



File Code: 1950
Date: August 16, 2019

Dear Interested Participant,

The Plumas National Forest (PNF) proposes to designate National Forest System (NFS) trails and open areas for public over-snow vehicle (OSV) use, and has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and draft Record of Decision (draft ROD) for this designation. You are receiving this letter because you submitted comments during the scoping or comment periods of this process, and the PNF is providing an opportunity to file an objection to the proposed decision. The objection period begins the day after Wednesday, August 21, 2019, when the opportunity to object legal notice is published in the Feather River Bulletin. For more details about the objection process please see the enclosure.

This draft ROD selects alternative 2 - modified, which designates approximately 858,436 acres (74 percent) of NFS lands in the PNF for cross-country OSV use. Alternative 2 – modified reduces available NFS lands by 25 percent. Designating NFS lands within open areas includes 2,753 miles of undesignated, unmarked, ungroomed, underlying roads and trails within designated OSV-use areas, which are primarily above 3,500 feet elevation.

Currently, the PNF allows OSV use on approximately 1.15 million acres of NFS land. Of these acres, 115,527 are at an elevation below 3,500 feet and not regularly available for OSV use due to lack of snow. Removing acres of NFS land below 3,500 feet from the existing condition results in 1,032,298 acres regularly available for OSV use. Selection of alternative 2 - modified would result in a functional reduction of 173,862 acres (17%) from the existing condition regularly available for OSV use. Alternative 2 – modified also retains 100 percent of currently groomed OSV trails and increases ungroomed OSV trails by approximately 370 percent.

The draft ROD designates approximately 226 miles of OSV trails, including approximately 143 miles of trails available for grooming and 83 miles of trails not available for grooming. Approximately 67 additional miles of non-NFS trails are managed for OSV under the jurisdiction of Plumas and Sierra Counties, including approximately 60 miles of trails available for grooming (County roads) and 7 miles of trails not available for grooming (County roads). The NFS also manages approximately 1.4 miles of OSV trails that cross private lands and are available for grooming.

The FEIS and draft ROD can be found at:
http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=47124. Please contact Katherine Carpenter, Environmental Coordinator and Project Leader, at (530)-283-7742 or katherine.carpenter@usda.gov for more information or to request specific materials.



Thank you for your continued interest in the Plumas National Forest; we appreciate your help managing our forests to benefit our communities, visitors, and future users.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Carlton", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

CHRISTOPHER CARLTON
Forest Supervisor
Plumas National Forest

Enclosure – Administrative Appeal or Objection Opportunities Information