



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Mt. Hood National Forest

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Date:

Dear Interested Citizen,

Mt. Hood National Forest is embarking on several processes that will address travel and access management planning across the Forest. Address travel and access management will require a staged approach in order to address the issue forestwide.

The first stage is the off-highway vehicle (OHV) and restoration National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) planning processes. The purpose of the OHV planning process is to establish and designate a system of roads, trails and areas for OHV use. The following scoping letter begins the planning process for this project. Second, our restoration planning processes are reviewing select roads to identify roads to decommission, storm proof, or close for restoration purposes. Currently, we have two processes underway – 2007 Clackamas Restoration Project (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood/projects/index.shtml#clackamas>) and Forestwide Restoration Projects (additional information coming soon). Combined these projects will begin to provide direction and guidance to travel and access management on Mt. Hood National Forest.

Simultaneously, we will begin develop an overall vision for access and travel management. This strategic document will service as a framework and decision tool for our management actions. This tool will utilize staged implementation in order achieve our end goal of a manageable, responsible transportation system. Using this tool, we will be able to determine the future management actions required after we complete this first stage. We will be sharing more information on the vision soon.

I encourage you to become involved in the OHV planning process. Please take a few minutes to read the enclosed letter and provide us your thoughts on OHV planning on Mt. Hood National Forest. We will be providing more details on the access and travel management vision and next steps in upcoming letters.

Sincerely,

GARY L. LARSEN
Forest Supervisor
Mt. Hood National Forest