

sedimentation and toxic substances to enter and degrade riparian areas and wetlands, decreasing water quality and adversely impacting fish, amphibians, and plants that use these areas;

(4) Exploration activities, including additional road use, may cause air quality degradation from dust, diesel exhaust, and toxic substances that could affect vegetation, tourism, recreation activities, viewpoints, aesthetic enjoyment of the area, and the quality of life, health, and safety for residents;

(5) Exploration activities, including drill vehicles and heavy trucks, could increase noise, which could impact tourism, recreation activities, aesthetic enjoyment of the area, and the quality of life and solitude for residents. Noise could carry for long distances and potentially impact adjacent property owners.

(6) Project activities could disturb wildlife, including threatened, endangered, and sensitive species, through human presence, noise, and increased road density, and could increase impacts from the semi-impermeable barrier to movement along the ore haul route as a result of additional traffic and affect the north-south wildlife corridor;

(7) Exploration activities may spread noxious weeds. The use of herbicides to treat noxious weeds found during monitoring has the potential to affect non-target species;

(8) The proposed action may contribute to cumulative impacts, which may have significant effects on the environment, and may contribute to cumulative effects of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions;

(9) Exploration activities may adversely affect members of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation and may impact cultural resources of concern to Tribal members, and their rights reserved by Executive Order, to hunt, fish, and gather on the former north half of the Colville Reservation; and

(10) Exploration activities may cause light pollution potentially affecting tourism, recreational activities, viewpoints, and aesthetic enjoyment of the area, particularly for residents of the Myers Creek valley.

#### Permits, Authorizations, Approvals, or Licenses Required

The following permits, authorizations, approvals, or licenses would be required for the project:

*Forest Service:* a final Plan of Operations, a Road Use Permit modification and a Special Use Permit for a water well.

*Bureau of Land Management:* A final Mining and Reclamation Plan.

*Environmental Protection Agency:* A Stormwater Permit, a Spill Prevention and Countermeasure Plan (SPCC), a review of Section 404 permit, and Notification of Hazardous Waste Activity (no formal permit necessary).

*U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:* Threatened and Endangered Species Consultation.

*Department of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms:* Explosive User Permit.

*U.S. Army Corps of Engineers/State of Washington Department of Ecology:* A Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application, including a Section 10 permit, a Section 404 Permit, and a 401 Water Quality Certification.

*State of Washington Department of Ecology:* New or transferred Water Rights, a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction Stormwater General Permit, a Notice of Intent to Construct or Decommission a Well, and an Air Operating Permit, Notice to Construct.

*State of Washington Department of Natural Resources:* A Forest Practices Permit, and a Surface Mine Exploration and Reclamation Permit for state and private lands.

*Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife:* Hydraulic Project Approvals on State and private lands.

*Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation:* Historical and Archaeological Review and concurrence (Section 106).

*Okanogan County:* A Floodplain Development Permit, Conditional Use and Noise Control Permits, Solid Waste Handling, and Road Construction and/ or Realignment Permit.

#### Scoping Process

This notice of intent initiates the scoping process, which guides development of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). A public information meeting is planned to be held in Oroville, Washington on December 14, 2010 at the Oroville High School Commons from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Details concerning any additional public meetings, none presently scheduled, would be announced via local news media outlets. The lead and cooperating agencies are seeking information, comments, and assistance from federal, state, and local agencies, Native American Tribes and other individuals and organizations that may be interested in or affected by the proposed project. Input submitted during this initial scoping period will be used in preparation of the Draft EIS. The agencies are seeking public and agency comment on the proposed action to

determine if any additional issues arise. Additional issues may lead either to other alternatives, or additional mitigation measures and monitoring requirements.

The scoping process includes identifying potential issues; identifying major issues to be analyzed in depth and identifying those that are not significant and can be eliminated from detailed study; exploring alternatives to the proposed action; identifying potential environmental effects of this project; and notifying interested members of the public of opportunities to participate through personal contacts or written comment.

It is important that reviewers provide their comments at such times and in such manner that they are useful to the agencies' preparation of the environmental impact statement. Therefore, comments should be provided prior to the close of the comment period and should clearly articulate the reviewer's concerns and contentions.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including the names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for this proposed action. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered, however.

Dated: November 19, 2010.

**Bobbie R. Scopa,**

*Acting Forest Supervisor.*

[FR Doc. 2010-29776 Filed 11-24-10; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-11-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Helena National Forest; Montana; Blackfoot Travel Plan EIS

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Corrected Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Blackfoot Travel Plan.

**SUMMARY:** This notice extends the comment period for the Blackfoot Travel Plan from November 30, 2010 to January 7, 2011. This extension is a result of several requests for more time. The original notice was published in the **Federal Register** on October 29, 2010, FR Doc. 2010-27353 (75 FR 66718-66719). The Helena National Forest is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze the effects of proposed changes to the existing motorized public access routes and prohibitions within the Blackfoot travel planning area. Consistent with the Forest Service travel planning

regulations, the resulting available public motorized access routes and areas would be designated on a Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM). Upon publishing the MVUM, public use of a motor vehicle other than in accordance with those designations would be prohibited.

