

## Forest Service, USDA

## § 292.18

(i) Comply with Federal and State air and water quality and waste disposal standards.

(ii) Minimize adverse impacts on scenic values.

(iii) Provide for prompt stabilization and restoration of areas disturbed by the operations.

[39 FR 11544, Mar. 29, 1974, as amended at 69 FR 55094, Sept. 13, 2004]

### Subpart D—Sawtooth National Recreation Area—Federal Lands

AUTHORITY: Sec. 1, 30 Stat. 35, 36, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 478, 551; sec. 11, 86 Stat. 612, 16 U.S.C. 460aa-10.

#### § 292.17 General provisions.

(a) The use, management and utilization of natural resources on the Federal lands in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area (SNRA) are subject to the General Management Plan and the laws, rules, and regulations pertaining to the National Forests with the exception that part 252 of this chapter does not apply to these resources. No use or disposal of such resources shall be authorized which will result in substantial impairment of the natural values of the Recreation Area.

(b) *Definitions:*

(1) *Act* means Pub. L. 92-400 (86 Stat. 612), which established the SNRA.

(2) *Area Ranger or Superintendent* means the Forest Service officer having administrative authority for the SNRA.

(3) *General management plan* means the document setting forth the land allocation and resource decisions for management of the SNRA.

(4) *Letter of authorization* means a letter signed by the Area Ranger, or his designee, authorizing an operator to conduct operations as approved in the operating plan.

(5) *Mineral resources* means all locatable minerals.

(6) *Operator* means a person conducting or proposing to conduct operations.

(7) *Operations* means all functions works, and activities in connection with exploration, development, mining or processing of mineral resources and all uses reasonably incident thereto, including roads and other means of ac-

cess on lands, regardless of whether said operations take place on or off mining claims.

(8) *Operating plan* means a written instrument describing proposed operations on Federal lands and containing such information as required by § 292.18.

(9) *Person* means any individual, partnership, association, corporation, or other legal entity.

(10) *Substantial impairment* means that level of disturbance of the values of the SNRA which is incompatible with the standards of the General Management Plan. The proposed activities will be evaluated as to:

(i) The period of impact,

(ii) The area affected, and

(iii) The importance of the impact on the SNRA values.

(11) *Unpatented mining claims* means any mining claim or millsite claim located prior to August 22, 1972, pursuant to the Mining Law of 1872, but not patented.

[42 FR 39387, Aug. 4, 1977]

#### § 292.18 Mineral resources.

(a) *Occupancy.* No unpatented mining claim may be used or occupied, except as otherwise permitted for any purpose other than exploration, mining, or processing operations and uses reasonably incident thereto.

(b) *Letter of authorization.* A letter of authorization with the posting of an appropriate bond is required prior to conducting operations in the SNRA.

(c) *Operating plan.* A proposed operating plan must be filed with the Area Ranger prior to conducting any operations and prior to construction, reconstruction, improvement or maintenance of roads and trails, bridges, or other facilities for access within the SNRA; provided, that an operating plan is not required for—

(1) Operations which only involve vehicular travel on existing roads open to public use;

(2) Marking and/or reestablishing claims corners;

(3) Sampling and exploration work which will not cause significant damage to surface resources and will not involve the removal of more than 100 pounds of material for analysis and