



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Mormon Lake  
Ranger District

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File Code: 1950-1

Date: September 23, 2004

Dear Participant,

Enclosed is the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Munds Park Roads and Trails project. You are being sent a copy of this EA because you provided a letter of comment to the Proposed Action in July of 2003. The Munds Park Roads and Trails project will designate a multi-use roads and trails system that will offer motorized and non-motorized trail/road opportunities on National Forest System lands immediately adjacent to the community of Munds Park.

The EA considers four alternatives, Alternative A is the proposed action, Alternative B is the no-action alternative, and there are two additional action alternatives, Alternatives C and D. Although any of the alternatives described in the enclosed EA may be chosen in a Final Decision, I would like you to know that I am considering Alternative C as the preferred alternative at this time. Please note, a decision will not be made or finalized until after comments received during the 30-day comment period, described below, have been considered. I am especially interested in your comments about Alternative C, but comments on any of the alternatives will be valuable and considered. A variety of similar activities would occur under all of the action alternatives, including establishing a well designed and managed road and trail system, to include both motorized and non-motorized uses, that reduces environmental impacts on soils, watershed and wildlife. The design would include trailheads for parking, identified access points, and collector trails to reduce social trail proliferation. Alternatives A, C, and D include establishing a special order that prohibits cross country motorized travel and restricts motorized use to designated routes. Alternatives A, C, and D also establish a no camping order in the area of Crystal Point. Associated with establishing a managed road and trail system, obliteration and rehabilitation of redundant roads and social trails, in excess to the managed system, will also occur in all alternatives. In Alternative C, the trailhead and parking area north of Iron Springs road is modified from the proposed action to be non-motorized. Under Alternative C the motorized trail leading to the motorized trail loop system would be eliminated. Parking at the trailhead would be for non-motorized uses only. All actions occur on National Forest Lands. The enclosed EA describes the location and extent of these activities and discloses the effects of these activities on the environment.

The Forest Service appeal regulations, 36 CFR 215 were updated on June 4, 2003 and per new regulations, only those who provide substantive comments during this comment period are eligible to appeal the decision. The comment period ends 30 calendar days following the date of publication of the legal notice in the Arizona Daily Sun. (Contact Alvin Brown if you have



questions about the comment start and end date). The publication date in the newspaper is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period. Comments received with postmark within the 30 day required period will be accepted. The responsible official (deciding officer) is Terri Marceron, Mormon Lake District Ranger.

Written comments may be submitted by mail, Fax (928)-527-8288), or hand delivered to Terri Marceron, District Ranger at the Mormon Lake Ranger District Office, address listed above. Office hours are Monday through Friday 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Comments may also be submitted electronically in MSWORD (doc.), rich text format (rtf), text, and hypertext markup language (.html) to [comments-southwestern-coconino-mormonlake@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-southwestern-coconino-mormonlake@fs.fed.us). Comments may also be presented orally in person, or by phone at (928) 526-0866 by contacting Alvin Brown at the Peaks District office during business hours. Copies of the EA are available electronically at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/Coconino/nepa>.

Please mail your comments to: District Ranger, Mormon Lake Ranger District, Munds Park Roads and Trails Project, 4373 S. Lake Mary Rd., Flagstaff, AZ 86001.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this project and will be available for public inspection. Pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any persons may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under FOIA, confidentiality might be granted in only limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform requester of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within seven days.

For questions contact Alvin Brown, Team Leader, at the Peaks District Office, (928) 526-0866 or e-mail at [arbrown@fs.fed.us](mailto:arbrown@fs.fed.us). I look forward to hearing from you regarding this project and thank you for your interest in the Munds Park Roads and Trails project.

Sincerely,

/S/ TERRI MARCERON

TERRI MARCERON  
District Ranger