

DECISION MEMO
USDA FOREST SERVICE
MIAMI CREEK BASIN 10% PROJECT
SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST, MARIPOSA RANGER DISTRICT
MADERA & MARIPOSA COUNTIES, CALIFORNIA

The decision is to implement the Miami Creek Basin 10% Project on the Mariposa Ranger District of the Sierra National Forest. The project will reduce sedimentation of Miami Creek and its Class I-IV stream courses caused by off site movement of sediment from roads. The movement of sediment off site of roads is caused by ineffective drainage structures, degraded road surfaces and location of system roads/trails in proximity to perennial and intermittent stream courses.

The project work includes decommissioning segments of Forest Roads 6S41A and C; repair of roadway, drainage structures and installation of energy dissipaters on Forest Roads 6S17, 6S41, and 6S24. Forest Road 6S41 will be outsloped (where feasible) from Kamook Staging Area to Middle Bridge. Forest Road 6S41C will be blocked at milepost 0.25 with boulders and allowed to a return to natural forest condition. Forest Road 6S41A will be obliterated and rehabilitated beginning at milepost 0.1. Following the decommissioning of the road and removal from the transportation system, the rehabilitation effort will include ripping of the compacted area by use of a winged ripper, installation of water bars, reseeding with native grass mix and mulching the site with a combination of straw and forest debris. Following the rehabilitation of Forest Road 6S41A, the abandoned roadway will be converted to an Off Highway Vehicle trail with a trail width of no more than 4 feet.

Portions of MMTB, Cody and Kaiser Off-Highway Vehicle trails will be relocated away from Miami Creek and its perennial tributaries. The relocated trails will be developed by use of hand tools, follow the contours and be kept to a width of 4 feet or less. Where the relocated trail crosses a Class I-IV stream course an approved crossing of the channel will be installed. These crossings may consist of armoring the channel with rock, low water log/rock crossing or other material and installation of a rock/geoweb crossing. The abandoned portions of these trails will be blocked with boulders to prevent access, covered with forest debris and allowed to be returned to a natural forest condition.

The legal location of the project area is Township 6 South, Range 21 East, Sections 3, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 22 and 23, USGS 1993.

This action is categorically excluded from documentation in an environmental assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act as identified in FSH 1909.15, Sections 31.2. The project is similar to the following actions in sub-heading number 4 "Repair and maintenance of road, trails, and landline boundaries" for which a project file and Decision Memo are not required. However, the responsible official has requested that a case file and Decision Memo be prepared for this action.

Public scoping was accomplished through informal consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and a listing published in the NEPA quarterly, dated April 1st through June 31st of 1999.

No significant issues were identified from internal agency scoping and there are no identified extraordinary circumstances (Section 30.5), that might cause the proposed project to have adverse effects. No threatened or endangered species or their unique habitat will be adversely impacted by this project. A

review of heritage resources determined that existing roadways bisect one archaeological site. However, maintenance and reconstruction of the road surfaces and drainage structures will not affect the integrity of the archaeological resource, provided that tractor and blading activity is limited to existing roadway and the stockpiling of rock and other material is restricted to pre-approved sites.

This decision is not subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 215, and may be implemented immediately after the Decision Memo is signed by the District Ranger.

For further information, please contact Peter Adams, Mariposa Ranger District, 57003 Road 225, PO Box 10, North Fork, California or (559) 877-2218 xt 3152



Thomas C. Efirid

Distinct Ranger

Date: 6-7-99

MIAMI ROADS and TRAILS PROJECT
 MARIPOSA/MINARETS RD
 Township 6South, Range 21 East
 Contour Interval=40 Feet
 Scale= 1:24000; Quad=4182
 Project Area

Roads= — and ...
 Trails= - - -

~~ROAD~~
 TO
 ROAD
 TO
 TRAIL

