



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
BEAVERHEAD DEERLODGE NATIONAL FOREST
MADISON RANGER DISTRICT – DILLON, MONTANA**

FOREST ORDER

National Forest System Area Closure-Old Baldy Fire

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551, 36 C.F.R. § 261.50 (a), 36 C.F.R. § 261.53 (e), the following acts are prohibited on the Madison Ranger District, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest:

PROHIBITION:

- 1. To go into or be upon the area described below. [36 C.F.R. §261.53 (e)]**

PURPOSE:

This closure is for public safety due to the Old Baldy Fire.

AREA CLOSURE DESCRIPTION:

Beginning at the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest boundary and FS Rd 111 in section 22 T4S, R4W and following FS Rd 111 (Mill Creek Rd) to the Branham Lakes Campground in Section 5 T4S R3W. Continuing North to West Branham Peak in Section 32 T3S, R3W, From West Branham Peak Northwest to Long Mountain in Section 30 T3S, R3W. Continuing North to Lonesome Peak in Section 30 T3S, R3S, From Lonesome Peak Northwest to Granite Peak in Section 24 T3S, R4W. Following the Madison Ranger District Boundary to Lakeshore Mountain in Section 9 T3S, R4W. Continuing North into the Butte Ranger District to FS Rd 1007 (Boulder Creek Rd), Following FS Rd 1007 to the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest boundary in Section 36 T2S, R5W. Continuing to follow the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest boundary South and East to the intersection of FS Rd 111 at the beginning. The closure area is depicted on the attached map (Attachment A).

IMPLEMENTATION:

This order will be in effect from August 03, 2020 and shall remain in effect until December 31, 2020 or until the order is rescinded, whichever occurs first.

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

EXEMPTIONS:

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

- 1) Persons with a special use authorization or other Forest Service authorization specifically exempting them from the effect of this Order. 36 CFR § 261.50(e)(1).
- (2) Owners or lessees of land in the area. 36 CFR § 261.50(e)(2).
- 4) Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty. 36 CFR § 261.50(e)(4).

VIOLATION:

Violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both. (16 U.S.C. §551 and 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559, 3571(b)(6) and 3581(b)(7).

