
File Code: 1950
Date: February 12, 2016

To: SOPA Respondents and Other Interested Individuals, Organizations, and Agencies

The Almanor Ranger District of the Lassen National Forest is initiating scoping for the High Lakes Motorized Trail Reroutes and Staging Area Improvements project. Enclosed is a copy of the proposed action, purpose and need, and decision to be made.

The Almanor Ranger District proposes the following actions:

1. Reroute five trail segments out of impacted riparian areas.
2. Construct rock causeways on the 613 trail through wet areas adjacent to Campbell and Long Lakes to restore hydrologic function and reduce sedimentation. Approximately 200 feet of causeway would be constructed near Campbell Lake and approximately 270 feet of causeway would be constructed near Long Lake.
3. Restore or improve dispersed camping and recreation areas not meeting best management practices. Activities could include placement of barriers, erosion control measures, reestablishment of natural vegetation, and tillage.
4. Move three poorly sited camp fire rings that are close to Campbell and Long Lakes, and one campfire ring from the Northeast end of Long Lake that would no longer be accessible by OHV due to a proposed re-route. Campfire rings would remain in the general vicinity of the lakes.
5. Develop a trailhead with overnight camping at the intersection of Forest roads 25N05 and 25N04. The facility design would meet the Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) and Forest Service Outdoor Recreation Accessibility Guidelines (FSORAG) design standards.

The High Lakes Motorized Trail Reroutes and Staging Area Improvements project is subject to the Pre-decisional Administrative Review (Objection) process described under 36 CFR 218 (published 3/27/2013 in the Federal Register), subparts A & B for non-Healthy Forests Restoration Act projects. To be eligible to object to an environmental assessment (EA) under this regulation, an individual or organization must *submit timely and specific written comments regarding the proposed project during scoping or any other public comment period established by the responsible official* (36 CFR 218.5(a)). The commenter is responsible to provide any literature cited in their comment, as well as the full citation and explanation of how each piece of literature cited applies to the proposed action. A 30-day legal notice and comment period will be provided for this project. A 45-day objection period prior to a decision being made will follow, rather than a post-decisional appeal period.

I request your input as it relates to the proposed action and identification of any issues (point of discussion, debate, or dispute) about the anticipated effects from this proposed action. I also request that you respond in writing before March 9, 2016, so your input can be considered as we



move into the next phase of the NEPA process. Your response must be in writing to have standing during the objection period for this project.

Comments, written or oral, may be submitted to me, Kathleen Nelson, District Ranger, Almanor Ranger District, 900 E. Highway 36, PO Box 767, Chester, CA 96020, 530-258-2141, or by facsimile to 530-258-5194, during normal business hours. The Almanor Ranger District business hours are from 8am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday. Electronic comments, in acceptable plain text (.txt), rich text (.rtf), or Word (.doc) formats, may be submitted to: comments-pacificsouthwest-lassen-almanor@fs.fed.us with Subject: High Lakes Motorized Trail Reroutes and Staging Area Improvements.

A decision regarding this proposal is expected in December, 2016. Thank you for your interest and participation in the environmental analysis process. For more information on the project, please contact Doug Peters, Forest Soil Scientist, by phone at (530)-252-6456 or email at dwpeters@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,

for

KATHLEEN NELSON
District Ranger

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