



File Code: 1920

Date: September 14, 2015

Dear Interested Participant:

The Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest is giving notice of opportunity to submit objections to the Travel Management Plan Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) and draft Record of Decision (dROD) for the Motorized Vehicle Use. The FSEIS and dROD are available electronically on the project website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php/?project=33404>. If not included herein, you may also request a paper or electronic copy.

This FSEIS and dROD wholly replaces the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Record of Decision (ROD) for Motorized Travel that was completed in 2009. This project covers the entire Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest. The FSEIS discloses the environmental impacts associated with five alternatives for managing wheeled motor vehicle use on the forest. As the Forest Supervisor, I am responsible for the preliminary and final decisions for this project. My preliminary decision is a modified version of Alternative 5, which proposes to designate a system of roads, trails, and areas available for motor vehicle use on the Forest to fulfill the requirements of Subpart B of the Travel Management Rule.

This modified alternative would designate 4,479 miles of roads open to the general public, with 3,141 miles open to mixed use including both highway-legal and off-highway vehicles. There would also be 183 miles of motorized trails, a 15 acre off-highway play area (Woodruff) on the High Cascades District and cross-country travel would be closed on 274,670 acres. A detailed description of my decision and my rationale for choosing it are contained in the dROD and its attachments. I utilized the information in the FSEIS and its supporting documents to inform my decision.

My modifications to Alternative 5 are based on field visits to the project area, input from the interdisciplinary team, and comments received from both public and private sources. I focused my modifications on the reduction of potential impacts to botanical, wildlife, soil, and water resources, as well as potential conflicts with non-motorized recreation. Refer to the dROD for a full description of the 9 modifications on pages 2-4.

How to object: This Travel Management Plan and Forest Plan Amendments proposed decision is subject to pre-decisional administrative review (objection) pursuant to 36 CFR 218, Subparts A and B. This draft decision includes forest plan amendments that apply only to the project and activity. Full instructions on how to file an objection, pursuant to 36 CFR 218, are contained in the dROD on pages 21-22. Only individuals or organizations that previously submitted "specific written comments" may object (36 CFR 218.5). The 45-day objection period will begin the day following publication of the legal notice in the *Medford Mail Tribune*, Medford, Oregon.

Because I am the responsible official for this project, the reviewing officer for the FSEIS will be the Regional Forester. The objection process includes an opportunity for objectors to meet with me and the reviewing officer to resolve issues brought forward. After the reviewing officer has completed a written objection response, I will finalize and sign my decision. My decision must be consistent with any instructions issued by the reviewing officer.



If you have questions about the project or require documents, please contact David Krantz, Forest Planner, at (541) 618-2126 or Peggy O'Keefe, Project Lead, at (541) 471-6747.

Sincerely,



ROBERT G. MACWHORTER
Forest Supervisor