



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Columbia River Gorge
National Scenic Area

902 Wasco Ave., Suite 200
Hood River, OR 97031
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File Code: 2350-5

Date: February 15, 2005

Dear Interested Party:

The USDA Forest Service, Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, requests your comments on a proposal for National Forest land in the Catherine Creek, Major Creek and Burdoin Mountain areas.

The Forest Service proposes to close all National Forest System lands in these areas to:

1. Using any type of motorized vehicle on National Forest System roads.
2. Using any type of motorized vehicle on National Forest System trails.
3. Possessing or using any type of motorized vehicle off National Forest System roads.

Exceptions would be granted to:

1. Persons with a permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer or member of any organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

The Forest Service proposes this motor vehicle closure in order to protect the sensitive resources of these areas. Much of the Catherine and Major Creek areas in particular are designated as "Open Space", those lands containing the most sensitive resources in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. The Forest Service placed a motor vehicle closure on the Catherine Creek area in 1993. National Forest ownership has grown in the area since 1993, and now the Forest Service proposes to extend the closure to all National Forest System lands in the Catherine Creek, Major Creek and Burdoin Mountain areas. The attached map depicts the National Forest System lands in these areas.

Please forward any comments on this proposal to Kim Titus, Staff Officer at (541)308-1704, or ktitus@fs.fed.us by March 15, 2005. Thank you.

Sincerely,

/s/ Daniel T. Harkenrider

DANIEL T. HARKENRIDER
Area Manager



**Catherine Creek / Major Creek / Burdoin Mountain
National Forest Lands**

