

Notice of 45-day Opportunity to Object, Motorized Vehicle Use on the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest

As the responsible official, I have prepared a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) and draft Record of Decision (dROD) for the Motorized Vehicle Use on the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest. 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. The project discloses the environmental impacts associated with five alternatives for managing motor vehicle use on the Forest. My preliminary selection is a modified version of Alternative 5 (preferred alternative) in the FSEIS of August, 2015. 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. The draft ROD, FSEIS, and supporting documents are available at: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=33404. For additional information, please contact Peggy O'Keefe (Project Leader) or David Krantz (Forest Planner) at the Forest Supervisor's office, 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, OR 97504; telephone (541) 618-2200.

This preliminary decision is subject to objections pursuant to 36 CFR 218 subparts A and B. Only individuals or organizations that submitted specific written comments during a designated opportunity for public participation (scoping or the 45-day public comment period for the 2009 EIS or the 2011 DSEIS) may object (36 CFR 218.5). Objections must meet the requirements in 36 CFR 218.8(d). Incorporation of documents by reference is permitted only as provided for at 36 CFR 218.8(b). Names and addresses of objectors will become part of the public record.

Timely filing: It is the objector's responsibility to insure timely filing (36 CFR 218.9 and 218.26). Objections must be filed with the reviewing officer within 45 days following the publication date of the legal notice of opportunity to object in the Medford Mail Tribune. This publication date is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an objection. Those wishing to file an objection should not rely upon dates or timeframes provided by any other source.

Mail objections to: Regional Forester, Objection Reviewing Officer, Pacific Northwest Region, Attn: 1570 Appeals, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208-3623. Mailed objections must be postmarked by the end of the objection period and received before close of the fifth business day following the end of the objection period (36 CFR 218.9).

Email objections to: objections-pnw-regional-office@fs.fed.us. Electronic submittals must contain the project's name and the objector's name, address, and phone number, if available, and either a scanned signature or other verification of authorship upon request. Electronic objections must be submitted as part of the actual e-mail message or as an attachment in Microsoft Word (.doc), rich text format (.rtf), or portable document (.pdf) format only. E-mails submitted to an e-mail address other than the one listed above, in other formats than those listed, or containing viruses will be rejected. For emailed objections, the sender should receive an automated electronic acknowledgement from the agency as confirmation of receipt. If the sender does not receive an automated acknowledgement of the receipt of the objection, it is the sender's responsibility to ensure timely receipt by other means.

Hand-deliver objections to: Pacific Northwest Regional Office, 1220 SW 3rd Avenue, Portland, Oregon, between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday except legal holidays. Note that this is a new physical address as of September, 2013.

Fax objections to: Regional Forester, Attn: 1570 Objections at (503) 808-2339. Please verify receipt.

Robert G. MacWhorter, Forest Supervisor and Responsible Official, Rogue River- Siskiyou National Forest

September 17, 2015