



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

# EMERGENCY CLOSURE ORDER

Bureau of Land Management California

## EMERGENCY CLOSURE OF ALABAMA HILLS NATIONAL SCENIC AREA & SPECIAL RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA

April 3, 2020

**Action:** Pursuant to 43 CFR 9268.3 and 43 CFR 8364.1, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) hereby provides notice that effective immediately, the public lands described below are temporarily closed to all forms of public access. This action follows guidance received from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and recommendations from Federal, State, and local public health authorities, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The BLM is temporarily closing the public lands identified here to assist in limiting the spread of COVID-19. The health and safety of visitors, BLM staff and nearby communities is our number one priority.

**Affected Area:** Alabama Hills National Scenic Area and Special Recreation Management Area. The closure area includes approximately 28,000 acres of public land located west of U.S. Highway 395 and the town of Lone Pine in Inyo County, California.

**Prohibitions:** The public must not enter the closure area. All uses within the closure area are prohibited. Exceptions to these prohibitions are noted below under Supplemental Information.

**Dates:** This closure is effective immediately and will remain in effect until such time as conditions allow for safe use of the public lands.

**Supplemental Information:** The following persons are exempt from the provisions of this Order:

1. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized medical, rescue or firefighting force engaged in fire, emergency, or law enforcement activities, or public utility employees engaged in emergency repairs.
2. BLM employees, contractors, or agents engaged in official duties.
3. Individuals operating within the scope of their official and legitimate governmental duties.
4. Parties who carry written approval signed by the BLM Authorized Officer allowing access to the described public lands.

**Penalties:** Any person who violates this may be tried before a United States Magistrate and fined in accordance with 18 U.S.C. 3571, imprisoned for no more than 12 months, or both. Vehicles found in violation of this order may be removed.

**Effective:** This Order is effective immediately upon signature.

Signed by:

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Field Manager

Date