

IPWA SUMMER PATROLS - Active Violations Reporting

IPWA Board Review & Approval: 7/10/2023

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Active Violations are actions observed that violate wilderness regulations. There are four types of violations/situations described below, with information about what to do, how to report, and examples. The four types are:

1. No Report Needed
2. Non-Actionable Violation
3. Actionable Violation
4. Dangerous/Emergency Situations

If you are not sure how the action you've observed should be reported, include a description in your trip report and contact Summer Patrol Coordinator as soon as possible (unless it's clearly an emergency situation).

"Extended Period of Time": rather than give a specific number of hours you think a violation may be happening, we have used the phrase "extended period of time". This is of course a judgement call depending on the situation. Elements to keep in mind are:

- How long it will take you to make the report to US Forest Service (USFS);
- How long it will take a Ranger to arrive at the location of the violation (typically 4+ hours);
- How long the violation will be occurring.

In general, don't hesitate to report to USFS Wilderness Ranger if you feel it's important to follow up.

1. No Report Needed

DO: Count & include in patrol report

- Dogs off leash

2. Non-Actionable Violations (Ranger usually cannot arrive in time to assess)

DO: Include in patrol report indicating "violation to report" with a brief explanation of actions observed.

EXAMPLES:

- Group >12 and/or organized group (hiking)
- Mushroom collecting
- Picking flowers
- Going off trail
- Harassing wildlife
- Aggressive dogs
- Drone activity
- Bikes on trail
- Illegal shooting (within 150 ft of trail, or across the trail, or open containers of alcohol present)

NOTE: If it seems likely that the activity will be occurring for an extended period of time, any of these violations can be considered as "Actionable" - see section 3, below.

Example:

You are starting your hike and encounter an aggressive dog 1/2 mile inside wilderness boundary (hikers heading out). This would be considered non-actionable.

Example:

You are finishing your hike & almost back to the parking lot when you encounter a group of 4 people on mountain bikes heading into the wilderness. They say they plan a big all-day loop and are unconcerned when informed that bikes are not allowed in the Wilderness. This would be considered "Actionable" (see section below).

3. Actionable Violations

Definition:

- Activity likely to be occurring for an extended period of time
- Ranger may be able to arrive in time to assess
- All instances of an active illegal campfire, regardless of whether it was extinguished or not
- Visitor was not approached, or visitor was uncooperative and did not cease violation

DO:

1. Try to attain cell service; send group text to Summer Patrol Coordinator(s) and USFS Wilderness Ranger with details of violation (see contact info, below). Include in the text: your name, specific location details, time, actions observed, outcome of any contact made. Try to safely and discreetly collect helpful identifiers, such as: Do they have dogs? What kinds? Description of height, gender, hair color, clothing, tent/gear type & colors, any vehicle description and license plate information. [Even if a Ranger cannot respond in time, collecting publicly available information (usually vehicle-related) allows the Forest Service to follow up with a citation at a later date].
2. Try to stay within cell service in case of extra details needed from Summer Patrol Coordinator and/or USFS Wilderness Ranger.
3. Report violation in trail report with any additional information

TOP PRIORITY EXAMPLES:

- **Active illegal campfire**
- **Illegal campsite**
- **Disruptive behavior**
- **Intentional disregard of regulations**
- **Dogs threatening visitors or wildlife**

OTHER EXAMPLES:

- Dogs off leash at campsite
- Group >12 and/or organized group (camping)
- Motorized vehicle in wilderness (except wheelchairs)

Note: Report these types of violations to USFS Wilderness Ranger even if the timeframe does not allow summoning a ranger. If visitor ceases the *non-campfire violation*, it should be reported in your usual patrol report but DOES NOT need to be reported to USFS.

4.

Example of Notification Text:

"IPWA, Emily Herrington. There is an illegal campsite with campfire 1.5 miles from Long Lake TH on Pawnee Pass Trail, South side 20 ft. from trail near 2nd switchback, seen at 10am. Four campers with two dogs, one yellow lab, one black mix. One Blue tent. 2 males & 2 females approx 30 yrs old, Men short dark hair, women 1 blond long hair, 1 short brown hair. Uncooperative when regulation and reasons for regulation were communicated."

Dangerous/Emergency Situations: Danger to the public and/or affects large area of forest

DO: Ensure personal safety, get to Trailhead and contact 911 as quickly as possible

EXAMPLES:

- Life threatening activities
- People acting violently towards others
- People threatening harm (themselves or others)
- Wildfire

Non-Wilderness violations:

Dangerous activities should be handled as described in section 4, above: Ensure personal safety, get to Trailhead and contact 911 as quickly as possible.

Many of the activities which are a violation in Wilderness are NOT violations in National Forest. Check regulations for the specific location. Parking lot or National Forest suspicious activities can be reported to Law Enforcement Officer.

CONTACT INFORMATION - Summer 2023:

Name	Phone #	Title
Aaron Swain	317-407-0489	Summer Patrol Coordinator
Sara Raley	303-475-1918	Asst. Summer Patrol Coordinator
Mary Kalendovsky	303-494-1300 (personal cell -ONLY for Actionable Violations - text or leave voice message) 303-541-2530 (office - msg only)	USFS Wilderness Ranger
Chase Melching	303-541-2513 (offc) (use Bldr or Gilpin County Sheriff Dispatch numbers, below, for quicker response from Chase)	Law Enforcement Officer
IPW: Boulder County Sheriff's Dispatch	303-441-4444	
JPW: Gilpin County Sheriff's Dispatch	303-582-5511 or 303-582-5500	