



U.S. Forest Service

Klamath National Forest
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Six Rivers National Forest
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News Release

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Notice of upcoming Karuk ceremonial closures

At the request of the Karuk Tribe and to honor their traditional ceremonies, the Six Rivers and Klamath national forests will prohibit the following acts on National Forest System (NFS) lands during the Karuk Tribe World Renewal Ceremonies:

- **July 20 – 24:** Launching watercraft from Wingate Bar River Access.
- **July 24 – August 2:** Launching watercraft at Dolan's Bar River Access or George Geary River Access.
- **July 24 – August 2:** Entering or being in the Ike's Falls River Access area or the Ishi Pishi Bridge River Access area.
- **August 14 – 23:** Entering or being in the Ferry Point River Access area.
- **August 14 – 23:** Launching watercraft from Wingate Bar River Access.
- **August 15:** Entering or being in Independence River Access area or the Independence Picnic Shelter. This includes the mouth of Independence Creek at its intersection with the Klamath River and continuing south for 0.1 mile, and a 0.1-mile buffer to the east and west from the bank of Independence Creek.
- **August 29 – September 7:** Launching a watercraft in the Dolan's Bar River Access, Orleans River Access, or Ullathorne River Access.
- **August 29 – September 7:** Possessing or operating a motorboat along the Klamath River between Dolan's Bar and Ullathorne River Access, including the Orleans Bar River Access.
- **August 31:** Being on Forest Roads 10N13, 10N13A, 10N13B, 10N13C, or 10N13D in the area of Orleans Mountain Lookout Road.
- **September 13 – 22:** Launching watercraft at George Geary River Access or Green Riffle River Access.

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- **September 13 – 22:** Entering or being in the Ishi Pishi Closure Area or Ishi Pishi Bridge River Access area. The Ishi Pishi Closure Area includes all NFS lands between Ishi Pishi Road and the Klamath River from Ishi Pishi Falls south to Rosalena Creek.

“The Karuk have conducted their ceremonies along the Klamath River since time immemorial, passing them down from generation to generation,” said Six Rivers National Forest Supervisor Ted McArthur. “The landscapes and rivers that we think of as the Six Rivers and Klamath national forests are woven into who the Karuk are as a people.”

Beginning at Sarah Totten Campground and continuing down the Klamath River, signs will be posted to alert river users when and where launching is allowed and take-out encouraged. Out of respect for the annual ceremonies, the public is requested to take watercraft out at Wingate Bar and not to continue downstream of Wingate between July 20-24 and August 14-23. During the July 20-24 period, the next launching point available downstream of Wingate Bar will be the Ferry Point River Access. On August 14, and during the August 16-23 period, the next launching point available downstream of Wingate Bar will be the Independence River Access. The Independence River Access will be closed on August 15.

Any comments or concerns with these closures may be addressed to Jeff Novak at (530) 841-4467 or jeff.novak2@usda.gov for the Klamath National Forest, and to Bryson Code at (707) 441-3520 or bryson.code@usda.gov for the Six Rivers National Forest.

For additional information, visit <https://go.usa.gov/xf2Ft>.

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