

A Resolution to Limit the Discharge of Firearms in Crystal Lakes/Swamp Creek Areas and portions of Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests

Whereas, the Larimer County Board of County Commissioners is authorized to designate areas in the unincorporated territory of the county, in which it is unlawful for any person to discharge firearms, except for duly authorized law enforcement officials acting in the line of duty pursuant to C.R.S. §30-15-302; and

Whereas, the Larimer County Board of County Commissioners has received testimony and other evidence that the area described below has an average population density of not less than one hundred persons per square mile; and

Whereas, the U.S. Forest Service has published a Final Decision on Recreation Sports Shooting (Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact Recreational Sport Shooting Management USDA Forest Service Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests Boulder, Clear Creek, Gilpin, Grand, Jefferson, Larimer, and Park Counties, Colorado, 6.13.2019) that may impose shooting closures on USFS lands identified in the Final Decision; and

Whereas, the Decision identifies areas in the vicinity of Crystal Lakes that may close if adaptive management efforts that include increasing or modifying education efforts for safe and legal shooting, working with the Front Range Partnership to increase shooting opportunities within public shooting ranges or implementing site-specific closures if it is determined that no other action would address a safety issue; and

Whereas, citizens within the Crystal Lakes region have identified areas they consider as unsafe for recreation shooting due to close proximity of dwellings, livestock and other recreation areas; and

Whereas, the adaptive management program identified in the Final Decision has not been fully implemented and it is unknown if additional education efforts or other solutions will address unsafe shooting practices; and

Whereas, the Larimer County Board of County Commissioners held a public hearing on January, 11, 2021, to consider a temporary closure of the area described. The temporary closure will allow for adaptive management plans to be designed and implemented, while addressing public safety and welfare concerns raised by citizens; and

Whereas, the Larimer County Board of County Commissioners has determined that temporary closure of the described area to the discharge of firearms would promote the public health, safety and welfare,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

I. Use of Firearms

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge firearms, as defined in paragraph two, herein, except a duly authorized law enforcement officer acting in the line of duty except that nothing in this resolution shall prevent the discharge of any firearm in shooting galleries; on any private grounds or residence under circumstances when such firearm can be discharged in such a manner as not to endanger persons or property and also in such a

manner as to prevent the projectile from any such firearm from traversing any grounds or space outside the limits of such shooting gallery, grounds, or residence; or for hunting with a current valid hunting license, in such a manner as not to endanger persons or property.

- B. Nothing in this resolution shall be construed to restrict or otherwise affect any person's constitutional right to bear arms or his right to the defense of his person, his family, or his property.

II. Firearms include:

- A. Firearm(s): any pistol, revolver, rifle, or other weapon of any description from which any shot, projectile or bullet may be discharged.
- B. Projectile(s): includes any arrows, shot from a bow of any type.

III. Closed Area

The area closed to shooting under this resolution shall be:

- One half mile on each side of Deadman Road (CR86) east of the Killpecker Road (FSR 300), including the areas surrounding FSR 501, 501.3 and 502, as well as the first half mile of FSR 309.
- National Forest adjacent to County Road 73C and Tiny Bob Road in Township 10N, Range 74W, Sections 24.

The designated closed areas are also identified on the map attached as Exhibit "A" and incorporated and made a part of this Resolution by this reference. To the extent there are any conflicts between the legal descriptions above and Exhibit "A", the legal descriptions above shall control.

IV. Penalties

- A. Any person who violates this resolution is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction therefore, shall be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars. §30-15-303, C.R.S.
- B. It is the duty of the sheriff and his undersheriffs and deputies for unincorporated Larimer County to enforce a violation of this resolution. §30-15-304, C.R.S.

V. Effective Period

- A. This Resolution shall be effective January 11, 2021 through December 31, 2021, but may be extended upon public hearing and finding that the identified safety issues remain.