



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Eastern Interior Field Office
222 University Avenue
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709
www.blm.gov/alaska

Notice of Temporary Restriction Order

OFFICE: Eastern Interior Field Office, White Mountains National Recreation Area, Fairbanks Alaska

ACTION: The use of motor vehicles is temporarily restricted on the Wickersham Creek Trail, Trail Creek Trail, 23 Mile Trail, and Quartz Creek Trail to prevent damage to wet trails during the transition to summer from May 1 – June 15, 2026 or until trails are sufficiently dry to allow off-highway vehicle use that will not cause damage to the trails.

SUMMARY: Due to soft, saturated soils during spring-break up, trails require time to sufficiently dry before off-highway motor vehicles are used on the trails. For Wickersham Creek Trail, Trail Creek Trail, 23 Mile Trail and Quartz Creek Trail the temporary motor vehicle restriction will begin May 1 and last until trails are sufficiently dry to allow off-highway vehicles use that will not cause damage to the trails, as is indicated in the Eastern Interior White Mountains Record of Decision and approved Resource Management Plan.

During the temporary motor vehicle restriction, the trails remain open for hiking and other non-motorized use.

Signs will be posted at the trailhead to notify the public of the temporary motor vehicle restriction. BLM law enforcement rangers and other employees will be in the area to enforce the temporary restriction on motor vehicles.

RATIONALE: To protect persons, property, and public lands and resources, the authorized officer may issue an order to close or restrict use of designated public lands – 43 CFR 8364.1

BLM has determined that a temporary motorized vehicle restriction on these trails will prevent trail degradation and resource damage, while protecting other trail use values, such as non-motorized uses. This decision implements provisions of the White Mountains Resource Management Plan 2016 to protect trails from excessive erosion and rutting.

EXEMPTIONS: This order does not apply to Federal, State, and local officers and employees in the performance of their official duties; members of organized rescue or firefighting forces in the performance of their official duties; and persons with written authorization from the BLM.

LOCATION: White Mountains National Recreation Area, including Wickersham Creek Trail, 23 Mile Trail, Trail Creek Trail and Quartz Creek Trail.

DATES: May 1 – June 15, 2026 or until trails are sufficiently dry to allow off-highway vehicle use that will not cause damage to the trails.



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NOTIFICATION METHODS AND POSTED LOCATIONS:

<https://www.blm.gov/visit/white-mountains/trail-update>

<https://www.facebook.com/BLMWhiteMountains/>

ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES: *Any person who violates the temporary closures or restrictions in this order may be tried before a United States magistrate and fined in accordance with [18 U.S.C. 3571](#), imprisoned no more than 12 months under [43 U.S.C. 1733\(a\)](#) and [43 CFR 8360.0-7](#), or both. In accordance with [43 CFR 8365.1-7](#), State or local officials may also impose penalties for violations of State law.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Garrett Jones, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Eastern Interior Field Office, gjones@blm.gov, 907-474-2200

