



Forest Service
Coconino National Forest
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News Release



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Closure order issued for FWPP thinning area

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz., July 19, 2018, For Immediate Release – Coconino National Forest has issued a temporary closure order for units of an active forest thinning project near the southwest base of Mount Elden in order to keep the public safe from forest harvesting operations.

The Elden Base Project, a 642-acre subset of the overall Flagstaff Watershed Protection Project (FWPP), will be completed in 13 units or segments, and the active units will be closed to the public while the inactive units will be open for public use.

Dakota Logging LLC has begun operations in Unit 1, which is currently the only unit closed to the public and impacts a section of the Pipeline Trail. Since Unit 7 was completed last year by the prior contractor, Dakota Logging LLC will be working to complete the remaining 12 units comprised of a total 619 acres.

Work is expected to move from east to west through July 2019, and active units will be signed on the ground as closed so the public is aware of which areas and trails are closed. The Arizona National Scenic Trail will be rerouted through the city when within an active forest thinning unit.

Elden Lookout Road (Forest Road 557) will be open, but traffic flagmen will be present to manage all travel along the affected segments of the road when thinning takes place in Units 6, 8, 9, and 10.

Heavy equipment and truck traffic may occur on Schultz Pass Road (Forest Road 420), Elden Lookout Road, and state Route 180.

Changes and unit closures will be updated at www.CoconinoNationalForest.us and forest information boards. For more information, please contact the Flagstaff Ranger District at (928) 526-0866.

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Flagstaff Ranger Station: (928) 526-0866
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