

CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST
Region 10, Alaska

Order No. 10-04-00-08-01

FOREST ORDER
WINTER MOTOR VEHICLE CLOSURE

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(a), the following acts are prohibited on the Chugach National Forest:

Possessing or using a motorized vehicle off National Forest System roads as illustrated and described in Exhibits A – Q, attached. 36 CFR 261.56.

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(e), and 36 CFR 261.56, the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Persons with a permit from the Forest Service specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
2. Any Federal, State or Local Law Enforcement Officer or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.
3. Qualified subsistence users legitimately engaged in the pursuit of a subsistence activity.

These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 C.F.R. Part 261, Subpart A.

This order, and any modifications, will remain in effect until terminated by an authorized Forest Officer or on May 31, 2010.

Executed in Anchorage, Alaska, this 3 day of December, 2007.



Joe Meade
Forest Supervisor
Chugach National Forest

Violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual and \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 USC § 551 and § 559 and 18 USC § 3559, § 3571 and § 3581.

**ASSESSMENT OF NEED AND ENFORCEMENT PLAN
WINTER MOTOR VEHICLE CLOSURE
KENAI PENINSULA**

This closure order implements the direction for motorized access contained in the Chugach National Forest Revised Land and Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision (Chugach Plan), signed July 25, 2007, as amended. The Chugach Plan analyzed public uses of the forest and provides for a balance of the lands available to fulfill the needs of different user groups with different values and desires for recreational experiences. The Chugach Plan identified the areas of the forest that are closed to motorized use to meet the needs of all forest users and to manage and protect forest resources.

The purpose of this order is to identify the areas of the Chugach National Forest that are closed to certain winter motor vehicle use as determined in the Chugach Plan and to identify the effective dates that these areas are closed. A motor vehicle means any vehicle that is self-propelled or any vehicle that is propelled by electric power obtained from batteries, but not operated on rails (36 C.F.R. 261.2). A vehicle means any device in, upon, or by which any person or property is or may be transported (36 C.F.R. 261.2). This order closes the areas described below and further illustrated on each area map attached (Exhibits A through Q). The type of motor vehicle use prohibited and the effective closure dates are identified.

This order does not prohibit the use and operation of snowmachines (defined as snowmobiles and all motorized over snow vehicles, including off highway vehicles) within a highway right-of-way granted to the State of Alaska. Use and operation of snowmachines within highway rights-of-way are governed by the applicable laws of the State of Alaska. For purposes of this order, the definition of "subsistence uses" in Section 803 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), 16 U.S.C. § 3133, applies.

This order may be modified by a subsequent order of an authorized Forest Officer. This order, and any modifications, will remain in effect until terminated by an authorized Forest Officer or on May 31, 2010.

Administration of this closure order is under 36 C.F.R. 261.54(a), 36 C.F.R. 261.55(b), 36 C.F.R. 261.56, and 36 C.F.R. 261.58(y). Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(a), the following acts are prohibited on the Chugach National Forest:

I. TURNAGAIN PASS CLOSED TO CERTAIN MOTOR VEHICLE USE EXCEPT FOR SUBSISTENCE USES

As directed in the Chugach Plan, the Turnagain Pass area south of the Seward Highway is dedicated to nonmotorized winter recreation. The use of snowmachines and the landing of, or the dropping or picking up of any materials, supplies, or persons by means of helicopters that are utilized for winter recreational activities is prohibited in the following areas from the Wednesday before Thanksgiving of each year through April 30th of each year. The use of snowmachines by a rural Alaska resident for subsistence uses is allowed provided the individual is lawfully engaged in an authorized subsistence activity during permitted dates, such individual can readily identify himself as a qualified subsistence user, and is in compliance with all public safety regulations.

1. TURNAGAIN PASS (SEE EXHIBIT A)

All National Forest System land in the area bounded on the west by Ingram Creek and the Seward Highway to Johnson Pass Road # 927 and the Lynx Creek/Blackstone Mine Trail to Center Creek; on the south by Center and Divide creeks; and on the east by the divide separating this area from the Placer River Valley except for the Johnson Pass Road, the Johnson Pass Wagon Road Trail, the trailhead (parking area), and the Johnson Pass Trail. Closed areas are depicted on the attached Turnagain Pass map. The area is within or partially within Sections 1 thru 4, 9 thru 15, 24, 25, T7N, R1E; Sections 3 thru 9, 17 thru 20, 29, 30, T7N, R2E; Sections 12 thru 14, 23 thru 27, 34 thru 36, T8N, R1E; Sections 1 thru 11, 14 thru 23, 27 thru 34, T8N, R2E, Sections 26, 27, 32 thru 36, T9N, R2E, SM.