**DATES:** Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by January 7, 2011. The draft environmental impact statement is expected July 2011 and the final environmental impact statement is expected January 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to the Helena National Forest Lincoln Ranger District, 1569 Hwy 200 Lincoln, MT 59639. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to [comments-northern-helena-lincoln@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-northern-helena-lincoln@fs.fed.us), or via facsimile to 406-362-4253. Please indicate the name "Blackfoot Travel Plan" in the subject line of your e-mail.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jaclyn Heinert, Interdisciplinary Team Leader.

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Purpose and Need for Action**

The overall objective of this proposal is to provide a manageable system of designated public motorized access routes and areas within the Blackfoot Travel area, consistent with and to achieve the purposes of Forest Service travel management regulations at 36 CFR part 212 subpart B. The existing system of available public motor vehicle routes and areas in the Blackfoot Travel area is the culmination of multiple agency decisions over recent decades. Public motor vehicle use of the majority of this available system continues to be manageable and consistent with the current travel management regulation. Exceptions have been identified, based on public input and the criteria listed at 36 CFR 212.55, and in these cases changes are proposed to meet the overall objectives. The decisions will ensure compliance with the Forest Plan and Interagency requirements for grizzly bear security and habitat within the recovery zone.

**Proposed Action**

The Helena National Forest proposes the following changes to the existing motorized public access routes and prohibitions within the Blackfoot travel planning area. Consistent with the travel

planning regulations at 36 CFR part 212 subpart B, the resulting available public motorized access routes and areas would be designated on a Motor Vehicle Use Map and the prohibition at 36 CFR 261.13 would take effect. 36 CFR 261.13 would prohibit public use of a motor vehicle other than in accordance with those designations.

The proposed action would:

- Change 1.8 miles of currently closed yearlong routes or user-created routes to open with seasonal restrictions.
- Change 5.1 miles of seasonally restricted routes to having a different seasonal restriction.
- Change 6.7 miles of currently closed yearlong or user-created routes to being open yearlong.
- Change 9.4 miles of seasonally restricted routes to become open yearlong.
- Put 82.1 miles of currently open routes into storage (where routes are self-maintaining in non-use status for up to 20 years by re-contouring access points, and removing culverts).
- Change 2.5 miles of open seasonally or open yearlong routes to closed yearlong.
- Close 7.9 miles (estimated) of user-created routes.
- Create 41.4 miles of new motorized trails from currently seasonally restricted, open yearlong, user-created, and previously decommissioned routes.
- Create 1.5 miles of single-track motorized trail from currently double-track motorized trail.
- Construct 1.6 miles of new road.
- Place 65.5 miles of currently closed routes into storage.
- Place 82.1 miles of currently open routes into storage.
- Obliterate 8.1 miles of closed yearlong, open yearlong, or user-created routes.
- Create 5.5 miles of non-motorized trails from currently closed or user-created routes.
- Create 1.5 miles of non-motorized trails from currently open or seasonally restricted routes.
- Create 13.7 miles of non-motorized trails from currently single or double-track motorized routes.
- Create 33 miles of mountain bike trails on National Forest (may also include non-motorized or motorized uses).

**Responsible Official**

The Responsible Official is Kevin Riordan, Helena National Forest Supervisor.

**Preliminary Issues**

Public input from previous scoping processes, and through input gathered

from collaboration identified several areas of particular interest to the public. Many comments spoke specifically to the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, the Helmsville-Gould trail, grizzly bear, elk, and bull trout habitat and conflicts with motorized and non-motorized uses. These topics generated the most public interest regarding motorized and non-motorized uses.

**Scoping Process**

This notice of intent initiates the scoping process, which guides the development of the environmental impact statement. It is important that reviewers provide their comments at such times and in such a way that they are useful to the Agency's preparation of the EIS. Therefore, comments should be provided prior to the close of the comment period and should clearly articulate the reviewer's concerns and contentions.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be part of the public record for this proposed action. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, anonymous comments will not provide the respondent with standing to participate in subsequent administrative review or judicial review.

Two opportunities to provide public comments in person will be provided. Staff members will be available on November 18 and November 30, 2010 from 4 p.m.-7 p.m. MDT at the Lincoln Ranger District, 1569 Hwy 200 Lincoln, Montana to visit with the public and discuss site-specific comments. If an individual, group or organization has any questions or would like to set up a meeting or field trip please contact Jaclyn Heinert at the Lincoln Ranger District of the Helena National Forest (406) 362-7000.

Dated: November 19, 2010.

**Kevin Riordan,**

*Forest Supervisor.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Farm Service Agency**

**Dairy Industry Advisory Committee; Public Meeting**

**AGENCY:** Farm Service Agency, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** As required by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, the Farm Service Agency (FSA)