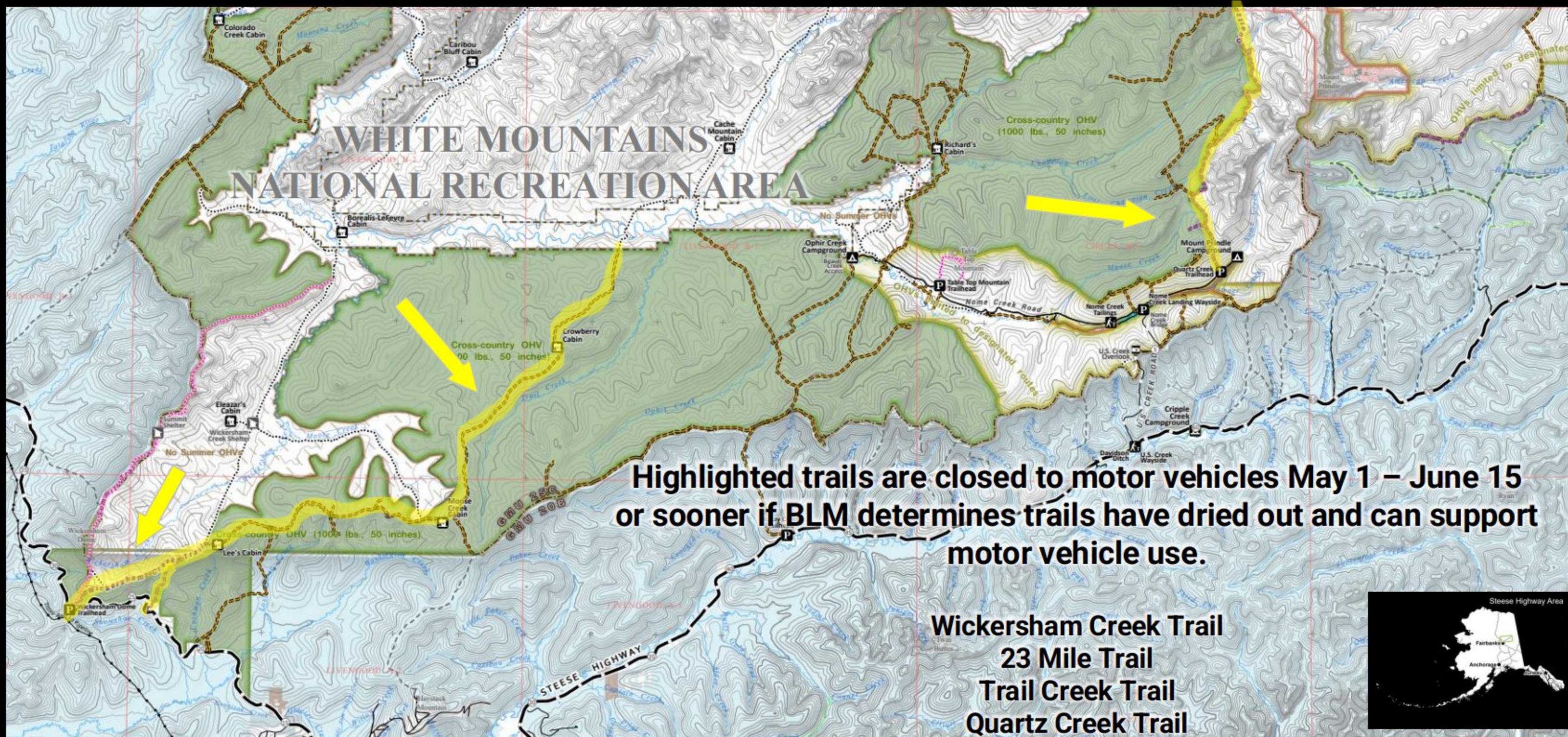
APPROVED BY:

Authorized Officer, Eastern Interior Field Office



Spring Trail Restrictions – White Mountains National Recreation Area

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR | BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT | ALASKA



Highlighted trails are closed to motor vehicles May 1 – June 15 or sooner if BLM determines trails have dried out and can support motor vehicle use.

**Wickersham Creek Trail
23 Mile Trail
Trail Creek Trail
Quartz Creek Trail**



BLM Routes - Summer Allowed Designation

- Non-motorized and mechanized use only.
- Open to class 1, 2 and 3 E-bikes and non-motorized travel.
- Use is limited to OHVs weighing 1,000 pounds or less curb weight and a maximum width of 50 inches.
- Use is limited to OHVs weighing 1500 pounds or less curb weight and a maximum width of 64 inches.

- Nome Creek Valley - Open to licensed street-legal vehicles.
- Non-BLM Trail

Summer OHV Use Area Designations

- Cross-country travel allowed for OHVs 1,000 pounds or less curb weight and a maximum width of 50 inches.
- No Summer Use of OHVs.
- OHVs limited to designated routes, no cross-country travel allowed.

- BLM-managed lands outside Steese & White Mountains Units - Cross-country travel allowed for OHVs 1,500 pounds or less curb weight and a maximum width of 64 inches.
- Nome Creek Tailings near the bridge and landing - Open to cross-country travel.
- Nome Creek Tailings - Cross-country travel allowed for street legal OHVs 10,000 lbs or less or non-street legal OHVs 1,500 lbs curb weight or less. All other OHVs are limited to designated routes.

Contact Information

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Learn more about BLM's Travel and Transportation Management online:
<https://www.blm.gov/programs/recreation/recreation-programs/travel-and-transportation>

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