II. CLOSED TO CERTAIN MOTOR VEHICLE USE EXCEPT FOR SUBSISTENCE USES

As directed in the Chugach Plan, the following areas are dedicated to nonmotorized winter recreation. The use of snowmachines and the landing of, or the dropping or picking up of any materials, supplies, or persons by means of helicopters that are utilized for winter recreational activities is prohibited in the following areas from December 1st of each year through April 30th of each year. The use of snowmachines by a rural Alaska resident for subsistence uses is allowed provided the individual is lawfully engaged in an authorized subsistence activity during permitted dates, such individual can readily identify himself as a qualified subsistence user, and is in compliance with all public safety regulations.

1. PORTAGE VALLEY (SEE EXHIBIT B)

All National Forest System land draining into Portage Lake and Portage Creek, which includes Portage Lake, Bear Valley, Divide Lake, Portage Glacier, Byron Glacier and additional unnamed creeks, as shown on the attached Portage Valley map. The area is within or partially within Sections 1, 2, 12, 13, T7N, R3E; Sections 2 thru 11, 16 thru 19, T7N, R4E; Sections 1 thru 5, 8 thru 16, 21 thru 27, 35, 36, T8N, R3E; Sections 3 thru 10,

16 thru 21, 27 thru 35, T8N, R4E; Sections 27, 28, 32 thru 36, T9N, R3E; Sections 21, 27 thru 34, T9N, R4E, SM.

2. NORTH TURNAGAIN ARM (SEE EXHIBIT C)

All National Forest System land in the drainages of Virgin Creek, Kern Creek, Peterson Creek, and drainages of unnamed creeks on the north side of Blueberry Hill, as shown on the attached North Turnagain Arm map. The area is within or partially within Sections 1 thru 3, 11 thru 14, T9N, R2E; Sections 6, 7, T9N, R3E; Sections 14, 21 thru 28, 33 thru 36, T10N, R2E, Sections 19, 30, 31, T10N, R3E, SM.

3. SUMMIT (SEE EXHIBIT D)

All National Forest System land west of the Seward Highway from and including Devils Creek Trail north to Frenchy Creek, with the exception of narrow strips of land along the highway corridor; and, all National Forest System land on the east side of the Seward Highway, including all drainages from and including the Tenderfoot Creek drainage, the Mills Creek drainage and the upper portion of the Silver Tip Creek drainage north to the Hope Y, as shown on the attached Summit map. The area is within or partially within Sections 1 thru 3, 10, 11, T5N, R1W; Sections 1 thru 18, 21 thru 27, 34 thru 36, T6N, R1W; Sections 5 thru 9, 17 thru 20, 30, T6N, R1E; Sections 1 thru 4, 9 thru 16, 21, 22, T6N, R2W; Sections 6, 7, 18, 19, 30 thru 32, T7N, R1E; Sections 1 thru 36, T7N, R1W; Sections 1, 2, 11 thru 14, 22 thru 28, 33 thru 36, T7N, R2W; Sections 14, 25 thru 29, 31 thru 36, T8N, R1W; Section 31, T8N, R1E; Section 36, T8N, R2W, SM.

3. TERN LAKE (SEE EXHIBIT E)

All National Forest System land west of the Seward Highway and the powerline, from and including Devils Creek Trail through and including the Summit Creek drainage, as shown on the attached Tern Lake map. This area is within or partially within Sections 2 thru 4, T5N, R2W; Section 18, T6N, R1W; Sections 12 thru 15, 21 thru 28, 33 thru 35, T6N, R2W, SM.

4. RUSSIAN (SEE EXHIBIT F)

All National Forest System lands of the Russian River drainage from the Upper Russian cabin north to the Sterling Highway and all the land between the Russian River and Cooper Creek/Cooper Lake. The Russian Lakes trail will be the boundary of the non-motorized portion from the Upper Russian Lake Cabin to Cooper Lake and will remain motorized, as shown on the attached Russian map. The area is within or partially within Sections 2 thru 11, 14 thru 18, T3N, R3W; Sections 1 thru 4, 9 thru 13, T3N, R4W; Sections 6 thru 8, 16 thru 21, 27 thru 35, T4N, R3W; Sections 1 thru 4, 9 thru 16, 20 thru

29, 32 thru 36, T4N, R4W; Section 31, T5N, R3W; Sections 28, 33 thru 36, T5N, R4W, SM.

5. TRAIL RIVER CAMPGROUND (SEE EXHIBIT G)

All National Forest System land within the boundary of the Trail River – Kenai Recreation Area withdrawn by Public Land Order 1731. The area comprises 141 acres as shown on the attached Trail River Campground map and the boundary is posted and marked to identify the National Forest System lands. The area is within or partially within Sections 23 thru 26, T4N, R1W, SM.

