

**Seasonal Closure:**

El Dorado County would implement a seasonal closure when the following conditions are present on the Rubicon Trail:

Flowing water on the trail capable of rinsing contaminants from vehicle components and/or capable of transporting sediment generated from mechanical tire action on the Rubicon Trail. Field observations and measurements would focus on the following Rubicon Trail segments: Wentworth Springs Campground/Gerle Meadows, Postpile Grade, Ellis Creek Tie/Rubicon Trail Intersection, Ellis Creek Area east of Ellis bridge site, Walker Hill, Soup Bowl, Winter Camp, and Little Sluice areas due to the elevation and geographic position along the trail, sensitivity to disturbance, degraded condition, and proximity to hydrologic features.

If field observations do not otherwise warrant vehicle travel the trail will be closed from January 1 to March 31.

**Monitoring:**

Monitoring to determine if a closure is necessary would begin on December 1 and continue until June 1. The monitoring period may be extended or shortened depending on conditions that may vary from year to year. Monitoring will be conducted by El Dorado County Department of Transportation, Eldorado National Forest, and CVRWQCB staff and will include remote (office) monitoring and field (observations and measurements) monitoring. Remote monitoring will be conducted from the office to determine if field visits are warranted. For example, historic and current climatic (temperature and precipitation) data and hydrologic data (e.g. USGS, SMUD: stage height, discharge) will be used to make the field visit determination, along with professional judgment. When field visits are necessary, observations and measurements taken in the field will be used to determine if a closure is needed based on the potential for adverse impacts to water quality (e.g. contaminant rinsing, turbidity, sediment delivery, active mechanical erosion). Conditions that warrant a closure include flowing water on the trail capable of rinsing contaminants from vehicle components and/or capable of transporting sediment generated or released from mechanical tire action on the Rubicon Trail. When field monitoring determines that the conditions no longer exist the seasonal closure would be lifted.