

Sprouts

Forest Service Revises Appeal Procedures

The Forest Service is responsible for managing 192 million acres in National Forests, National Grasslands, and other areas known collectively as the National Forest System. The Chief of the Forest Service, through a line organization of regional foresters, forest supervisors and district rangers, manages the surface resources and, in some instances, the subsurface resources of these lands.

A process for notice, comment, and appeal of National Forest System projects and activities was mandated by Section 322 of Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act of Fiscal Year 1993 (Pub. L. 102-381, 106 Stat. 1419) (hereinafter "Appeals Reform Act" [ARA]), with implementing regulations promulgated on November 4, 1993 at 36 CFR part 215 (58 FR 58904).

The Forest Service has been working with the appeal regulations for site-specific projects at 36 CFR 215 since 1993. Experience has shown the need for a more effective process that encourages early and meaningful public participation providing useful comments before decisions are made, and a process that is less confusing and more efficient.

On December 18, 2002, the Forest Service published a proposal to amend the rule at 36 CFR part 215 (67 FR 77451). A 60-day comment period was provided. In addition, the Forest Service gave direct notice of the proposed amendment and

invited comment from more than 150 national organizations and Federal agencies. Approximately 25,000 comment letters were received from individuals; representatives of Federal, State, and local government agencies; environmental groups; Indian tribes; professional associations; and both commodity and non-commodity industry groups. All suggestions and comments were reviewed and considered in preparation of the final rule.

The revised rule changes the procedures to clarify and reduce the complexity of certain provisions, to improve efficiency of processing appeals, to encourage early and effective public participation in the environmental analysis of projects and activities, and to ensure consistency with the provisions of the statutory authority. Changes address emergency situations; notice and comment procedures and time periods; substantive comments; who may appeal; Deciding Officers; content of an appeal; and the formal disposition process.

The revised rule became effective on June 4, 2003. The new comment and appeal rule (36 CFR 215) is available on the following web site: <http://www.fs.fed.us/emc/applit/36cfr215.htm>.

Forest-Wide Projects

Roads Analysis

Contact: Dick Yoder

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A Forest-wide Roads Analysis has been completed for the Mt. Hood National Forest. It is available on the Forest web site at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood> under Forest Publications.

The Forest currently manages approximately 3450 miles of roads. Not included in this total are the 410 miles of roads that have been decommissioned in the past decade. Forest Service budgets during the last decade have not kept pace with what it costs to maintain all the roads so that they are safe and functioning properly. The trend of declining budgets is expected to continue. Meanwhile, the public that uses the road network expect the Forest Service to keep roads open and free of safety hazards. There is also an expectation among segments of the public that roads be closed or decommissioned where they put resources at risk.

The opportunities to manage the current road system to better address future needs, budgets, and environmental concerns include: decommissioning, closing to vehicles, reconstructing, changing maintenance levels or continuing current management.

As outlined in the USDA Roads Analysis Guide, the costs in terms of environmental risk and damage of roads are compared, integrated and balanced against the uses and benefits of roads. This is done to develop a set of prioritized opportunities for managing the road system to meet Forest Plan objectives. Roads Analysis is not a decision making process, however the opportunities identified with the analysis may lead to proposals that initiate the Federal decision making process under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Tamarack Rock Quarry Expansion EIS

Contact: Mike Redmond

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The Proposed Action includes expansion of the existing Tamarack rock quarry (formerly called Mud Creek) on approximately 60 acres of National Forest System land. The proposal may also include road improvements on the access road to the quarry. The rock excavated from the quarry would be used over time by the Forest Service and the Oregon Department of Transportation to help meet the long-term needs of maintenance, and reconstruction of roads in the Mt. Hood area.

The project area is located approximately 4 miles south of Government Camp, in Section 2, T.4S, R.8-1/2E, Willamette Meridian, Clackamas County, Oregon. The project area does not include any wilderness, roadless areas, wild and scenic rivers, late successional reserves, or riparian reserves.

Some of the preliminary issues that have been identified include visual quality as seen from key view points on the Forest, and traffic management conflict between commercial use and recreation.

The draft EIS is planned to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and available for public review by September 2003. The EPA will publish a Notice of Availability (NOA) of the draft EIS in the Federal Register. The comment period on the draft EIS will be 45 days from the date the NOA appears in the Federal Register.

40/60 – Project may create openings-larger than the 40 or 60 acre limitations stipulated by the National Forest Management Act, 36 CFR 219.27. Such creation requires 60 day public notification and approval of the Regional Forester.