6. MEADOW CREEK/BLACK MOUNTAIN (SEE EXHIBIT H)

All National Forest System land comprising Meadow Creek, including the unnamed eastern branch, and Black Mountain to and including the low waterline of Kenai Lake, as shown on the attached Meadow Creek/Black Mountain map. The area is within or partially within Sections 1 thru 5, 8 thru 12, 14 thru 17, 22, 23, T3N, R1W; Sections 34 thru 36, T4N, R1W, SM.

7. GRAYLING/MERIDIAN/LONG LAKE (SEE EXHIBIT I)

All National Forest System land within the Grayling, Meridian, and Long Lake drainages west of the Seward Highway. The southern boundary starts at the northern quarter corner of Section 24, T2N, R1W and traverses westerly to the steep side slopes at approximately the 1,500 foot elevation. The western boundary then traverses along the steep side slopes, northerly at the 1,500 foot location to Primrose Creek, excluding the Primrose Road, Primrose Campground and Primrose Trail, and the Seward powerline adjacent to the Seward Highway, as shown on the attached Grayling/Meridian/Long Lake map. The area is within or partially within Sections 1, 2, 11 thru 14, 24, T2N, R1W; Sections 19, 31, T3N, R1E; Sections 24 thru 26, 35, 36, T3N, R1W, SM.

8. SNOW RIVER (SEE EXHIBIT J)

All National Forest System land comprising the entire North Fork of the Snow River drainage, except immediately around Upper Paradise Lake, and the entire South Fork of the Snow River drainage, including the southwest and west slopes of Paradise Peak with the exception of a motorized access corridor along the South Fork of the Snow River to provide winter motorized access to Godwin Glacier and the Nellie Juan area, as shown on the attached Snow River map. The motorized access corridor would be generally along the river bottom. Where the river braids, the boundary would be the outside edge of the river. The area is within or partially within Sections 1 thru 5, 9 thru 15, T1N, R1E; 1 thru 5, 8, thru 17, 20 thru 29, 32 thru 36, T2N, R1E; Sections 1 thru 11, 16 thru 21, 28 thru 31,

T2N, R2E; Sections 19 thru 22, 24 thru 30, 32 thru 36, T3N, R1E; Sections 1, 9 thru 12, 14 thru 23, 25 thru 36, T3N, R2E, SM.

9. TIEHACK/MT. ALICE (SEE EXHIBIT K)

All National Forest System land comprising the unnamed drainage of the glacier due east of Bear Lake and south to include the northwest part of Mt. Alice, as shown on the attached Tiehack/Mt. Alice map. The area is within, or partially within Sections 4 thru 10, 14 thru 17, 19 thru 23, 26 thru 34, T1N, R1E; Sections 4 thru 6, T1S, R1E; Section 32, T2N, R1E, SM.

10. TWENTYMILE RIVER (SEE EXHIBIT L)

All National Forest System land comprising the lower portion of the Twentymile River drainage, except in a corridor marked by the Forest Service, is closed to snowmachine use. The closed lands are within a boundary line beginning at the junction of the Seward Highway and Portage Highway, thence northwesterly to the junction of the Seward Highway and Blueberry Ridge, thence northerly along Blueberry Ridge to the north side of an unnamed creek due west of the junction of the Twentymile River and Glacier River, thence easterly down the northern ridge of said unnamed creek to the junction of the Twentymile River and Glacier River, continuing easterly from this junction along the ridge leading to the first peak north of Boggs Peak, thence southerly to Boggs Peak, thence southerly to Begich Peak, thence southwesterly down the ridge from Begich Peak back to the point of beginning. The area is within or partially within Sections 12, 13, 24, T9N, R2E; Sections 3 thru 30, 32 thru 36, T9N, R3E; Sections 18 thru 20, 29 thru 31, T9N, R4E; Sections 27 thru 34, T10N, R3E, SM, as described on the attached Twentymile River map.

The corridor within which snowmachine use is not prohibited is located south of the confluence of the Twentymile River and Turnagain Arm, beginning at the Alaska Railroad parking lot and proceeding northerly and generally parallel to the Twentymile River for approximately 4 miles, as described on the attached Twentymile River map. The corridor is 100 yards wide and its centerline is marked with orange route markers when snow conditions exist to allow snowmachine use of the corridor and the upper drainage of Twentymile River.

III. CLOSED EVERY OTHER WINTER SEASON BEGINNING WITH THE 2008/2009 SEASON EXCEPT FOR SUBSISTENCE USES

As directed in the Chugach Plan, the use of snowmachines and the landing of, or the dropping or picking up of any materials, supplies, or persons by means of helicopters that are utilized for winter recreational activities is prohibited in the following areas every other winter season from December 1 through April 30th of each year beginning with the

2008/2009 season. The use of snowmachines by a rural Alaska resident for subsistence uses is allowed provided the individual is lawfully engaged in an authorized subsistence activity during permitted dates, such individual can readily identify himself as a qualified subsistence user, and is in compliance with all public safety regulations.

