

memo

To: Mary King, Special Agent in Charge
From: Michael Klingensmith, Patrol Captain

Date: 4/30/2018
Re: White Mountain National Forest proposed Closure Order #R9-22-18-01

The White Mountain National Forest has proposed implementing a closure order for a portion of the Crawford Path hiking trail going through extensive reconstruction.

The purpose of the closure is for public safety. Specifically, this trail project will require large quantities of trail work supplies and equipment, as well as trail workers, in the trail treadway, making pedestrian passage unsafe. All of the rock material being used for the project will be delivered utilizing sling-load air operations along the entire length of the project area.

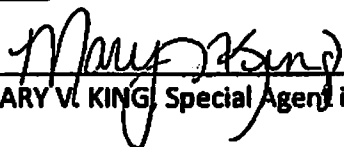
Further, the fragile alpine habitat cannot withstand any level of travel outside of the existing trail treadway. For safety and ecological concerns, the trail must be closed to the public without exception during reconstruction.

The proposed closure area includes the Crawford Path (Appalachian Trail) between the north and south intersections with the Mt Monroe Loop Trail.

The order and supporting documentation is attached. I recommend approval of this order for implementation. Please advise if you have any questions or require further information to complete your review.

I have reviewed the proposed orders for the White Mountain National Forest and decided the following:

- Return the order to the Forest for continued implementation
- Return the order to the Forest due to insufficient documentation
- Forward to OGC for additional legal review



MARY V. KING, Special Agent in Charge

4/30/18

Date



ORDER NO. R9-22-18-01

**EMERGENCY ORDER OF THE FOREST SUPERVISOR
RESTRICTING PUBLIC USE OF
THE CRAWFORD PATH HIKING TRAIL, TO WIT:**

LOCATION

**SACO AND PEMIGEWASSET RANGER DISTRICTS
WHITE MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST, NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO INCLUDE THE ENTIRE
PORTION OF THE CRAWFORD PATH BETWEEN THE NORTH AND SOUTH
INTERSECTIONS WITH THE MT MONROE LOOP HIKING TRAIL.**

Under the authority of the Act of Congress dated June 4, 1897, as amended (16 U.S.C. 551), and pursuant to the Secretary of Agriculture's Regulations set forth as 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart B (36 CFR 261.50(a) and (b)), the following acts and omissions are prohibited on federal lands. Located on the White Mountain National Forest, Saco and Pemigewasset Ranger Districts, in the Town of Sargent's Purchase, Coos County, New Hampshire, said area being described and designated as shown on the map set forth at Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and made a part hereto:

1. It is prohibited to be on the Crawford Path, as described in Exhibit A, for the protection of public safety.(36 CFR 261.55(a)).

THESE RESTRICTIONS ARE NECESSARY FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND TO PROTECT NATIONAL FOREST PROPERTY. THEY ARE IN ADDITION TO THE GENERAL PROHIBITIONS SET FORTH IN 36 CFR PART 261. THE PROHIBITION WILL BE IN EFFECT FROM THE DATE OF THIS ORDER UNTIL SPECIFICALLY WITHDRAWN BY TERMINATION ORDER OF THE FOREST SUPERVISOR.

Pursuant to the provisions of 36 CFR 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this order:

1. Persons with permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission (36 CFR 261.50(e)(1)); and,
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of any organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty (36 CFR 261.50(e)(4));

Violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5000.00 for an individual or \$10,000.00 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both (16 U.S.C., 18 U.S.C. 3559 and 3571).

Dated this 1st day of May 2018 at Campton, New Hampshire.

**Clare R. Mendelsohn
Forest Supervisor
White Mountain National Forest**

**Forest Supervisor's Closure Order Enforcement Plan
White Mountain National Forest
New Hampshire and Maine**

Date: April 30, 2018

Order Number: R9-22-18-01

Order Name: Crawford Path

Public Notice:

Copies of closure shall be posted and available for public inspection at White Mountain National Forest Headquarters and District Ranger stations at Plymouth, Conway, and Gorham New Hampshire.

Additionally, closure information will be posted on the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) website, Highland Center in Crawford Notch, Appalachian Trail Conservancy website, huts, Mount Washington State Park, and the Pinkham Notch Visitor Center. AMC will also send info through their hut reservations system.

Signs detailing prohibitions shall be posted at both ends of the closed portion of the trail at their intersections with the Mt Monroe Loop Trail and kiosks at relevant trailheads that access the closed area.

Hikers that had planned to hike the closed portion of Crawford Path (AT), including AT hikers, will be able to utilize the Mt Monroe Loop to circumvent the closed portion of the Crawford Path.

Prohibition shall be included on the Forest internet web site.

Enforcement:

Patrols shall be conducted by Law Enforcement personnel and Forest Protection Officers.

Officers shall take appropriate enforcement action based on circumstances found in the event of a violation.

Exhibit A - CRAWFORD PATH CLOSURE 2018

