

United States Forest Service
Tonto National Forest Coconino National Forest

TEMPORARY PUBLIC SAFETY CLOSURE
Fossil Creek Area

PROHIBITIONS

Pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50 (a) and (b), the following acts and omissions are prohibited on the areas, roads, and trails described in this Order, and as depicted on the attached map hereby incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A (“restricted area”), within the Tonto and Coconino National Forests, Gila and Yavapai Counties, Arizona:

1. Going into or being upon the area described in this Order. 36 CFR 261.53(e) and (f)
2. Being on the roads described in this Order. 36 CFR 261.54(e)
3. Being on a trail described in this Order. 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 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 directly associated with the hydroelectric facility decommissioning.

AREA DESCRIBED

The restricted area includes all National Forest System lands and waters, roads and trails within the boundaries as described below and depicted in Exhibit A.

Beginning on the Tonto National Forest at the intersection of Forest Service Road (FR) 708 and the Range 7/8 boundary line, following FR 708 west for approximately 3.4 miles to the FR 154 intersection at the Irving Power plant, then following FR 154 northeast through the Coconino National Forest for approximately 4.2 miles, then continue northeast along the Fossil Creek drainage for approximately 2.1 miles to the Range 7/8 boundary line (also the Gila County line), continuing south along the Range 7/8 boundary line and terminating at FR 708 at the starting point.

The following are within the restricted area and are closed to public entry: Fossil Springs, located approximately at 34°25.406' N / -111°34.397' W; Fossil Springs Trailhead, located approximately at 34°25.432' N / -111°34.145' W; Fossil Springs Trail 18; and Forest Road 154.

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PURPOSE

For the past two years, Arizona Public Service (APS) has been in the process of removing facilities associated with the Childs-Irving Hydroelectric Project in Fossil Creek. During these decommissioning activities, the Tonto and Coconino National Forests will close the described area for the protection of public health and safety, and for the protection of property.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. Prohibitions contained in this Order become effective on Monday, August 18, 2008 and will remain in effect through Saturday, February 28, 2009, unless terminated sooner.
2. These restrictions are in addition to the general prohibitions found at 36 CFR 261, Subpart A.
3. Violation 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 3559, 3571 and 3581].

Done this 13th day of August, 2008, at Phoenix, Arizona.

/s/ Gene Blankenbaker
GENE BLANKENBAKER
Forest Supervisor, Tonto National Forest

Done this 13th day of August, 2008, at Flagstaff, Arizona.

/s/ Nora Rasure
NORA RASURE
Forest Supervisor, Coconino National Forest