

Good morning Plumas County Supervisors, County staff, and members of our community. On behalf of the Plumas National Forest, I want to share a few updates with our partners in the County. I would like to express our support, share some decisions, and ask for input as we move forward.

We remain committed to supporting our community and our partners, and appreciate the support we've received. I want to offer a special thanks to Bob Perrault, Joe Blackwell, and Supervisor Sherrie Thrall for a discussion a couple weeks ago that resulted in a collaborative effort to help manage our over-snow-vehicle trailheads. The County had signs made and installed in a day, which was incredible.

We've had to make some quick decisions about your public lands. Some of those decisions are made at the Washington level, some at the Regional level, and some at our Forest level. We are doing everything we can to include the County and our community in decisions that affect them and to maintain support for our local residents.

Our agency direction is that we take aggressive action to reduce the spread of COVID-19. To do that, we have three priorities. First is the health and safety of our employees and members of the public, second is emergency preparedness and getting ready for fire season, and third is protection of our natural and cultural resources. We recognize that decisions we make will have impacts on projects, programs, and activities we normally conduct, and look forward to working through those impacts with our partners once we are in a position to do so.

Our current obligation is to support the Governor's order and County direction. This means we are taking actions that encourage social distancing, discourage traveling long distances to visit public lands, and discourage high-risk activities that can tax rural health care facilities. As part of this effort, our Regional Forester recently directed us to close developed recreation sites. The Plumas National Forest has over 150 sites that might be classified as "developed", and our recreation team has spent the last several days determining what sites are covered by the order.

Our intent is to maintain access to public lands for dispersed use and close areas that allow or encourage concentrations of people. The attached list is our determination of the areas covered under the Regional Forester's closure. The closure is limited to developed recreation sites – those with facilities such as picnic tables, fire rings, boat ramps, restrooms, and showers. Sites that lack these features, such as dispersed campsites and most shoreline access to streams and lakes, remain open. However, we also recognize that there may be some areas on this list that we need to manage differently, or maybe there are areas not on the list that need to be; we want to hear from the County and our community members so we can make the right decisions.

Another concern we have heard is firewood. At this time, the Plumas National Forest is not issuing firewood permits, but we are allowing collection of firewood without a permit. Anyone collecting firewood still needs to follow the rules about how and where to collect, and we encourage people to call us for details. Although our offices are closed to the public, and most of our employees, our team members are teleworking and able to answer phones, emails, and continue to work hard to support our community and our Forest.

We will continue to manage projects where they can be done virtually or without risk to our employees and the public. The Plumas NF team and I are happy to meet (virtually) with any of the Supervisors, County staff, or members of our community to answer any questions. We appreciate your support and patience as we work to keep our employees and community safe. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chris Carlton

Forest Supervisor

Caring for the land and serving people



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News Release

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Plumas National Forest Recreation Facility Closures

QUINCY, Calif. — Many campgrounds, picnic areas, bathrooms, and boat launch facilities on the Plumas National Forest have been closed indefinitely for the health and safety of visitors and staff.

These actions have been taken based on the best available medical advice for cleaning per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines and to promote social distancing. Recreation visitors are encouraged to contact their ranger district office with additional questions.

The following facilities are closed:

Beckwourth Ranger District
Blairsden (530) 836-2575

Big Cove Campground	Frenchman Campground	Lakes Basin Campground
Black Mountain Lookout	Frenchman Kiosk	Lakes Basin Group Campground
Camp 5 Boat Ramp	Frenchman Lake Picnic Area	Laufman Campground
Chilcoot Campground	Gold Lake 4x4 Campground	Lightning Tree Boat Ramp
Conklin Park Campground	Gold Lake Boat Ramp	Lightning Tree Campground
Coot Bay Fishing & Picnic Site	Gold Lake Campground	Lunker Point Boat Ramp
Cottonwood Group Campground	Gold Lake Picnic Area	Mallard Cove Boat Ramp
Cottonwood Spring Campground	Goose Lake Campground	Meadow View Campground
Cow Creek Fishing Site	Grasshopper Flat Campground	Nightcrawler Bay Fishing Site
Crocker Campground	Grizzly Campground	Portola Picnic Area
Crocker Guard Station	Haven Lake Campground	Ross Camp
Crystal Fishing Access	Honker Cove Boat Ramp	Salmon Egg Shoal Fishing Site
Eagle Point Fishing Access	Jackson Creek Campground	Snallygaster Point Fishing Site
Fairview Point	Jenkins Point	Spring Creek Campground
Frenchman Boat Ramp	Lake Davis Kiosk	Turkey Point Fishing Site

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Mt. Hough Ranger District

Quincy - (530) 283-0555

Antelope Amphitheatre	Hallsted Campground	Queen Lily Campground
Antelope Picnic Area	Hutchins Group Campground	Red Bridge Campground
Antelope Dam Kiosk	Indian Rock Day Use	Rock Creek Campground
Boulder Creek Campground	Lone Rock Campground	Round Valley Picnic Area
Brady's Camp	Long Point Campground	Sandy Point Boating & Day Use
Bucks Kiosk Picnic Site	Long Point Group Campground	Silver Lake Campground
Cascade Day Use Area	Lost Cove Boating	Snake Lake Campground
Deanes Valley Campground	Lower Bucks Campground	Spanish Creek Bridge Overlook
Gansner Bar Campground	Lower Bucks Fishing Site	Spanish Creek Group Camp
Greenville Campground	Lunker Landing Fishing Site	Sundew Campground
Grizzly Creek Campground	Meadow Camp	West End Cove Day Use
Grizzly Forebay Campground	Mill Creek Campground	Whitehorse Campground
Guiney Point Fishing Site	North Fork Campground	

Feather River Ranger District

Oroville - (530) 534-6500

American House OHV Camp	Maidu - Boating	Running Deer Campground
Black Rock - Boating	Maidu Amphitheatre (LGV)	Sandy Beach (Pulga)
Black Rock Overflow Campground	Milsap Bar Campground	Sawmill Ridge Warming Hut
Black Rock Tent Campground	Mooreville Boat Ramp	Sly Creek Campground
Blue Water - Swimming	Mooreville Warming Hut	South Fork Warming Hut
Feather Falls Campground	Onion Valley Warming hut	Stag Point OHV Camp
Golden Trout Crossing	Pancake - Swimming	Strawberry Campground
Little Grass Accessible Fishing Trailhead	Peninsula Tent Campground	Strawberry Car Top Launch
Little Beaver Campground	Poker Flat OHV Camp	Tooms Boating
Little Grass Valley Horse Camp	Red Feather Campground	Tooms RV Camp
Little North Fork Campground	Roger Cow Camp	Wyandotte Campground

The Plumas National Forest continues to monitor the COVID-19 situation and evaluate potential impacts and adjustments to reservations and our reservation policies through Recreation.gov. Reservation holders will be notified via email and/or cell phone text messages if there are any changes affecting their reservation. In the event of delayed openings of some, part or all of the campgrounds and recreation rentals, to ensure safe social distancing, you will receive a full refund for your reservation. Please remember to review current recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and focus on recreating safely while protecting yourself, Forest Service employees and our volunteers.

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