

**UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE
TONTO NATIONAL FOREST
PAYSON RANGER DISTRICT**

KNOLL FIRE PUBLIC SAFETY CLOSURE ORDER

PROHIBITIONS

Pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.51(a) and (b), the following acts are prohibited on the area, described in this order, and depicted on the attached map hereby incorporated as Exhibit A (the “closure area”), all within the Payson and Pleasant Valley Ranger Districts of the Tonto National Forest, Arizona;

1. Going into or being upon an area described in the Order, 36 CFR 261.53(e)
2. Being upon the road 36 CFR 261.54(e)
3. Being upon the trail 36 CFR 261.55(a)

EXEMPTIONS

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

1. Persons with a US Forest Service permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
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 engaged in a business, trade, or occupation in the area, who are authorized to be in the restricted area by the US Forest Service, the State of Arizona, or the County of Gila, its employees, agents, contractors and subcontractors.

AREA DESCRIBED

All lands, trails, and roads: contained within the Knoll Fire boundary. The Knoll Fire boundary is comprised of dozer line and constructed hand line. The dozer line is located on the southwest edge of the Knoll Fire and continues north along the west edge. The dozer continues around the north edge of the Knoll Fire and ends at the northeast edge of the fire. Constructed hand line is located along the southwest edge of the Knoll Fire and continues across the south edge and ends at the dozer line on the northeast edge of the fire.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the temporary Area Closure Order is to protect National Forest visitor health and safety and firefighter health and safety, by eliminating potential for members of the general public entering into the Knoll Fire planning area while wildland fire suppression and emergency operations are taking place.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. USFS Law Enforcement Officers will assist in implementation of the Order and serve as liaisons with Gila County and Arizona Game and Fish. USFS is coordinating with Gila County regarding potential restrictions and the area of the fire closure. This Order becomes effective at 8:00 am on April 1, 2018 until April 30, 2018 unless terminated sooner.
2. This Order will be effected by appropriate signs and closure notices as required by 36 CFR 261.50. Forest Service folding signboards will indicate restrictions and/or closures contained within the Knoll Fire Area.
3. Violations of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both. [16 USC 551, 18 USC 3571(b), 18 USC 35819(b) (7)].

Dated this 31st day of March 2018, at Phoenix, Arizona



Neil Bosworth
Forest Supervisor
Tonto National Forest