CCF – 100 cubic feet

CE – Categorical Exclusion

EA – Environmental Assessment

EIS – Environmental Impact Statement

MBF – 1,000 board feet

MMBF – 1,000,000 board feet

NEPA – National Environmental Policy Act

VEG – This symbol indicates a project that may include treatment of unwanted vegetation. When a site-specific project to prevent or treat unwanted vegetation is being considered, the official responsible for that project is to notify the public.

Forest-Wide Projects

Watershed Restoration 2003

Contact: John Dodd

Hood River Ranger Station,

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Email: jdodd@fs.fed.us

In the last issue of *Sprouts* we described a project called Watershed Restoration 2003. At this time we have a list of projects that are in the developmental stage. We still must do field surveys for plants and animals and heritage resources, as well as other detailed analyses of the costs, impacts and benefits of the projects. The final list of projects may be pared down somewhat depending on what we find. The following is intended to give you a feel for the types of projects being considered.

- **Fish Passage Projects**

Certain culverts at road/stream crossings partially or totally block fish passage. Includes culvert replacement or culvert removal so that fish can get through to access habitat on the other side. Includes 53 culverts.

- **Ditch to Pipe Conversions**

Irrigation ditches leak and occasionally wash out. Pipes would be installed to transport water, reducing seepage and erosion. Includes Wolf Run Ditch and Lyda's Ditch.

- **Fencing**

Includes fencing of meadows and sensitive areas to control the movement of livestock. Two fences are included.

- **Wildlife and Vegetation Management Projects**

- Oaks would be released by cutting small conifers.
- Snags would be created from live trees by girdling, topping, and heart rot inoculation.
- Down Woody Debris would be created by felling trees in areas that are deficient.
- Roads would be closed to reduce harassment.
- Meadows would be restored by removing encroaching young conifers.

- **Rock Quarry and Gravel Stockpile Restoration**
Includes the addition of soil, reestablishment of natural drainage patterns and revegetation. Three areas would be restored.
- **In-stream Projects**
Includes the addition of logs or boulders into streams to create pools and improve diversity.
- **Riparian Projects**
Includes riparian planting and thinning in the dry upland areas near streams.
- **Road Stabilization and Repair**
Includes deep patch repairs of cracking and sinking roadways, resurfacing and erosion control. Twenty-three miles of roads would be repaired.
- **Road Decommissioning**
Includes the removal of gravel and culverts (if any) and deep ripping, water barring, and revegetating. Twelve miles of roads would be decommissioned.

Project descriptions and maps are available at the Mt. Hood National Forest web site. Look under Forest Projects at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood>.

It is anticipated that an Environmental Assessment will be completed sometime in 2003.

We are continuing to implement the restoration projects from last year's EA as funding becomes available. Last year's EA and the prioritization model can be viewed at our web site under Forest Publications.

Barlow Ranger District Projects

Juncrock Planning Area

Contact: *Becky Nelson*

Phone: (541) 467-2291

Email: bnelson01@fs.fed.us

The draft EIS has been completed. It is available on the internet at www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood. It is also available in hard copy form or in PDF format on CD. For your copy, contact Becky Nelson at 541-467-2291. Individuals who have given comments have been sent a Notice of Availability. Comments should be received at the Barlow Ranger District Office by October 27, 2003. Send comments to Becky Nelson, 780 Court Street, Dufur, OR 97021.

Knebal Springs Trail Reconstruction

Contact: *Dennis Beechler*

Phone: (541) 328-6211

Email: dbeechler@fs.fed.us

The project review team has been out in the field and has relocated the proposed trail, and is shortening the reconstruction length. The existing trail is open to horses, mountain bikes, and hikers. Relocation will minimize trail maintenance and provide a better recreation experience. The crossings will be constructed on the existing trail. One will be a two stringer decked bridge and the other will consist of cobble placed in the streambed itself. Both of these stream crossings will reduce the amount of sedimentation into Fivemile Creek. Work is continuing on this project.

Pen Creek Underburn (2,500 acres)

Contact: *Joel Pomeroy*

Phone: (541) 352-6002

Email: jpomeroy@fs.fed.us

Formally known as **East of 27 #2**, this underburn is located between Tygh Creek and Jordan Creek on the Barlow Ranger District. The purpose is to re-introduce fire back into the ecosystem, reduce the natural accumulation of litter and enhance the fire dependent native grasses, forbs and shrub species. A public comment period for this project will be available early spring 2004 and required surveys should be completed by the fall 2004. Expected completion date for the CE is the fall or winter of 2004 with completion of the project expected by spring or fall of 2005.

