ORDER USDA - FOREST SERVICE COCONINO NATIONAL FOREST AREA CLOSURE FOR THE PROTECTION OF NESTING PEREGRINE FALCONS PEAKS CRAG

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(a), the following acts are prohibited within the area described in this Order (the "Restricted Area"), and depicted on the attached map, hereby incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A, within the Flagstaff Ranger District, Coconino National Forest, Coconino County, Arizona:

PROHIBITIONS:

1. To go into or be upon the Restricted Area, which is closed for the protection of threatened, endangered, rare, unique, or vanishing species of plants, animals, birds or fish. 36 C.F.R. § 261.53(a)

EXEMPTIONS:

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(e) the following persons are exempt from this Order:

- 1. Persons with a permit specifically exempting them from the effect of this Order.
- 2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of any organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of official duty.

AREA DESCRIBED:

The Restricted Area consists of the area within the boundary starting at the intersection of the northern side of National Forest System Road (NFSR) 522 and the eastern section line of T22N, R6E, Section 13, then following north one mile along the eastern section line of T22N, R6E, Section 12 to the signed closure boundary, then following in a west ½ mile to the intersection of state land, then following south along the boundary between state and Forest Service land to the center of T22N, R6E, Section 12, then following west along the boundary between state and Forest Service land to the intersection of state land and NFSR 9008U, then following southeast along the western side of NFSR 9008U to the intersection of the north side of NFSR 522, then following easterly along the north side of NFSR 522, ending back at the intersection of the northern side of NFSR 522 and the eastern section line of T22N, R6E, Section 13.

Note that FR 9008U *is included* within the Restricted Area. FR 522 is *not included* in the Restricted Area.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Order is to protect a peregrine falcon nesting site in an area of frequent recreational rock climbing activities, where rock climbing and noise is likely to adversely affect the success of nesting and fledging peregrine falcons.

IMPLEMENTATION:

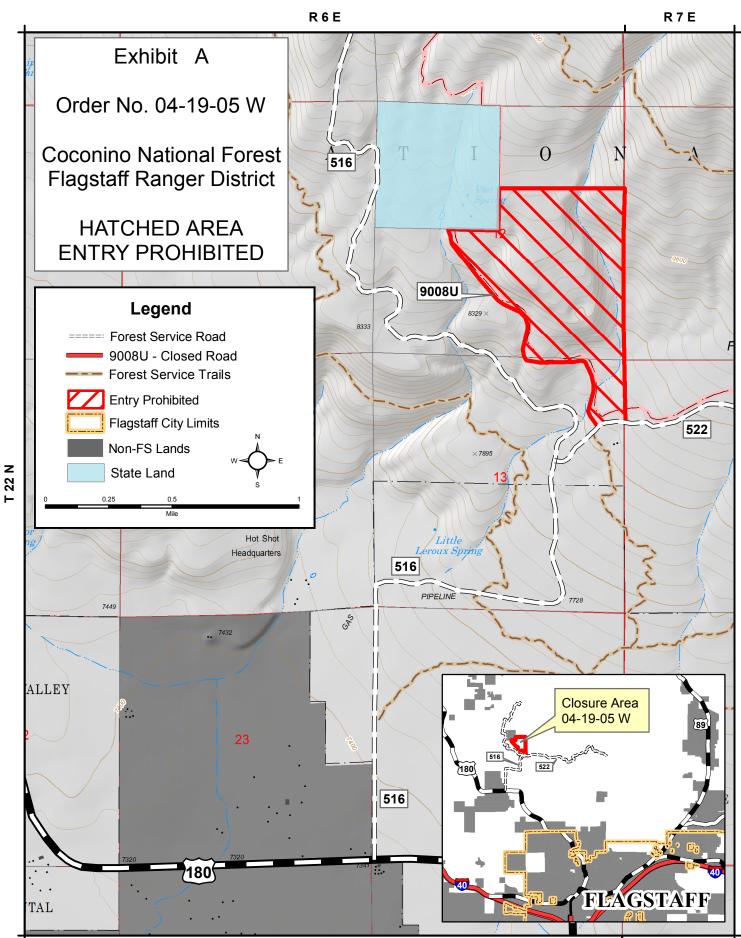
- 1. This Order will be in effect as of April 1, 2019, at 8:00, a.m./p.m. and shall remain in effect until August 15, 2019 to coincide with the expected conclusion of peregrine nesting and fledging), or rescinded, whichever occurs first.
- 2. Any violation of this prohibition is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations and/or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both (16 U.S.C. § 551, 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559, 3571, and 3581).
- 3. This Order supersedes any previous orders prohibiting the same acts covered by this Order.

Done at Flagstaff, Arizona this 1st day of April, 2019.

<u>Laura Jo West</u> LAURA JO WEST Forest Supervisor Coconino National Forest

Order Number: 04-19-05 W

Area Closure



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