RESURRECTION/WEST RESURRECTION (SEE EXHIBIT M)

All National Forest System land north of the Sterling Highway including Juneau Falls, Slaughter Creek, Dike Creek, Thurman Creek, Shaft Creek, Falls Creek, unnamed creeks flowing into Chickaloon River, Resurrection Creek and all of its tributary creeks from Resurrection Pass to and including Bedrock Cabin Creek and Highland Creek drainages, as shown on the attached Resurrection/West Resurrection map. The area is within, or partially within Sections 3 thru 8, T5N, R2W; Sections 1 thru 31, T5N, R3W; Sections 1, thru 4, 9 thru 16, 21 thru 28, 34 thru 36 T5N, R4W; Sections 4 thru 9, 16 thru 21, 28 thru 34, T6N, R2W; Sections 1 thru 36, T6N, R3W; Sections 1 thru 4, 9 thru 16, 21 thru 28, 33 thru 36, T6N, R4W; Sections 1 thru 11, 14 thru 23, 27 thru 33, T7N, R2W; Sections 1 thru 5, 7 thru 36, T7N, R3W; Sections 33, 34, T7N, R4W; Sections 2 thru 11, 14 thru 36, T8N, R2W; Sections 1, 2, 10 thru 15, 21 thru 28, 33 thru 36, T8N, R3W; Sections 7, 8, 16 thru 36, T9N, R2W; Sections 12, 13, 24 thru 26, 35, 36, T9N, R3W, SM.

IV. CLOSED AFTER MARCH 31 TO CERTAIN MOTOR VEHICLE USE EXCEPT FOR SUBSISTENCE USES

As directed in the Chugach Plan, the use of snowmachines and the landing of, or the dropping or picking up of any materials, supplies, or persons by means of helicopters that are utilized for winter recreational activities is prohibited in the following areas from April 1st of each year, through April 30th of each year. The use of snowmachines by a rural Alaska resident for subsistence uses is allowed provided the individual is lawfully engaged in an authorized subsistence activity during permitted dates, such individual can readily identify himself as a qualified subsistence user, and is in compliance with all public safety regulations.

1. SKOOKUM GLACIER (SEE EXHIBIT N)

All National Forest System land forming the Skookum Creek drainage, including Skookum Glacier, as shown on the attached Skookum Glacier map. The area is within or partially within Section 1, T7N, R2E; Sections 3 thru 6, 8, 9, T7N, R3E; Sections 25, 36, T8N, R2E; Sections 8, 9, 16 thru 22, 26 thru 35, T8N, R3E, SM.

V. CLOSED TO SNOWMACHINE USE EXCEPT FOR SUBSISTENCE USES

As directed in the Chugach Plan, the areas described below are managed to provide an opportunity for helicopter supported skiing. The use of snowmachines is prohibited from December 1st of each year through April 30th of each year in the Crow Creek and Winner Creek areas and from the Wednesday before Thanksgiving of each year through April 30th of each year in the Divide Creek area. The use of snowmachines by a rural Alaska resident for subsistence uses is allowed provided the individual is lawfully engaged in an authorized subsistence activity during permitted dates, such individual can readily identify himself as a qualified subsistence user, and is in compliance with all public safety regulations.

1. CROW CREEK (SEE EXHIBIT O)

All National Forest System land south and east of the National Forest boundary lying west of the Crow Creek Road, Glacier Creek drainage and west of Eagle Glacier; including an unnamed creek and the portion of California Creek north and east of the boundary with Chugach State Park, as shown on the attached Crow Creek map. The area is within or partially within Sections 4 thru 6, T10N, R2E; Sections 2 thru 11, 14 thru 23, 26 thru 34, T11N, R2E, SM.

2. WINNER CREEK (SEE EXHIBIT P)

All National Forest System land comprising the Winner Creek drainage, as shown on the attached Winner Creek map. The area is within or partially within Sections 12, 13, 14, 23, 24, T10N, R2E; Sections 4 thru 8, 17 thru 19, T10N, R3E; Sections 32, 33, T11N, R3E, SM.

3. DIVIDE CREEK (SEE EXHIBIT Q)

All National Forest System land forming the headwaters of Center Creek and Divide Creek further described as lands south and east of the center of Center Creek from the lake forming its headwaters downstream to the junction with Divide Creek; and lands forming the headwaters and eastern portion of Divide Creek drainage, as shown on the attached Divide Creek map. The lands closed by this order are further described as being within or partially within Sections 4, 5, T6N, R2E; Sections 3, 4, 7 thru 10, 15 thru 18, 20 thru 22, 27 thru 30, 32, 33, T7N, R2E, SM.