



File Code: 1950

Date: May 17, 2004

Dear Interested Party;

The Clear/Crazy Designated Motorized Trail System Environmental Assessment is available for comment on the Internet at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/bighorn>. Copies of the Environmental Assessment (EA) are also available for review at the Powder River Ranger District office in Buffalo, WY, or upon request. If you have further questions regarding this EA, please feel free to contact Craig Cope, Interdisciplinary Team Leader at (307) 684-7806.

There are three alternatives: a no action alternative and two action alternatives. With this project the Forest Service proposal will:

- Prohibit all cross country motorized travel in the project area.
- Provide 194 miles of designated ORV trails in a combination of open roads and designated motorized trails.
- Convert 3 miles of road to motorized trails.
- Convert 6 miles of trails to non motorized use for a total of 16 miles of non-motorized trails.
- Remove 16 stream crossings currently causing negative resource impacts.
- Decommission 50 or more miles of user created ORV routes.

Proposed activities would occur west of Buffalo, WY on the southeastern portion of the Bighorn National Forest. Project area is just over 88,000 acres and all within Johnson County, Wyoming.

This Environmental Assessment will be available for a 30-day public comment period, pursuant to 36 CFR 215.6. All written comments must be received within 30 days of the date of publication of the notice of availability for the Environmental Assessment in the Casper Star-Tribune. Written or oral comments may be submitted to Craig Cope at the address listed above. Electronic comments should be sent to mailroom_r2_bighorn@fs.fed.us with "Clear/Crazy Designated Motorized Trail System Project, Attn: Craig Cope" on the subject line. Commenters interested in obtaining appeal eligibility must submit comments in accordance with 36 CFR 215.6. Comments received, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record.

A tour of the project area is scheduled for June 5. Any interested public is invited to meet at the Powder River Ranger District office at 1415 Fort Street, Buffalo, WY at 9 AM. Anyone planning on participating should come prepared for a day in the field with adequate transportation, clothing, food and water. This will be a driving tour with stops in various locations to discuss details of the proposed action.

Sincerely,

JON WARDER
Acting District Ranger