Swisher/West Gobbler Underburns (1,480 acres)

Contact: *Joel Pomeroy*

Phone: (541) 352-6002

Email: jpomeroy@fs.fed.us

Analysis of the two underburn areas is continuing. The purpose of these underburns is to introduce fire back into the ecosystem to reduce the natural accumulation of litter, reduce the bark build-up around the base of large ponderosa pines and to enhance the fire dependent native grasses, forbs and shrub species. Underburning would reduce the risk of a stand replacing fire, enhance deer and elk forage quantity and quality and protect large ponderosa pine trees from the effects of future fires. These underburns are consistent with the 10-year Comprehensive Strategy Implementation Plan for the protection of the wildland/urban interface. Required surveys have been completed and final field verifications are taking place. A public comment period was available this summer and the expected completion date of the CE is this fall followed by another 45 day public comment period. Completion of the project is planned for spring or fall of 2004.

Sportsman's Park Fuel Modification (250 Acres)

Contact: *Joel Pomeroy*

Phone: (541) 352-6002

Email: jpomeroy@fs.fed.us

The purpose of this project is to increase fire suppression effectiveness and firefighter safety while reducing the probability of damage from a wildfire to the community of Sportsman's Park. Reducing the number of small trees and brush around Sportsman Park would reduce the threat of a crown fire and provide a defensible space for firefighters.

Project boundaries would encompass up to 1500 feet around the perimeter of Sportsman's Park. Treatment may include both mechanical and prescribed fire prescriptions. This project is consistent with the 10-year Comprehensive Strategy Implementation Plan for the protection of the wildland/urban interface. Required surveys will be completed next summer with project completion sometime in 2004 or 2005. A public comment period will be available in the spring of 2004.

Barlow Ranger District Projects

Long Prairie Grazing Allotment

*Contact: Dan Fissell
Phone: (541) 467-5117
Email: dfissell@fs.fed.us*

An Environmental Assessment is scheduled for this grazing allotment during 2004. This analysis will determine the level and intensity of grazing management within this allotment. The plan will also identify restoration opportunities. The Decision Notice is anticipated in the summer/fall of 2004.

Log Stringer Bridge Removal and Possible Re- placement

*Contact: Ken Huskey
Phone: (541) 467-5117
Email: khuskey@fs.fed.us*

The three bridges are located on the east side of the Mt Hood National Forest. Holes in the decking, surface and subgrade failures at the approaches, and advanced rot in structural members have resulted in vehicle closures of these bridges for safety concerns.

The East Fork Salmon River Bridge, Forest Development Road (FDR) 3500220, and Klinger Bridge, FDR 4300221, are located on the Hood River District. The Cedar Creek Bridge, FDR 2730160 is located on the Barlow District.

To be determined is if there is a need to replace the bridges and when. Also to be determined is at what Traffic Service Level and Maintenance Level the roads would need to be to meet resource objectives for the National Forest Lands accessed by these roads. One possible alternative would be to include decommissioning and changing the roads to trails.

Wildlife Guzzlers on the Ramsey Creek Parcel

*Contact: Rich Thurman
Phone: 541-467-2201
Email: rthurman@fs.fed.us*

This proposed project would install two wildlife guzzlers on the Ramsey Creek parcel in T 2S, R 12E, Sec. 16 & 17. Water is in short supply on this ridge and guzzlers would benefit all wildlife, especially deer and wild turkeys. NEPA is planned for the spring or summer of 2004. The proposed installations of the guzzlers would occur in the fall of 2004 or summer of 2005.

Clackamas River Ranger District Projects

Thinning Program

Second-growth stands across the District are being examined for thinning opportunities. At this time four planning areas are moving forward into the early stages of environmental analysis. Descriptions of the purpose and need, and the details of the proposed action including maps and photos are available on the Forest web site: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood/> under Forest Projects.

