



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service

Pacific
Northwest
Region



Environmental Assessment

Olympic Discovery Trail

October 2006

Pacific Ranger District, Olympic National Forest
Clallam County, Washington

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Table of Contents

List of Tables	ii
Chapter 1: Purpose of and need for action.....	1
Summary	1
Document Structure	1
Project Location	2
Background	2
Purpose and Need for Action	3
Proposed Action.....	3
Decision Framework	5
Management Framework	5
The Forest Plan	5
Land Allocations within the Project Area.....	5
Public Involvement	6
Issues.....	7
Chapter 2: Alternatives, including the Proposed Action.....	9
Alternatives not considered in detail.....	9
Alternatives	10
Alternative A (No Action)	10
Alternative B (Proposed Action)	10
Alternative B (Modified)	14
Monitoring	17
Comparison of Alternatives	17
Chapter 3: Environmental Consequences	19
Invasive Plants	19
Affected Environment	19
Environmental Consequences.....	21
Fire	23
Affected Environment	23
Environmental Consequences.....	24
Fisheries	25
Affected Environment	25
Environmental Effects	26
ACS Consistency	30
Federally Listed Species - Fisheries	31
Regional Forester's Sensitive Species List – Fisheries	31
Essential Fish Habitat	31
Wildlife	32
Affected Environment	32
Environmental Effects	46
Botanical	55
Introduction	55
Affected Environment	56
Environmental Consequences.....	62
Heritage	66
Affected Environment	66
Environmental Consequences.....	68

Compliance with Other Laws, Regulations, and Policies	69
Historic or Cultural Resources, Parklands, Prime Farmlands, Flood Plains, Wetlands, Wild and Scenic Rivers, or Ecologically Critical Areas.....	69
Wilderness and Inventoried Roadless Areas.....	69
Clean Water Act and Clean Air Act	69
Scenic Quality.....	70
Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources, Unknown Risks and Precedents	70
Public Health and Safety.....	70
Socio-economic Effects	71
Environmental Justice.....	71
National Forest Management Act Compliance.....	72
Forest Plan Consistency.....	73
Tiering	73
Consultation and Coordination	73
ID Team Members:.....	73
Federal, State, Local Agencies:	74
Tribes:	74
References	74
Appendices	78
Appendix 1: Maps	78
Map 1 – Vicinity Map.....	78
Map 2 – Trail Segments with NW Forest Plan allocations.....	78
Map 3 – Trail Segments with Olympic LRMP allocations.....	78
Appendix 2: Proposed Olympic Discovery Trail Design Standards	79
Appendix 3: Contact List for Olympic Discovery Trail Public Scoping	82
Appendix 4: Olympic Discovery Trail Issues Identified	84
Appendix 5: Culvert Replacement for Olympic Discovery Trail Proposed Route	99
Appendix 6: Engineering Hazard Analysis for Proposed Shared Roadway	101

List of Tables

Table 1 Trail Segments	4
Table 2 Mitigation Measures for the Proposed Action	10
Table 3 Comparison of Alternatives	15
Table 4 Invasive Plant Species	17
Table 5 Federal and Regional Forest status of wildlife species.....	30
Table 6 Dispersal habitat designations and status of northern spotted owl activity	31
Table 7 Suitable habitat for marbled murrelet detection sites	34
Table 8 Management Indicator Species.....	38
Table 9 Vascular Plant Species.....	53
Table 10 Fungi Species	54
Table 11 Lichen Species	56