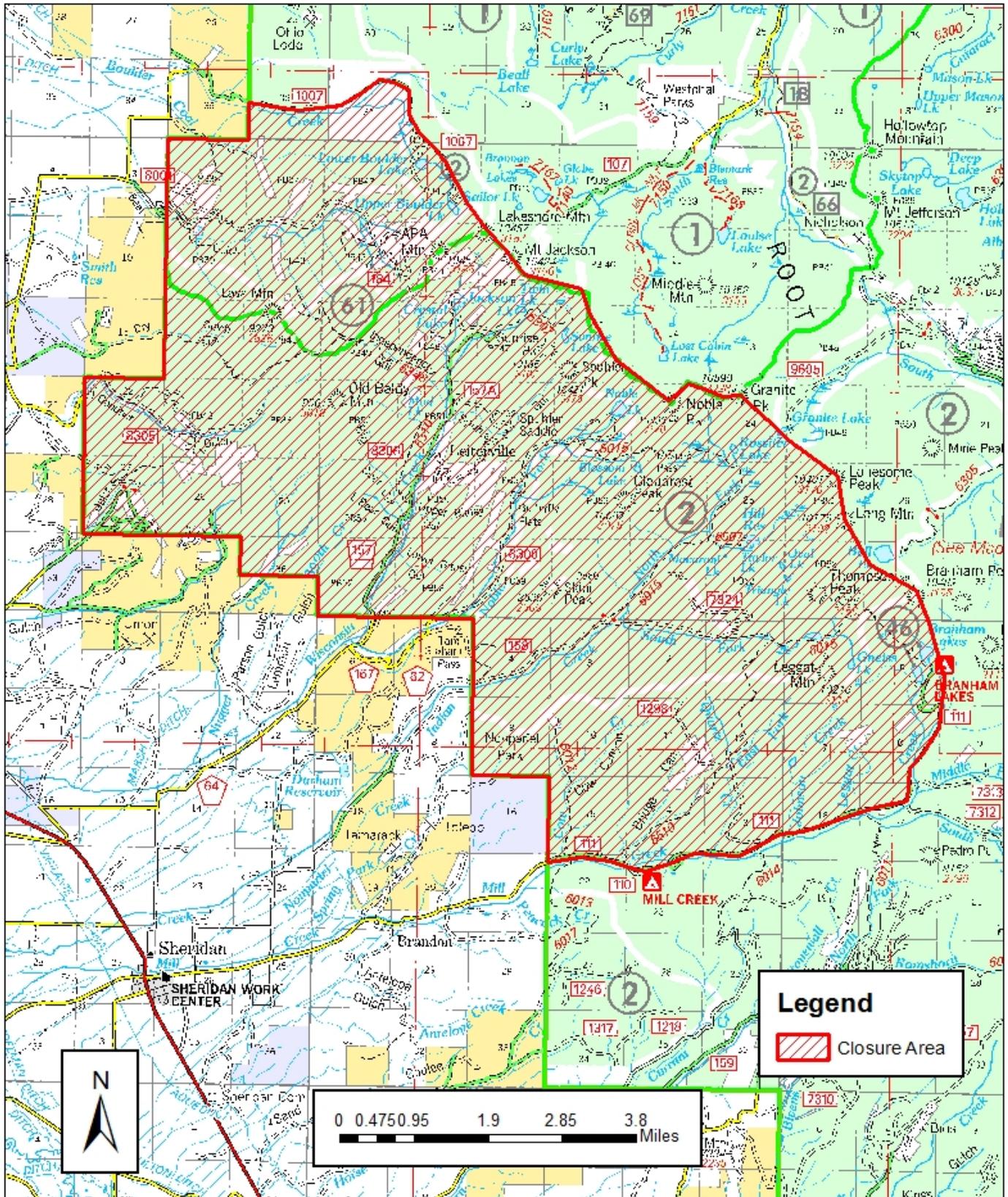
INFORMATION:

Further information regarding this Order may be obtained at the Madison Ranger District Office located at Ennis, Montana, (406) 682-4253, and at the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Supervisor's Office located at 420 Barrett Street, Dillon, Montana, (406) 683-3900.

Executed in Dillon, Montana, this the 4th day of August, 2020.

Cheri Ford
Forest Supervisor

Attachment A: Area Closure Map - Order No. 2020-D6-016



Assessment of Need and Enforcement Plan

1. Background:

As of August 01, 2020, the Forest Service is suppressing the Old Baldy Fire located in the western portion of the Tobacco Root Mountains on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. It is necessary to close this area in order to protect public safety due to the fact that all of the roads in the closure have a single egress route and could easily leave the public trapped if fire activity continues to increase which is likely.

2. Intent of Subpart B order:

Due to the unpredictable nature of fire and the busy recreation season it is the intent of the following order to protect public safety by restricting access on and around National Forest System lands while providing for efficient operations during the suppression of the Old Baldy Fire.

3. Enforcement:

Enforcement of the closure forest order will be a combination of signing, public information, personal contacts and law enforcement actions. The following summarizes the enforcement goals with respect to this closure order:

- The goal will be to ensure that people are informed of the closure order. This will initially be promulgated through contacts and information releases before the special order goes into effect.
- LEO's & FPO's will endeavor to enforce the order through patrols and contacts when available to do so. Enforcement with a warning or citation will be at the discretion of the Law Enforcement Officer or Forest Protection Officer.

4: Posting:

Current posting will be modified to reflect the new prohibition. Posting will be completed by the Forest Staff and will be posted at a minimum on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge Alerts & Notices web page, the District office and signage in the immediate area of the closure.