



File Code: 1950

Date: July 30, 2007

SUBJECT: DECISION DOCUMENTS FOR SANDY RIVER DELTA PROJECTS
(CD-07-05-S AND CD-07-06-S)

Dear Interested Party:

This letter is to inform you that Daniel Harkenrider, the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Manager, has made a decision regarding the Sandy River Delta projects noticed for public comment on June 11, 2007.

The following is a summary of the modifications that the Area Manager made to the Proposed Action:

The Forest Service received 38 comment letters or e-mails containing a total of 75 comment statements. Sixty-eight of these comments concerned recreation. The most frequent topics were the balance of recreation user needs with the wetlands closure, the configuration of the parking lot, waste, and the dogs on-leash concept. The Forest Service amended the proposed action to include these changes in response to this comment and in order to better meet the needs of the current users while protecting natural resources:

1. Wetland Closure: Reconfigure the wetland closure to exclude the non-wetland area to the east of the on-leash trail as depicted in enclosed attachment A and extend wetland closure to all users as per 36 CFR 261.53 (b) which states: "Special closures. When provided in an order, it is prohibited to go into or be upon any area which is closed for the protection of: (b) special biological communities."
2. Proposed Fencing: Delete proposed fencing and identify wetlands using Carsonite signs.
3. Parking Area:
 - Add hitching post, mounting area, and location for future dumpster at trailer parking lot
 - Retain 100-space parking but reconfigure to provide better circulation and additional "dogs off lease parking" as per enclosed attachment B.
 - Provide a dog waste dump station at restroom toilet vault.

The following is a link to the Decision, The Findings of Fact, and a Summary of Public Comment. Look for the Project "Sandy River Delta" under CURRENT PROJECTS on the CRGNSA website:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/columbia/projects/>

Sincerely,

/s/Diana L. Ross

Land Use Coordinator/Landscape Architect

