



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Chattahoochee-Oconee
National Forests
Armuchee/Cohutta
Ranger District

3941 Highway 76
Chatsworth, GA 30705
(706) 695-6737

File Code: 1920-2

Date: July 8, 2004

Dear Forest User:

The east side of Rock Creek on the Cohutta Unit is accessed by a low water crossing on Forest Service Road 3A, locally known as Peeples Lake Road. This crossing most recently washed out in 2003. We are proposing to remove this structure and replace it with a large culvert designed to accommodate high volumes of water and enhance fish passage.

This project would replace the existing structure that spans Rock Creek. The new culvert is higher than the existing crossing so the road would be raised on both sides of the stream. Dirt required to raise the road bed would be taken from the road bank on the west side of Rock Creek and from an area adjacent to the parking lot for the Rock Creek Trail on the east side of Rock Creek.

The sides of the creek would be fortified near the crossing with stone or gabions. There are no plans to pour concrete forms in the water for this project. A minimal amount of work would be required by a track hoe operating in the stream. It is possible that some sediment may enter the stream during the removal of the old structure and during the raising of the road bed. Actions would be taken to minimize the potential for sediment entry.

The road would be closed for 2 to 3 weeks to complete the project. See the enclosed map for project location.

We are interested in your comments about this proposal and invite you to send site-specific written comments to us by August 6, 2004 at the Armuchee-Cohutta Ranger District office, or by email to mwmurphy@fs.fed.us. Thank you for your interest in your National Forest.

Sincerely,

/s/ Debra L. Whitman
DEBRA L. WHITMAN
District Ranger

