Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50 (a) and (b), for the protection of public health and safety, the following acts are prohibited on and within the Max Patch area as shown on attached map which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. This closure is effective from the date signed by the Forest Supervisor until June 30, 2023, or until terminated by an authorized Forest Service official, whichever occurs first.

1. **Camping.** 36 C.F.R. 261.58(e)

2. **Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire or stove fire.** 36 C.F.R. 261.52(a)

3. **Being in the area 1 hour after sundown or 1 hour before sunrise.** 36 C.F.R. 261.58(l)

4. **Use of the area by groups of more than 10 people.** 36 C.F.R. 261.58(f)

5. **Possessing, storing, or transporting any animal.** 36 C.F.R. 261.58(s)

6. **Being upon the unauthorized user-created trails depicted on the attached map.** 36 C.F.R. 261.53(e) and (f)

7. **Landing of an aircraft, or dropping or picking up material, supplies, or person by means of an aircraft, including a helicopter.** 36 C.F.R. 261.58(y)

8. **Possessing, discharging or using any kind of firework or other pyrotechnic device.** 36 C.F.R. 261.52(f)

9. **Possessing or using a bicycle off National Forest System roads.** 36 C.F.R. 261.56

10. **Riding, hitching, tethering or hobbling a horse or other saddle or pack animal within the Max Patch area.** 36 C.F.R. 261.58(aa)

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. 261.50 (e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Persons with a special use permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission issued by the District Ranger.

2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.

3. Persons possessing a service animal pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act.
4. Persons possessing, storing or transporting an animal in a crate or cage or upon a leash not longer than six feet.

Other Prohibitions. These prohibitions are in addition to:
(a) the General Prohibitions at 36 C.F.R. §§ 261.1–261.23 (Subpart A);
(b) other Orders currently in effect pursuant to 36 C.F.R. §§ 261.50–261.58 (Subpart B); and
(c) all other Regional Regulations at 36 C.F.R. § 261.70 (Subpart C).

Executed in Asheville, North Carolina this 30th day of June, 2021.

JAMES E. MELONAS
Forest Supervisor
National Forests in
North Carolina

Violation of these prohibitions set forth above is punishable by a fine of not more than $5,000 for an individual and $10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both. See 16 U.S.C. 551, 18 U.S.C. 3559 and 3571.