

Lassen National Forest

Land and Resource Management Plan Amendments, Policy, Laws, Regulation, Manual Direction

Relationships, Interpretations and Precedence of Management Direction for...
Transportation Planning 2/21/01

Planning Direction

HFQLG Herger Feinstein Quincy Library Group (August 20, 1999)

- ❖ Scientific Analysis Team guidelines would supercede other direction, unless the conflicting direction (including PACFISH direction) provides greater protection to riparian and fish habitat or better achieves riparian management objectives.

Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment (January 2001)

- ❖ Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment, (ROD page 17)...”Only those existing plan standards and guidelines in conflict with this decision are replaced”

Additional Management Requirements...

- ❖ Landscape analysis across the Sierra Nevada complete in 5 yrs.subject to available funding. (ROD pg. 13 (F))
- ❖ Inventory of unclassified within 10yrs. Following Roads Analysis Procedures as part of Landscape analysis. (ROD pg. 13 (F))
- ❖ “This decision will follow the National Roads Policy” (ROD pg. 13 (F))

Land Allocations...

1. Wilderness Areas and Wild and Scenic River Areas. Management of these lands follows written direction in applicable legislation and plans. Direction from the standards and guidelines in this decision also applies where it is more restrictive or provides greater benefits to at-risk species, unless application of these standards and guidelines are contrary to legislative or regulatory language or intent.
2. Inventoried Roadless Areas. National management direction from the decision for the Roadless Rule Final EIS prohibits road construction and reconstruction in inventoried roadless areas and limits timber harvesting to projects designed for stewardship purposes.
3. California Spotted Owl Protected activity Centers. California spotted owl protected activity centers (PACs) are unmapped land allocations. PACs overlap other land allocations: standards and guidelines for PACs supercede standards and guidelines for land allocations in which PACs are located. Riparian conservation area standards and guidelines apply to PACs (or portions of PACs) in riparian areas and critical aquatic refuges except where the standards and guidelines for PACs place greater restrictions on management activities.
12. The general forest land allocation lies outside all of the land allocations described above, (i.e. 1-11)? Standards and guidelines for all other allocations supercede general forest standards and guidelines where overlaps occur.
13. Critical aquatic refuges overlap with other land allocations. The standards and guidelines for riparian conservation areas apply in critical aquatic refuges (see section 14. below) except in cases where the standards and guidelines of the overlapping land allocation place greater restrictions on management activities.
14. Riparian conservation areas overlap all land allocations. The standards and guidelines for riparian conservation areas apply in these areas except in cases where

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the standards and guidelines of the overlapping land allocation place greater
restrictions on management activities.

Administration of the Forest Development

Transportation System; Prohibitions; Use of Motor

Vehicles Off Forest service Roads; Final Rule (January 12, 2001)

36 CFR Part 295 Use of motor vehicles off forest development roads.

No comments were received on 36 CFR part 261 or 295 the final rule adopts the text of these sections as proposed.

Forest Service Transportation;

Final Administrative Policy; Notice Part 212-Administration of the Forest Transportation System (January 12, 2001)

212.1 Definitions...were found to agree verbatim with the Roadless Rule.

212.2 Forest Transportation system...describes the transportation atlas and its purpose.
The atlas *does not* contain inventories of temporary roads...

212.5 Road System Management. The responsible official must identify the minimum
road system needed...etc. In determining the minimum road system the responsible
official must incorporate a science based roads analysis process, at the appropriate scale
and to the degree practicable, involve a broad spectrum of interested and affected
citizens...etc.

Description of decommissioning techniques is included.

FSM 7700

- ❖ 7712.16a- Areas Subject to Interim Requirements...Until a comprehensive road inventory and forest –scale roads analysis have been completed and incorporated into the applicable forest plan, the direction in FSM 7712.16a through 7712.16c applies to the following areas: 1. Inventoried roadless areas...2. Contiguous unroaded areas of more than 1,000 acres that are contiguous to RARE II inventoried roadless areas etc. ...These areas of 1,000 acres or more must have a common boundary of considerable length, be at least ¼ mile in width, and provide important corridors for wildlife movement or extend a unique ecological value of the established inventoried area.
- ❖ Do not maintain unclassified roads except under emergency resource protection circumstances. Unclassified roads will be closed and made inaccessible where funding permits unless they are made part of the authorized forest road system...(7703.2 Management Opportunities)...”basically all Management opportunities require roads analysis, incl. Reconstruction and new construction”.

Roadless Area Conservation; Final Rule 36 CFR Part 294 (March 13, 2001)

- ❖ Unroaded areas...The uninventoried unroaded areas would be better evaluated in the context of the new planning regulations at 36 CFR part 219.

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- ❖ Unroaded areas... The planning rule requires that during the plan revision process, or at other times as deemed appropriate, the responsible official must identify and evaluate inventoried roadless areas and unroaded areas and then determine which inventoried roadless areas and unroaded areas warrant additional protection and the level of protection to be afforded. The FEIS disclosed the combined effects of the final planning rule and the final roadless rule as being complementary, not additive.

A Cohesive Strategy; Protecting People And Sustaining Resources and Fire-Adapted Ecosystems (October 13, 2000)

- ❖ The final road management policy provides local decision makers adequate discretion to authorize needed access to meet resource objectives and is therefore, consistent with the agency's cohesive fire strategy;... (from Federal register final policy notice Forest Transportation System)
- ❖ The strategy compliments other work, including efforts to protect roadless areas and to better manage the existing road system. For example, in most places roadless areas are often less affected by past management practices and found at higher elevations with vegetation that evolved with longer fire return intervals. Furthermore, roadless areas are typically removed from human communities. Thus fires in these areas may pose less of a threat to lives and property. The proposed road policy would require that issues such as the need for hazardous fuel treatments be considered prior to making decisions about road decommissioning, upgrading, or new construction. (pg. 17).
- ❖ Third, the ongoing roads policy will ensure that operational decisions relative to implementation- such as which roads should be left open or maintained to enhance firefighting or other fire management activities- are made locally through cooperative planning. (pg. 16)

Questions:

The Act exempts livestock grazing from the application of SAT guidelines for riparian protection during the term of the pilot project, except where resource management activities defined in the Act would be implemented.

Question: What does this mean?

Question: OHV designations... do they mean that no OHV use of designated routes takes place until all routes are designated?

Answer: The SNFA reference to OHV use on designated routes only, is interpreted to mean that this requirement would be enforceable after the Forest level roads analysis takes place, and formally designates routes.

Question: What about firewood cutting? Does the OHV designation cover this?

Answer: Our interpretation would be that OHV use is not the same as Dispersed uses such as picnicking, firewood gathering, etc.