



**U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service
Gila National Forest
Quemado Ranger District**

Quemado Lake Area/Road/Trail Closure

PROHIBITIONS

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50 (a), the following are prohibited on the National Forest System (NFS) lands in the Quemado Ranger District, Gila National Forest, described below and shown on the attached map incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A (the "Described Area"):

1. Going into or being upon the Described Area which is closed for public health and safety. 36 C.F.R. § 261.52(e).
2. Being upon any National Forest System trail within the Described Area. 36 C.F.R. § 261.55(a).

EXEMPTIONS

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

1. Persons with Forest Service Permit No. FS-2200-10 (Term Grazing Permit) for the El Caso Allotment.
2. Persons with Forest Service Permit No. FS-7700-48 (Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation or Order), specifically exempting them from this Order or a written determination by a Forest Service authorized officer that a permit is not required under 36 C.F.R. § 251.50(e)(1) or (2).
3. Any Federal, State, or Local Officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting resource in the performance of an official duty.

DESCRIBED AREA

The Described Area lies within all, or portions of Township 2 South, Range 16 West, Sections 15 & 16. The Described Area consists of all National Forest lands within the boundary starting the end of New Mexico State Highway 103 and beginning of Forest

Road 13, including Quemado Lake Parking area and boat dock. Proceeding 2.0 miles to Forest Road 4187M/Largo Trail #14 proceeding 1.08 miles to Quemado Lake Fishing Trail #114 proceeding 1.5 miles over Quemado Lake Dam back to the entrance of the Quemado Lake Parking Lot. Forest Road 13 will remain open for travel.

The area closure prohibits public access on National Forest System lands south of Quemado Lake Road (Forest Road 13) and include Cove Day Use Area, Juniper Campground, El Caso Campgrounds 1– 3, Largo Trail #14, Quemado Lake Fishing Trail #144, Lakeshore Access Trail #1441, Juniper-Lake Access Trail #1442, Cove Access Trail #1443 and Quemado Lake itself, as shown specifically in Exhibit A.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Order is to protect public health and safety. The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is issuing a danger warning for Quemado Lake after samples confirmed extremely high toxin levels caused by a harmful algal bloom.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. This Order shall be in effect from November 10, 2025 at 6:00 am through April 1, 2026 at 6:00 am, unless rescinded.
2. A map identifying the Described Area is attached and made part of this Order as Exhibit A. For a digital version of this Order and Exhibit A, go to <https://www.fs.usda.gov/r03/gila/alerts>.
3. Unless otherwise expressly defined in this Order, the terms used in this Order are defined by the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture, 36 C.F.R. Chapter II, Parts 200-299. If there are terms in this Order that are not expressly defined in the Order or 36 C.F.R. Chapter II, Parts 200-299, their meaning shall be determined by their plain language definitions.
4. A violation of the above prohibitions is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, or by imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 U.S.C. § 551; 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559, 3571, and 3581.
5. Contact the Quemado Ranger District in Quemado, New Mexico (575) 773-4678, and Gila National Forest Supervisor's Office in Silver City, New Mexico (575) 388-8201, for more information about this Order.
6. This Order supersedes any previous Orders prohibiting the same or similar acts in the same Described Area.