- **Upper Clackamas Area**

700 Acres

Contact: *Jim Roden*

Phone: (503) 630-8722

Email: jroden@fs.fed.us

- **South Fork Clackamas and Clear Creek Area**

590 Acres

Contact: *Jim Roden*

Phone: (503) 630-8722

Email: jroden@fs.fed.us

- **Oak Grove Area**

970 Acres

Contact: *Jim Roden*

Phone: (503) 630-8722

Email: jroden@fs.fed.us

- **Collawash Area**

340 Acres

Contact: *Jim Roden*

Phone: (503) 630-8722

Email: jroden@fs.fed.us

Clackamas Snow Park

Contact: *Burnham Chamberlain*

Phone: (503) 630-8716

Email: bchamberlain@fs.fed.us

The Mt. Hood Snowmobile Club has requested the use of an area to use for parking and unloading snowmobiles. Three sites are being examined for their suitability including the Squirrel Quarry, located at the junction of road 46 and 4690, the Wall site at the junction of 1680 and 4680120, and the Cabin Creek site at the junction of road 4661 and 4661130. This will involve the plowing of snow in a deer and elk winter range area that has traditionally been plowed for timber sales. Each site is different in terms of the quantity of snow plowing and the impact to wintering deer and elk. The snowmobile routes are at higher elevations outside of the deer and elk winter range area.

Olallie Lake Resort Defensible Space

Contact: *Craig Edberg*

Phone: (503) 630-8786

Email: cedberg@fs.fed.us

Fire hazard is high in the Olallie Lake area due to buildup of fuels. The lake and the improvements around the lake, and the public that use the area are at risk from wildfire. This project involves the creation of a defensible space from fire around the Olallie Lake Resort and Paul Dennis Campground. This would entail making a 500-foot wide shaded fuel break around the east and north sides of the historic resort and campground. The treatment would cover approximately 60 acres, removing brush and small trees. No new temporary or permanent roads would be constructed and leave trees would be left at variable spacing. The intent of a shaded fuel break is to eliminate ladder fuels that would otherwise create an intense crown fire. Instead, an approaching fire would burn on the ground with low intensity giving firefighters a chance to extinguish it. Descriptions of the project, including maps and photos, are available on the Forest web site: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood/> under Forest Projects. This is the first stage of a multi-phase effort to deal with fire hazard in the area.

Slinky Timber Sale

Clackamas County, Oregon. Located in the Oak Grove Fork and the Upper Clackamas Watersheds near Oak Grove Butte.

Contact: *Jim Roden*

Phone: (503) 630-8722

Email: jroden@fs.fed.us

184 acres. The purpose of this initiative is to regenerate older forest stands that are fragmented and growing slowly, to create young productive forest stands, and to provide forest products consistent with the Northwest Forest Plan goal of maintaining the stability of local and regional economies now and in the future. The Decision Notice should be signed in September 2003. Go to Forest Projects at <http://http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood>

Imp Timber Sale

Clackamas County, Oregon. Located in the Upper Clackamas Watershed

Contact: *Jim Roden*

Phone: (503) 630-8722

Email: jroden@fs.fed.us

90 acres. The purpose of this initiative is to regenerate older forest stands that are fragmented and growing slowly, to create young productive forest stands, and to provide forest products consistent with the Northwest Forest Plan goal of maintaining the stability of local and regional economies now and in the future. The proposed action should be available for 30-day comment period in October 2003. Go to Forest Projects at <http://http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood>.

Hood River Ranger District Projects

Bear Knoll Planning Area

T.4S., R.9E., Sec. 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 33, 34, 35, 36 and T.5S., R.9. 2, 3, 4, 10

Contact: *Becky Nelson*

Phone: 541-467-2291

Email: bnelson01@fs.fed.us

This planning effort was begun in 1998. It has been on hold for the last year, while other work was being completed. Rather than an EIS, two EA's are proposed for the Bear Knoll Planning Area. One EA proposes to thin overstocked immature stands through commercial timber sales and the sale of special forest products (post, poles and firewood). The other EA proposes to treat over mature stands, especially those heavily infected with Indian Paint Fungus, by a regeneration harvest. Safety concerns along Highway 26 have prompted the proposal to remove trees that could reach the road if they fell. Temporary road construction, road closure and decommissioning are also proposed. The two EA's would be analyzed together and would be completed during the spring of 2004.

Mill Creek Planning Area

Contact: *Rich Thurman*

Phone: 541-467-2291

Email: rthurman@fs.fed.us

The Hood River Ranger District is proposing to treat approximately 7200 acres located approximately 5 miles south-east of the community of Mood Hood. Specialists concerns identified are:

- Forest condition due to the lack of fire over the last 100 years.
- The invasion of non-native plant species.
- The high level of roading and the resulting wildlife harassment and poaching.
- Aquatic habitat degradation due to roads and grazing operations.

A decision is expected in the fall of 2004.

