

**LEGAL NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
TAHOE NATIONAL FOREST OVER-SNOW VEHICLE USE DESIGNATION
and FOREST PLAN AMENDMENT
USDA FOREST SERVICE**

The Forest Service has conducted an environmental analysis of the Tahoe National Forest Over-snow Vehicle (OSV) Use Designation Project. A draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) is now available online at the Tahoe National Forest website at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=45914>.

The Forest Service proposes to designate snow trails and areas for public OSV use on the Tahoe National Forest. These designations would occur on National Forest System snow trails and areas on National Forest System lands within the Tahoe National Forest. The Forest Service would also identify snow trails where grooming for public OSV use would occur within the Tahoe National Forest. An amendment to the Tahoe National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP 1990) is needed contemporaneously with the approval of a decision regarding public OSV use to: (1) appropriately place planning, analysis, and decision-making for OSV use at the project level and (2) ensure this Project is consistent with the LRMP as amended (36 CFR 219.15(c)(4)).

The Forest Supervisor of the Tahoe National Forest is the responsible official for the Tahoe National Forest OSV Use Designation project and for the proposed forest plan amendment. Public open houses for this DEIS are scheduled as follows:

April 24, 2018 at the Sierraville Ranger District Office (317 South Lincoln St, Sierraville, CA 96126) from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

May 2, 2018 at the Auburn Holiday Inn (120 Grass Valley Highway, Auburn, CA 95603) from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Additional information regarding this Project can be obtained from Joe Chavez, Forest Trails and Recreation Specialist for the Tahoe National Forest, at 530-478-6158.

The Tahoe National Forest Over-Snow Vehicle Use Designation is an activity implementing a land management plan. Therefore, it is subject to the pre-decisional administrative review process (objection process) pursuant to 36 CFR 218, subparts A and B.

Pursuant to 36 CFR 218.25, comments on the Tahoe National Forest OSV Use Designation DEIS will be accepted for 45 days beginning on the first day after the date of publication of the Notice of Availability of this DEIS in the Federal Register. The Notice of Availability for the Tahoe OSV Use Designation DEIS was published in the Federal Register on April 13, 2018. If the comment period ends on a Saturday, Sunday or Federal holiday, comments will be accepted until the end of the next Federal working day. The publication date of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for this proposal. You should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

Only individuals or entities (as defined by 36 CFR 218.2) who submit timely and specific written comments about this proposed project during this or another public comment period established by the Responsible Official will be eligible to file an objection. Comments should be within the scope of the proposed action, have a direct relationship to the proposed action, and must include supporting reasons for the Responsible Official to consider (36 CFR 218.2). Other eligibility requirements are defined by 36 CFR 218.25(a)(3) and include name, postal address, title of the project and signature or other verification of identity upon request and the identity of the individual or entity who authored the comments. Individual members of an entity must submit their own individual comments in order to have eligibility to object as an individual. A timely submission will be determined as outlined in 36 CFR 218.25(a)(4). It is the responsibility of the sender to ensure timely receipt of any comments submitted.

Information received in response to this solicitation, including names, addresses, email addresses, and phone numbers of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, the agency will not be able to provide subsequent documents to people who submit comments anonymously, and they will not have standing to file an objection.

Send comments to: Joe Chavez, on behalf of Eli Ilano, Forest Supervisor, Tahoe National Forest, 631 Coyote Street, Nevada City, CA 95959; (530) 478-6158. Comments may also be sent via facsimile to 530-478-6109, submitted on the project website at http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=45914, or sent via email to tahoe_nf_comments@fs.fed.us, with the email's subject line, "Comments on Tahoe OSV Designation." Office hours, for those who wish to hand deliver their written comments, are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday (except Federal holidays). Acceptable formats for electronic comments are text or html e-mail, Adobe portable document format, and formats viewable in Microsoft Office applications (.doc or .docx).

Additional information regarding this project can be obtained from Joe Chavez, Forest Trails and Recreation Specialist for the Tahoe National Forest, at 530-478-6205.

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