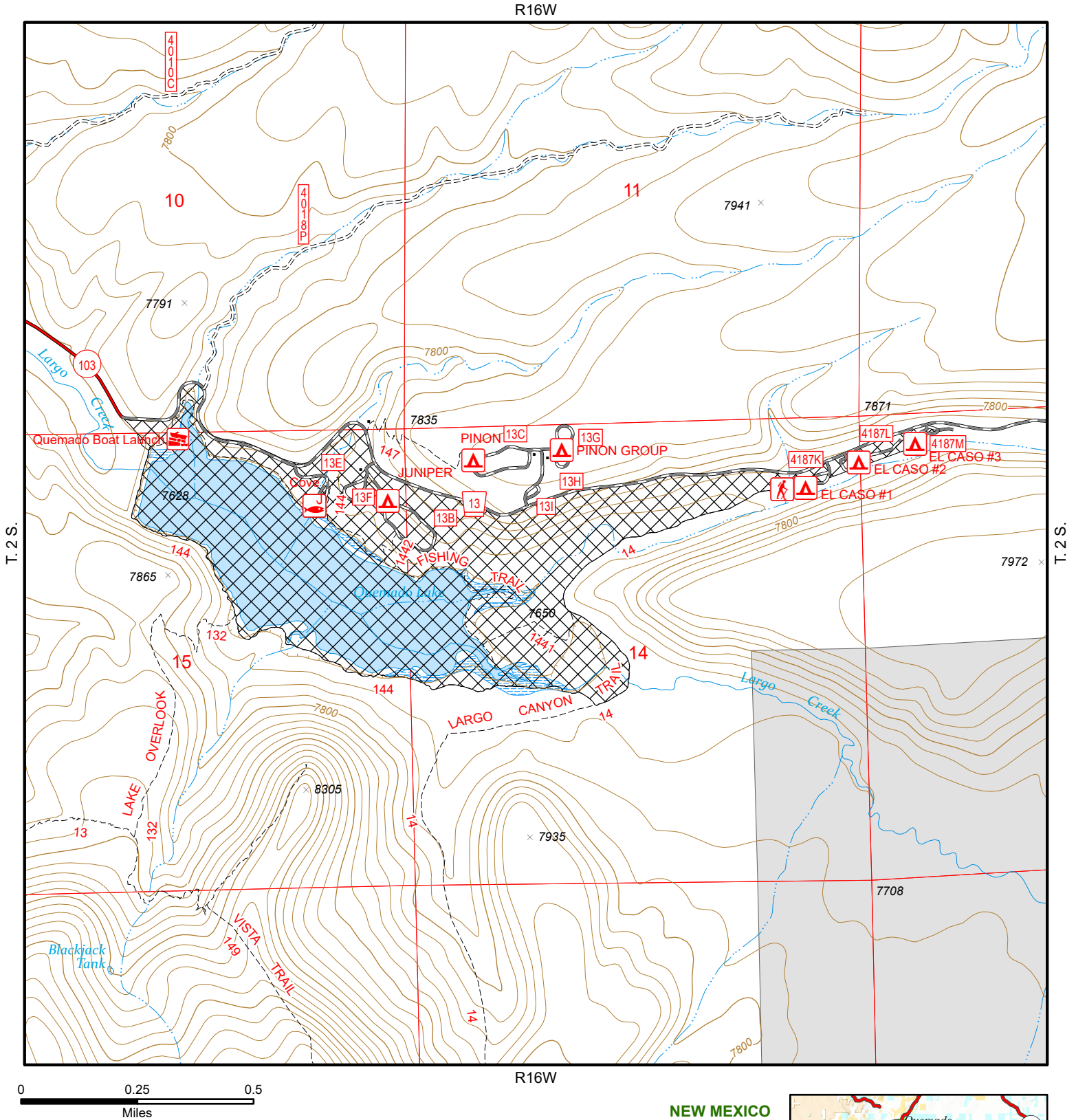
Signed and issued on November 10, 2025.

Forest Supervisor
Gila National Forest



Quemado Lake Area Closure - Order Number: 03-06-03-25-001, Exhibit A

Gila National Forest - Quemado Ranger District



Disclaimer

The USDA Forest Service uses the most current and complete data available. GIS data and product accuracy may vary. Using GIS products for purposes other than those for which they were intended may yield inaccurate or misleading results. The USDA Forest Service reserves the right to correct, update, modify, or replace GIS products without notification. This map is not a legal land line or ownership document. Public lands are subject to change and leasing, and may have access restrictions; check with local offices. Obtain permission before entering private land.

- Described Closure Area
- US or State Highway
- Improved Road, Gravel
- Unimproved Road, High Clearance
- Developed Trail (Non-motorized)
- Private Land within USFS Boundary

NEW MEXICO
Catron County

