



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Eastern Interior Field Office
1150 University Avenue
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-3844
<http://www.blm.gov/ak>

TEMPORARY CLOSURE ORDER

July 5, 2015

Western Portion of the White Mountains National Recreation Area

Location: Western portion of the White Mountains National Recreation Area, Alaska, including the Summit Trail, Wickersham Creek Trail to the junction of Summit Trail and all lands in between, Moose Creek Trail to the junction of Trail Creek Trail and all lands in between, Wickersham Dome Trailhead and Access Road at 28 mile Elliot Highway, Trail Access at 23.5 mile Elliott Highway, Lee's Cabin, Eleazar's Cabin, Wickersham Creek Trail Shelter, and Summit Trail Shelter: portions of Township 5 North Range 1 West, Township 6 North Range 1 West, Township 4 North Range 2 West, Township 5 North Range 2 West, Township 6 North Range 2 West, and Township 4 North Range 3 West; Fairbanks Meridian.

Order: Effective immediately from the date of this order, the above BLM public lands will be temporarily closed to all public access for public safety and emergency wildland fire suppression operations.

Dates: This temporary closure on public access to the western portion of the White Mountains National Recreation Area as described above will remain in effect from July 5, 2015, until such time as public health and safety are no longer at risk due to wildland fire incidents on public lands in and adjacent to the closure area. The BLM will provide appropriate public notification when public access restrictions are lifted.

Supplemental Information: The temporary closure order will be posted at the major entry points to the closure area at Mile 23.5, Mile 28, and Mile 57 Elliott Highway. The closure will be enforced by wildland fire suppression and law enforcement personnel. Copies of the closure order and maps of the closed area will be available at the BLM Fairbanks District Office. The closure will also be publicized on the BLM website and distributed to local government agencies and media contacts.

Rationale: The purpose of this temporary public access restriction is to minimize risks to public health and safety from an active wildland fire incident occurring in the vicinity of Wickersham Dome. This incident was started by lightning on June 22. Current extreme fire conditions and Red Flag warnings have created the possibility of further fire spread into the western portion of the White Mountains National Recreation Area. During the temporary closure, the BLM may utilize facilities at the Wickersham Dome Trailhead as a base camp for wildland fire suppression operations.

Penalties: This temporary closure order has been implemented under the authority of Section 303(a) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1733(a)), and 43 CFR 9268.3(d). Any person who violates the above restriction order may be issued a citation, tried before a United States Magistrate, and fined no more than \$1,000, imprisoned for no more than 12 months, or both. Such violations may also be subject to the enhanced fines provided for by 18 U.S.C. 3571 and 3581.

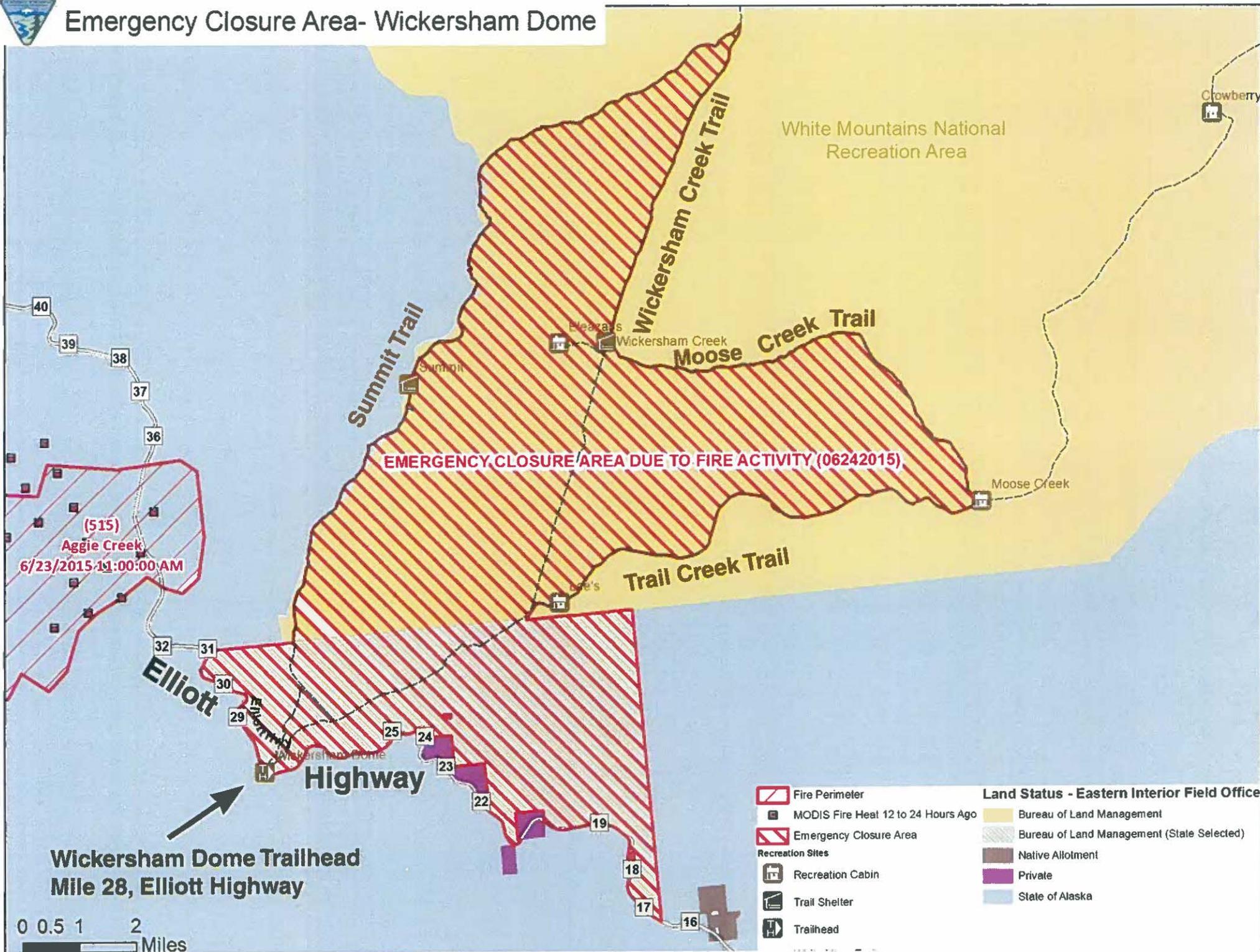
Lenore Heppler
Eastern Interior Field Manager

Date

Attachment: Map of Closure Area in the Western Portion of the White Mountains National Recreation Area



Emergency Closure Area- Wickersham Dome



EMERGENCY CLOSURE AREA DUE TO FIRE ACTIVITY (06242015)

White Mountains National Recreation Area

Summit Trail

Wickersham Creek Trail

Moose Creek Trail

Trail Creek Trail

Highway

Elliott

Wickersham Dome Trailhead
Mile 28, Elliott Highway

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|
| | Fire Perimeter | | Bureau of Land Management |
| | MODIS Fire Heat 12 to 24 Hours Ago | | Bureau of Land Management (State Selected) |
| | Emergency Closure Area | | Native Allotment |
| Recreation Sites | | | Private |
| | Recreation Cabin | | State of Alaska |
| | Trail Shelter | | |
| | Trailhead | | |