Pen Creek Underburn (2,500 acres)

Contact: *Joel Pomeroy*

Phone: (541) 352-6002

Email: jpomeroy@fs.fed.us

Formally known as East of 27 #2, this underburn is still in the planning stages. It is located between Tygh Creek and Jordan Creek on the Barlow Ranger District. The purpose is to introduce fire back into the ecosystem, reduce the natural accumulation of litter, and enhance the fire dependent native grasses, forbs and shrub species. A public comment period for this project will be available this summer and required surveys should be completed this fall. Expected completion date for the CE is summer of 2004 with completion of the project being spring or fall of 2005.

Swisher/West Gobbler Underburn (1,480 acres)

Contact: *Joel Pomeroy*

Phone: (541) 352-6002

Email: jpomeroy@fs.fed.us

Analysis of the underburns is continuing. The purpose is to introduce fire back into the ecosystem, reduce the natural accumulation of litter, prevent the bark build-up around the base of large ponderosa pines and enhance the fire dependent native grasses, forbs and shrub species. Underburning will reduce the risk of a stand replacing fire, enhance deer and elk forage quantity and quality, and protect large ponderosa trees from the effects of future underburning. These underburns are consistent with the 10-year Comprehensive Strategy Implementation Plan for the protection of the wildland/urban interface. Required surveys have been completed and final field verifications are taking place. A public comment period will be available this summer and the expected completion date of the CE is this fall. Completion of the project is planned for spring or fall of 2004.

Sportsman's Park Fuel Modification (250 acres)

Contact: *Joel Pomeroy*

Phone: (541) 352-6002

Email: jpomeroy@fs.fed.us

This project is in the beginning planning stages. The purpose is to increase fire suppression effectiveness and firefighter safety and reduce the probability of damage from a wildfire to the community of Sportsman's Park by reducing the threat of crown fire and providing a defensible space for firefighters. Project boundaries will encompass up to 1,500 feet around the perimeter of Sportsman's Park and may include both mechanical and prescribed fire treatments. This project is consistent with the 10-year Comprehensive Strategy Implementation Plan for the protection of the wildland/urban interface. Required surveys may be completed this fall with project completion sometime in 2004 or 2005. A public comment period will be available this summer.

Hood River Ranger District Projects

SCCA Road Rally

Contact: Stewart Fletcher

Phone: 541-352-6002, ext. 616

Email: sjfletcher@fs.fed.us

Hood River and Barlow Districts will consider a proposal by the Oregon Chapter of the Sports Car Club of America to host an "Against the Clock" Road Rally on several single lane gravel roads within the Forest in October 2003. Roads 17, 4440, 1722, 1722160 will require up to six hour temporary closures on a weekend to provide for public safety.

Bear Knoll Planning Area

T.4S., R.9E., Sec. 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 33, 34, 35, 36 and T.5S., R.9. 2, 3, 4, 10

Contact: Becky Nelson

Phone: (541) 467-2291

Email: bnelson01@fs.fed.us

This planning effort was begun in 1998. It has been on hold for the last year, while other work was being completed. Rather than an EIS, two EA's are proposed for the Bear Knoll Planning Area. One EA proposes to thin overstocked immature stands through commercial timber sales and the sale of special forest products (post, poles and firewood). The other EA proposes to treat over mature stands, especially those heavily infected with Indian Paint Fungus, are by a regeneration harvest. Safety concerns along Highway 26 have prompted the proposal to remove trees that could reach the road if they fell. Temporary road construction, road closure and decommissioning are also proposed. The two EA's would be analyzed together and would be completed during the spring of 2004.

Long Prairie Grazing Allotment

Contact: Dan Fissell

Phone: (541) 467-5117

Email: dfissell@fs.fed.us

An Environmental Assessment is scheduled for this grazing allotment during 2003. The analysis will determine the level and intensity of grazing management within this allotment. The plan will also identify restoration opportunities. The Decision Notice is anticipated in the fall of 2003.

Cooper Spur Ski Area Summer Projects 2003

Contact: Doug Jones

Phone: (541) 352-6002, ext. 682

Email: dgjones@fs.fed.us

Cooper Spur Ski Area proposes increasing parking by about 1 acre to meet the needs of existing users who often cannot find parking on busy weekends. The parking expansion would occur largely by widening the out-bound road from the old rock quarry north. The area also wants to install a buried waterline approx. 3,000 feet long from the nearby private land, up the Nordic ski trail to the base of the ski area. The water would be used for snowmaking around the base and on the tubing hill. The line could be up to 8 inch diameter.

