



File Code: 1950

Date:

MAY 30 2008

Interested Public:

Enclosed is the Record or Decision, Final Environmental Impact Statement, and Executive Summary for the Beartooth Travel Management project. You may obtain an electronic version of these documents on the Forest's web site at www.fs.fed.us/r1/custer.

The purpose of the Beartooth Travel Management project is to: 1) identify routes for public motorized use on the District, 2) provide for a variety of motorized and non-motorized opportunities, 3) minimize impact on natural and cultural resources, and 4) have enforceable travel management guidelines.

This travel management decision designates system roads and trails for public motorized uses and specifies the type of vehicle and season of use for each route. Motorized off-route travel would be prohibited except where designated for access to dispersed vehicle camping. Over-snow vehicle use is not part of the decision to be made in this analysis. The action alternatives in this final environmental impact statement (FEIS) represent a board range of public sentiment regarding road and trail management and frame the significant issues related to the decision to be made. The alternative of taking no action is also considered in this EIS. The preferred alternative is Alternative B Modified.

Public review and comment was solicited on the "draft" environmental impact statement (DEIS), and utilized in the preparation of this (FEIS). No further public review or public comment is being sought on this "final" EIS.

This decision is subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR Vol. 2 §215.11 (2003). A written appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 215.14 must be submitted within 45 days following the publication date of the legal notice of this decision in the Billings Gazette newspaper, Billings, Montana. It is the responsibility of the appellant to ensure their appeal is received in a timely manner. The publication date of the legal notice of the decision in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an appeal. Appellants should not rely on date or timeframe information provided by any other source.

Paper appeals must be submitted, or delivered in person between 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., to either of the following locations:

USDA Forest Service, Northern Region
ATTN: Appeal Deciding Officer
P.O. Box 7669
Missoula, Montana 59807

or

USDA Forest Service, Northern Region
ATTN: Appeal Deciding Officer
200 East Broadway
Missoula, Montana 59802



Electronic appeals must be submitted to appeals-northern-regional-office@fs.fed.us.

In electronic appeals, the subject line should contain the name of the project being appealed. An automated response will confirm your electronic appeal has been received. Electronic appeals must be submitted in MS Word, WordPerfect, or rich text format (RTF).

It is the appellant's responsibility to provide sufficient project or activity-specific evidence and rationale, focusing on the decision, to show why my decision should be reversed. The appeal must be filed with the Appeal Deciding Officer in writing. At a minimum, the appeal must meet the content requirements of 36 CFR Vol. 2 §215.14 (2003), and include the following information:

- The appellant's name and address, with a telephone number, if available,
- A signature, or other verification of authorship upon request (a scanned signature for electronic mail may be filed with the appeal),
- When multiple names are listed on an appeal, identification of the lead appellant and verification of the identity of the lead appellant upon request,
- The name of the project or activity for which the decision was made, the name and title of the Responsible Official, and the date of the decision,
- The regulation under which the appeal is being filed, when there is an option to appeal under either 36 CFR 215 or 36 CFR 251, Subpart C,
- Any specific change(s) in the decision that the appellant seeks and the rationale for those changes,
- Any portion(s) of the decision with which the appellant disagrees, and explanation for the disagreement,
- Why the appellant believes the Responsible Official's decision failed to consider the substantive comments, and,
- How the appellant believes the decision specifically violates law, regulation, or policy.

If no appeal is received, implementation of the decision may occur on, but not before, five (5) business days from the close of the appeal filing period. When appeals are filed, implementation may occur on, but not before, the fifteenth business day following the date of the last appeal disposition.

For additional information concerning this decision or the USFS appeal process, contact Steve E. Williams, Forest Supervisor, Supervisor's Office, Custer National Forest, 1310 Main Street, Billings, Montana, 59105, 406-657-6200.

Sincerely,



STEVE E. WILLIAMS
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure