deputy Forest Supervisor

