

**Forest “Roads Analysis” QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area  
USDA Forest Service  
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***What Is A Forest “Roads Analysis?”***

A Forest “roads analysis” is an assessment of conditions, issues, and needs. It does **NOT** include decisions. This analysis will be conducted on the Forest at large and will be considered a “Forest Scale Analysis.”

***What Will Be Considered In The Forest Scale Analysis?***

The Forest Scale Analysis will consider environmental and social issues, rights-of-way acquisition needs, needed transportation investments, current and likely future funding levels, and the relationship of the Forest’s road system to other transportation systems (e.g. county, town, tribal, state, etc.).

***What Types Of Roads Will A Part Of This Forest Scale Analysis?***

Roads under Forest Service jurisdiction in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area will be included in this analysis.

***What Kind Of Information Will Be In The Final Report?***

The report will cover all classified and unclassified roads; develop guidelines for addressing road management issues and priorities; the identification of significant issues, concerns, and opportunities; and documentation of coordination efforts with the tribes, local governments, and the public.

***Why Is A Forest Road Analysis Being Done At This Time?***

The Forest Service Transportation Policy adopted in 2000 requires that road management decisions that may affect access or generate adverse environmental effects be informed by a “roads analysis.” Because there will be decisions in the Forest Plan revision, as well as future projects, that affect roads and public access, the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area is conducting this analysis. The final forest scale roads analysis must be completed by January 2003.

***How Will The Public Be Involved In This Process?***

Public “open houses” to gather input from the public are planned. An open house in Hood River is scheduled for Tuesday, December 3, 2002 from 6:00-8:30 p.m. at the Hood River Inn, and an open house in Stevenson is scheduled for Wednesday, December 4, 2002 from 6:00-8:30 p.m. at the Rock Creek Center. The objective of these meetings will be to obtain any issues, recommendations, or ideas concerning the existing road system that will be a part of the forest level roads analysis. Additional information can also be obtained on the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area’s website at [www.fs.fed.us/r6/columbia](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/columbia).

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