



**File Code:** 1950, 2720-2

**Date:** May 7, 2008

**Subject:** Scoping Letter for Reauthorization of SUP for Timberline

**To:** Interested Parties

### **30-Day Notice and Comment Period**

#### **Authorization of Special Use Permit for Timberline Four Seasons Resort Management Company, Inc.**

The Cheat Potomac Ranger District of the Monongahela National Forest (MNF) has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed authorization of a Special Use Permit (SUP) for Timberline Four Seasons Resort Management Company, Inc. (Timberline). Those portions of NFS land that would be covered by the SUP are located on the Potomac portion of the Cheat Potomac Ranger District, Monongahela National Forest. Timberline is located on private land near Dolly Sods, in Tucker County, West Virginia.

The proposed Timberline SUP would allow continued use and maintenance of: a portion of Salamander Run; a portion of an abandoned road (formerly FR80); and a non-system connector trail that are on National Forest System (NFS) lands. The downhill slope is used for downhill and cross country skiing, mountain biking, and hiking. No motorized vehicle use occurs on Salamander Run except for maintenance and administrative use. Timberline's current SUP expires on October 31, 2008. If authorized, the new SUP would likely be for ten years.

We are conducting a 30-day Notice and Comment period on the proposed Timberline SUP in accordance with 36 CFR 215. We are sending you this letter because you previously expressed interest in this project or in projects in this area. If you would like a copy of the draft EA, use one of the four methods described below.

The comment period ends 30 days following the date of publication of the legal notice in the *Elkins Inter-Mountain* newspaper. This publication date is the exclusive means for calculating the time to submit comments on the proposed action. Those wishing to comment on this proposal should not rely upon dates or timeframes provided by any other source.

Only those who provide comment or otherwise express interest in the proposed action during this comment period will be eligible as appellants. Interest expressed or comments provided on this project prior to or after the close of this comment period will not constitute standing for appeal purposes. Comments must meet the requirements of 36 CFR 215.6. Comments that are within the scope of the proposed action, specific to the proposed action, or have a direct relationship to the proposed action and include supporting reasons are most helpful.

How to submit comments or get a copy of the draft EA:

- 1) Written comments should be sent to Kristine Vollmer, NEPA Coordinator, at the Potomac office address above.
- 2) Verbal comments may be made by phoning Kristine Vollmer at 304-257-4488, extension 24.
- 3) E-mail comments may be sent to [comments-eastern-monongahela-cheat@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-eastern-monongahela-cheat@fs.fed.us). Please include the project name in the subject line of the email. Email comments may be in word (.doc), rich text format (.rtf), text (.txt), Adobe (.pdf), or hypertext markup language (.html).
- 4) Comments may be hand delivered on weekdays, except for federal holidays, from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, at the Potomac office.

To be eligible to appeal, each individual or representative from each organization submitting comments must either sign the comments or verify identity upon request. Comments received in response to this scoping, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposed action, and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted only anonymously will be accepted and considered, however, those who submit anonymous comments may not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Part 215.

Sincerely,

/s/ Kristine E. Vollmer

(for) JEFFERY J. HAMMES  
Cheat Potomac District Ranger

5-7-08

Date



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