Teacup Lake Shelter & SnoPark Enlargement

Contact: Doug Jones

Phone: (541) 352-6002, ext. 682

Email: djones@fs.fed.us

The Oregon Nordic Club-Teacup Chapter has proposed building a permanent warming shelter at the Teacup Lake Nordic ski trails area. The shelter would replace a poor trailer that is moved in and out each year. The shelter site and associated roads would mean removing about 100 trees. The Club is also proposing to expand the snopark about 100 feet to the north to accommodate more parking. Both projects could occur in 2004.

Mill Creek Planning Area

Contact: Rich Thurman

Phone: (541) 467-2291

Email: rthurman@fs.fed.us

The Hood River Ranger District is proposing to treat approximately 7,200 acres located approximately 5 miles southeast of the community of Mt. Hood. Specialist's concerns identified are:

- Forest condition due to the lack of fire over the last 100 years.
- The invasion of non-native plant species.
- The high level of roading and the resulting wildlife harassment and poaching.
- Aquatic habitat degradation due to roads and grazing operations.

A decision is expected in the fall of 2004.

Zigzag Ranger District Projects

Timberline Ski Area Timberline Express Lift and Ski Trail System R 9E, T 3S, SW1/4, Section 7

Contact: Paul Koehler

Phone: (503) 622-3191, ext 614

Email: pkoehler@fs.fed.us

Based on both agency and public scoping responses, we will be developing alternatives to the proposed action. The proposed action consists of constructing a new detachable quad (four passenger) chairlift and 6 new trails in the southwest corner of the ski area's special use permit boundary. The proposal also includes an addition of approximately 10 acres to the existing 1,400 acre permit boundary. A draft EIS is anticipated to be completed and available for public review by August 2003.

Government Camp Fuels Reduction Project

Contact: Nathan Goodrich

Phone: (503) 622-3191 ext 671

Email: ngoodrich@fs.fed.us

Planning for a fuels reduction project around the community of Government Camp is in the early stages. The purpose of the project would be to reduce the high buildup of fuels to protect community of Government camp from the risks of wildfire. This project would create a 150-200 foot wide fuel break on Forest Service lands adjacent to the community of Government Camp, on the north side of Highway 26. The fuel break would be constructed using many different fuels reduction techniques. An Environmental Assessment (EA) will be completed.

Hoodland Fire Department Water Cisterns

Contact: Nathan Goodrich

Phone: (503) 622-3191, ext. 671

Email: ngoodrich@fs.fed.us

The Hoodland Fire Department is planning to install three 15,000 gallon water cisterns at the Lady Creek Water System. This additional water storage will supplement the fire department's supply of water used for fire fighting within the Forest Service's recreation residence tracts. The proposed action would be documented under a Categorical Exclusion and Decision Memo.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment on these projects, will be considered part of the public record and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Parts 215. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27 (d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality.

Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requester of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within a specified time-frame.

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Mt. Hood National Forest Offices

Mt. Hood National Forest Headquarters Office

16400 Champion Way
Sandy, OR 97055
Business: **503-668-1700**
Visitor Information: **503-622-7674**
Hours: 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM, M-F

Barlow Ranger District

780 NE Court Street
Dufur, OR 97021
Phone: **541-467-2291**
Hours: 7:45 AM to 4:30 PM, M-F

Clackamas River Ranger District

595 NW Industrial Way
Estacada, OR 97023
Business: **503-630-6861**
Visitor Information: **503-630-8700**
Hours: 7:45 AM to 4:30 PM, M-Sat
Closed weekends during winter months.

Hood River Ranger District

6780 Highway 35
Mt. Hood - Parkdale, OR 97041
Phone: **541-352-6002**
Hours: 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, M-F
Summer Hours: May 30 - Sept. 6
8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, 7 days a week

Zigzag Ranger District

70220 E. Highway 26
Zigzag, OR 97049
Phone: **503-622-3191 or
503-668-1704**
Hours: 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, M-F

Mt. Hood Information Center

*Forest Service Information in partnership
with Clackamas County and Mt. Hood
Area Chamber of Commerce Visitor
Information*

65000 E. Highway 26
Welches, OR 97067
Phone: **503-622-7674**

Hours:
Saturday thru Thursday, 8 am-4 pm;
Friday 8 am-6 pm
(Closed Dec 25)

In an effort to better serve you and conserve resources and energy, *Sprouts* is available online. You can now view the most current issue of *Sprouts* on the Mt. Hood National Forest Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood>



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Email address: syork@fs.fed.us

Website: www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood

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