



File Code: 1950

Date: May 21, 2008

### Scoping Notice

#### Equestrian Outfitter/Guide Services Special Use Permit

The Conasauga Ranger District of the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests is seeking comments on a request for a special use permit which would allow guided trail rides on Forest Service roads and designated horse trails.

Your comments and suggestions may be used to modify the specific methods described in the proposed projects. Please be as specific as possible when responding. Comments received, including names, become part of the project record and are available for public review. We would appreciate receiving your comments on the projects by **June 23, 2008**.

I intend to categorically exclude this proposal from documentation in an environmental impact statement or environmental assessment because it falls under the intent of Forest Service Handbook Chapter 1909.15, Category 3 of section 31.2, "Approval...of minor special uses of National Forest System lands that require less than five contiguous acres of land."

#### Proposed Action

Under this project, a special use permit would be authorized for equestrian outfitting/guiding on Forest Roads 16, 17, 17-A, 22, 22-A, 64, 126, 221, 630, and 630-C and the Iron Mountain Trail - #77, Sumac Creek Trail - #217, South Fork Trail - #140, and parts of the Pinhoti Trail - #3 (see Map). The permit would allow for the use of the Cottonwood Patch Horse Camp and Jacks River Fields Horse Camp.

This proposal meets Goal 31 of the Forest Plan, "Provide a spectrum of high quality, nature-based recreation settings and opportunities that reflect the unique...resources of the Forest and the interests of the recreating public..." (Forest Plan, p 2-31).

#### How to Provide Comments

You may send your comments and suggestions as follows:

Comment Format	Contact Information
Hard Copy Letter	Conasauga Ranger District Attn: Equestrian Outfitter/Guide Permit 3941 Highway 76 Chatsworth, GA 30705
E-mail	<a href="mailto:lrthomas@fs.fed.us">lrthomas@fs.fed.us</a> Subject: Equestrian Outfitter/Guide Permit
FAX	706-695-1872
Phone	Larry Thomas, 706-695-6736, x 103



The electronic versions of the information provided in this scoping letter are available on the Forest's website at: [www.fs.fed.us/conf/](http://www.fs.fed.us/conf/).

If you have questions or need additional information concerning this project, please contact Larry Thomas, Resources Forester, at 706-695-6736 x 103.

Thank you for your interest in the management of the Conasauga Ranger District.

Sincerely,

*/S/ MICHELE H. JONES*

MICHELE H. JONES  
District Ranger

Enclosure: Equestrian Outfitter/Guide Permit Proposal Map