

Appendix Z

Consideration of Comments on the Proposed Action

Pursuant to 36 CFR §215.6(b)

Project Name: Ivory Mill Saddle to Snow Mtn. OHV Hunting Connectivity

Publication Date of Notice of Opportunity to Comment: 11 October 2007, in Chico Enterprise Record

Ending Date of Comment Period: 13 November 2007

Distribution of Draft Environmental Documents: Draft EA (dated 28 September 2007), Draft FONSI (dated 02 October 2007), final Appendices C & D, draft Appendix L were sent to those that either provided scoping comments or specifically requested the draft documents. Distribution was via email (11 recipients). A copy of the notice was sent to those who had expressed any general interest in the route designation process – 101 snail mail recipients; 121 email recipients. A copy of the notice was also sent to listserv FS-ROUTE-DESIGNATION@newsbox.usda.gov. Draft documents were also posted to the MNF route designation web page. News releases were issued to local and regional newspapers, radio, and television stations.

Table 1 - Summary of Commenter Statistics	
Number of Individuals	2
Number of Organizations	0
Number of Government Entities	1
Total Number of Commenters	3

Table 2 - Commenters			
Name	Representing	Non-Substantive Comment Numbers¹	Substantive Comment Numbers²
Ellis, Ben	Self		2
Beck, Damon	Self		2
Owens, Cheryl	Univ. of MN Library	1	

Comment Analysis

The comments received during the comment period were assessed to determine which were substantive and which were not. Comments must be substantive to be considered by the Responsible Official [36 CFR 215.6(b)].

The responses in Table 3 below are either a) only expressions of interest that do not make a comment, or b) comments that do not meet one or more of the criteria for substantive comments as defined in 36 CFR 215.2:

- The comment is within the scope of the proposed action.
- The comment is specific to the proposed action.
- The comment has a direct relationship to the proposed action.
- The comment includes supporting reasons for the Responsible Official to consider.

Table 3 – Non-Substantive Comments & Expressions of Interest	
#	Response Determination and reasons
1	<p>Are there any hard copies available of the following? ...draft environmental documents [for Ivory Mill Saddle to Snow Mtn. OHV Hunting Connectivity]</p> <p>This is a request for documents to be posted for public access at a university library. The requesting library is a public institution which has no interest³ in the outcome of the decision. Therefore, the request is neither a comment nor an expression of interest, and does not bear on standing or whether the decision is subject to appeal.</p>

¹ Comment numbers correspond to those in Table 4.

² Comment numbers correspond to those in Table 5.

³ "Interest" in this sense is a responding institution's mission-related interest in the decision to be made. The scope of this decision and its effects is not related to the mission of a typical library.

The comments listed in Table 4 below satisfy the definition of a substantive comment. For each comment an explanation is given of how the comment was considered.

Table 4 - Substantive Comments	
#	Comment How the comment was considered.
2	The proposed action is a good idea. This is a supportive comment that reiterates aspects of the purpose and need for the proposed action, which are discussed in the environmental assessment, pp. 3 & 4, and in Appendix D.

Administrative Review Opportunities

I have determined that during the comment period the only comment submitted is supportive of this proposal, and that there were no other expressions of interest. Therefore my decision on this proposed action will not be subject to appeal [36 CFR §215.12(e)(1)].

s/Eduardo Olmedo

11/30/07

EDUARDO OLMEDO
District Ranger

Date