



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
COLVILLE NATIONAL FOREST
COLVILLE, WASHINGTON

ORDER NO. 06-21-00-21-02

Colville NF Food Storage Order

Pursuant to 16 USC § 551 and 36 CFR § 261.50 (a), the following acts as described below and shown in Exhibit A are prohibited on all National Forest System lands and facilities on the Colville National Forest. This Order will be effective beginning June 22, 2021 until June 21, 2026.

PROHIBITIONS:

1. Possessing or storing any human, pet or livestock food, beverages, garbage, refuse, or other wildlife attractants EXCEPT as specified in this order from April 1 to December 1, annually (36 CFR 261.58(cc)).
2. Possessing, storing, or transporting any bird, fish, or other animal, or parts thereof EXCEPT as specified in the order from April 1 to December 1, annually (36 CFR 261.58(s)).

UNDER THIS ORDER IT IS REQUIRED THAT:

1. Human, pet, and livestock food (except baled or cubed hay without additives), beverages (except water), garbage, and all other attractants (e.g., uncleaned cookware/utensils, scented items) shall be acceptably stored at all times (night and day) unless being prepared for eating, being consumed, being transported, or being prepared for storage. Acceptably stored is defined as: (a) within buildings that are secure from wildlife entry, (b) within hard-sided vehicles that are secure from wildlife entry, (c) within storage containers certified by the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee as bear resistant, (d) suspended at least 10 feet off the ground at all points and at least 4 feet horizontally from any vertical support, or (e) other method as approved in writing by the Forest Supervisor.
2. Attractants such as food leftovers, bacon grease, or animal entrails shall not be buried, discarded, or burned in an open campfire. These items shall be disposed of in bear-resistant garbage containers, or acceptably stored until such time that they can be packed out. Animal entrails may be left in place if further than 0.5 mile from camping or sleeping areas and further than 200 yards of a National Forest System trail.
3. Any harvested animal carcass shall be attended (within sight/control) at all times (day or night) unless the carcass is: (a) at least 0.5 mile from any camping or sleeping area or 200 yards from a National Forest System trail or, (b) acceptably stored.
4. Human waste and gray water shall be disposed in a pit/hole that is dug at least 6

inches deep and well away from campsites. Pits/holes shall be covered with sod or topsoil.

5. No person shall provide food of any kind to any wildlife species, with the exception of the lawful use of bait under current fish and game regulations of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. This applies to liquid, suet, or seed-filled bird feeders.

EXEMPTIONS:

Pursuant to 36 CFR § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this order:

1. Persons with Forest Service Permit No. FS-7700-48 (Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation Order), specifically exempting them from this Order..
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of any organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

This prohibition is in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 C.F.R. Part 261, Subpart A. Violations of this prohibition is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both (16 USC § 551; 18 USC §§ 3551, 3559, 3571, and 3581).

Executed in Colville, Washington, this 22nd day of June, 2021.

RODNEY D SMOLDON
Forest Supervisor
Colville National Forest

Assessment of Need and Enforcement Plan

Prohibition Objective: The goal of this special order is to minimize the potential for bears and other wildlife to access human foods. Animals that have repeatedly obtained unsecured human foods can learn to associate the presence of humans with a food reward and begin to lose their natural fear of man. This can lead to human / wildlife encounters that could compromise public safety. Such encounters typically result in the removal of the offending animal by state or Federal wildlife agency enforcement officers.

Public Notification Plan: Information associated with this order will be made available to the public through media releases, at Forest Service offices, and through continuing one-on-one contacts with the public by employees of the Forest Service, contracted campground hosts/managers, and employees of the state and Federal wildlife management agencies.

Enforcement Plan: Forest Staff and Law Enforcement Officers will emphasize compliance through education and will apply normal discretion in resolving violations.

<u>Action</u>	<u>Responsible Official</u>	<u>Date</u>
Prepare proposed order	Michael Borysewicz, Wildlife Biologist	04/29/2021
Review proposed order (Law Enforcement)	Laurence Olson, Law Enforcement Officer	06/01/2021
Approve proposed order	Rodney Smoldon, Forest Supervisor	06/22/2021
Post order in accordance with 36 CFR 261.51	District Staff Officer and Staff	06/22//2021
Prepare news release for local media describing the order and management objectives	Charles Lassiter, Public Affairs Officer	06/22/2021
District staff will be responsible for the management and enforcement of this closure. Any enforcement actions will be within normal policies and procedures established by the LEI Patrol Captain for the zone.	District Staff	06/22/2021

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Exhibit A – Definitions

Acceptable storage includes the following:

1. Stored in a hard-sided vehicle that has no openings, hinges, lids, or coverings that would allow a bear to gain entry by breaking, bending, tearing, biting, or pulling with its claws. Any windows and doors in the vehicle must be securely closed.
2. Stored in a hard-sided residence, building, or storage container subject to the terms and conditions of a special-use authorization or operating plan.
3. Stored in a commercial bear-resistant container or electric fence certified through the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee Certified Bear-Resistant Equipment and Electric Fences for Public Lands http://igbconline.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/180727_Certified_Products_List.pdf.
4. Stored by other methods approved in writing issued by the Forest Supervisor responsible for the area where the method is proposed for use. Containers or fences developed for personal use may be inspected for approval by the local District Ranger or designated representative(s). See “Bear-Resistant Containers - Minimum design and structural standards inspection and testing methodology 1989” and “Electric Fence System: Requirements for Meeting the NCDE Food Storage Special Order, 1999,” or most recent Forest Service publication, for description of personal use containers or fences.
5. Suspended at least 10 feet clear of the ground at all points and 4 feet horizontally from any supporting tree or pole.

Food: Any human food, pet food, and livestock food (except baled hay, or hay cubes without additives). This definition includes foods in sealed cans or other packaging. This definition also includes harvested fish and game animals.

Beverage: Any liquid other than water that can be consumed by humans. This definition includes liquids in sealed cans, bottles, or other packaging.

Attractant: Food and beverages as defined above, animal carcasses, garbage, recycling, uncleaned coolers/cookware/utensils/grills, and bait (such as used in legal fishing and trapping). This definition includes any items which emit an odor such as scented candles or personal hygiene products (e.g. soap, toothpaste, lotion, bug spray). Bird feeders (liquid, suet or seed) are defined as an attractant.

Animal carcass: The dead body or parts thereof, of any harvested mammal, bird, or fish, including the head or skull plate with antlers or horns and hide or cape of big game animals or any dead livestock that may be found in the area encompassed by this order.

Bear-resistant storage or garbage container: A securable container constructed of a solid material capable of withstanding 200 foot-pounds of energy applied by direct impact. The container, when secured and under stress, will not have any openings greater than ¼ inch that would allow a bear to gain entry by biting or pulling with its claws. Bear-resistant containers developed commercially must be certified by the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee.

Camping/sleeping area: National Forest System lands temporarily used for the purpose of overnight occupancy or lands temporarily occupied by unattended camping equipment.