

FAQ's - SDSF 2024 Seasonal Closures

1. Why are there closures?

These closures are for public safety while forest management activities are occurring in the Sulphur Timber Harvesting Plan (THP) area and along Forest roads. Hazards include falling trees, heavy equipment, and logging trucks on single lane roads. Dangerous conditions exist including limbs hung up in trees that could fall at any time. These limbs are often referred to as "widow makers" which emphasizes how dangerous they can be.

2. Why do we need closures when the forest was closed last year?

The closures in 2023 were due to a series of powerful storms that caused significant damage to road infrastructure and hindered forest management projects. SDSF was reopened after critical emergency access repairs were completed. These repairs were also necessary to facilitate forest management for the 2024 season. Heavy equipment use in timber harvesting is only permitted during the dry season.

3. Can I ride the Flow Trail?

Until May 1 you may ride the Flow (and other trails) accessing from Ridge Trail via Aptos Creek Fire Road or Sulphur Springs Road on any day. You must stay on the road while traveling through the Sulphur THP area. AREA CLOSED signs have been posted along the roads within the Sulphur THP area. Corral Trail and Road closed February 26.

4. What happens on May 1?

Beginning May 1, all roads, all trails, and all areas within SDSF are closed all day, Monday through Friday. No recreation or visitors are allowed during these times including hiking, biking, and equestrian use. Enforcement patrols will be ongoing. You may still visit and recreate during weekends after May 1 unless things change due to hazardous conditions along roadways. Any change will be posted, and notices will be distributed.

5. How long will the weekday closures last?

Plans are to complete the forest management projects in the Sulphur THP in the 2024 season. Work should be completed by October 15, 2024, however this time frame will be evaluated and updates will be provided as the season progresses.

Information updates will be posted on SDSF sign boards and at:

- The SDSF Webpage at https://www.fire.ca.gov/What-We-Do/Natural-Resource-Management/Demonstration-State-Forests/Soquel-Demonstration-State-Forest
- CAL FIRE CZU on X @CALFIRECZU
- CAL FIRE Soquel Demonstration State Forest Facebook page @CALFIRESoquel