



**File Code: 1950**

**Date: September 14, 2015**

Dear Reader,

The Pleasant Hill Ranger District is proposing the CCC Camp Ozone Native Grass Restoration project. We invite you to submit comments to help refine the proposed activities disclosed in this letter. The Responsible Official is currently analyzing this proposal and needs your assistance to better identify issues, concerns, and opportunities. Pursuant to 36 CFR 218.7(a)(2), this proposed project implements the land management plan and is subject to 218 subparts A and B.

The project area includes approximately 28 acres of federal land located in Johnson County, AR, approximately 18 miles north of Clarksville. Proposed management would occur in Compartment 326, stands 24 & 27. Legal description is Section 28 T12N R23W. Project maps are attached.

Ozone Recreation Area provides day use and overnight camping/hiking opportunities to the public. It includes eight family units, a pavilion for rental, and is adjacent to the Ozark Highlands Trail. Additionally it includes a handicap-accessible interpretive trail approximately 1500-ft long that interprets features associated with the camp used by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) 1935-1942. CCC Camp Ozone (Site 3JO0362) is a historic site recommended eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Given its proximity to the Ozone Recreation area and the Ozark Highlands Trail, this site provides a unique opportunity to educate the public about the role of the CCC in the history of Arkansas.

The Forest Service proposes vegetative management and native grass restoration through combined use of prescribed fire, herbicide and pine/hardwood removal utilizing hand-tools and potentially limited mechanized removal. This would reduce the number of undesirable species and support the development of grasses and forbs. Soil disturbance will be minimal. Proposed treatments would maintain an open canopy consistent with the historical setting and remove encroaching woody vegetation potentially damaging to historic site features. It would also enable development of future interpretive opportunities of portions of the site not currently managed. At this time, the Forest Service proposes interpretation of site features along an approximately 50-ft section of the Ozark Highlands Trail and installation of a flagpole in its historical position at the entrance to the CCC camp. Other opportunities for interpretation are also currently under consideration.

The project area is currently maintained through prescribed burning, limited herbicide use, and weed-eating. Unfortunately, these activities have not been sufficient for controlling woody vegetation adjacent to site features. The removal of vegetation and establishment of native grasses is needed for protection of these features both along the existing interpretive trail and in areas not currently interpreted.



## HOW TO COMMENT

Specific written comments as defined by §218.2 should be within the scope of the proposed action, have a direct relationship to the proposed action, and must include supporting reasons for the responsible official to consider. It is the responsibility of all individuals and organizations to ensure that their comments are received in a timely manner. While comments will be accepted any time during the process, to establish standing for objection eligibility, this designated opportunity is between September 23, 2015 and October 22, 2015.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on these proposed actions and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, anonymous comments will not provide the agency with the ability to provide the respondent with subsequent environmental documents. A 30-day Notice and Comment period will be provided at a future date (§218.24). Only those who respond to this request for comments will remain on the mailing list for this project.

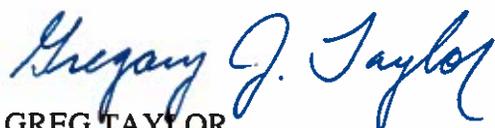
Specific written comments must be submitted to: Jeremy Eubanks, Acting District Ranger, 2591 Hwy 21 N. Clarksville, AR. 72830, fax (479-754-3017), office (479-754-2864). The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Electronic comments must be submitted in a common digital format to *comments-southern-ozark-stfrancis-pleasanthill@fs.fed.us*.

An objection period, if required, will follow the regulation found in §218.7. For objection eligibility (§218.5), only those who have submitted timely, specific written comments during any designated opportunity for public comment may file an objection. Issues to be raised in objections must be based on previously submitted specific written comments regarding the proposed project and attributed to the objector, unless the issue is based on new information that arose after a designated opportunity to comment (§218.8(c)).

Please state "CCC Camp Ozone Native Grass Restoration Project" in the subject line when providing electronic comments, or on the envelope when replying by mail.

Additional information on this project is also available on the webpage: [www.fs.fed.us/r8/osfnf/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/osfnf/). If you would like more information or have questions relating to this proposal, please contact Matt Pfeifler, NEPA Coordinator, by email ([mtpfeifler@fs.fed.us](mailto:mtpfeifler@fs.fed.us)) or by phone (479-754-2864).

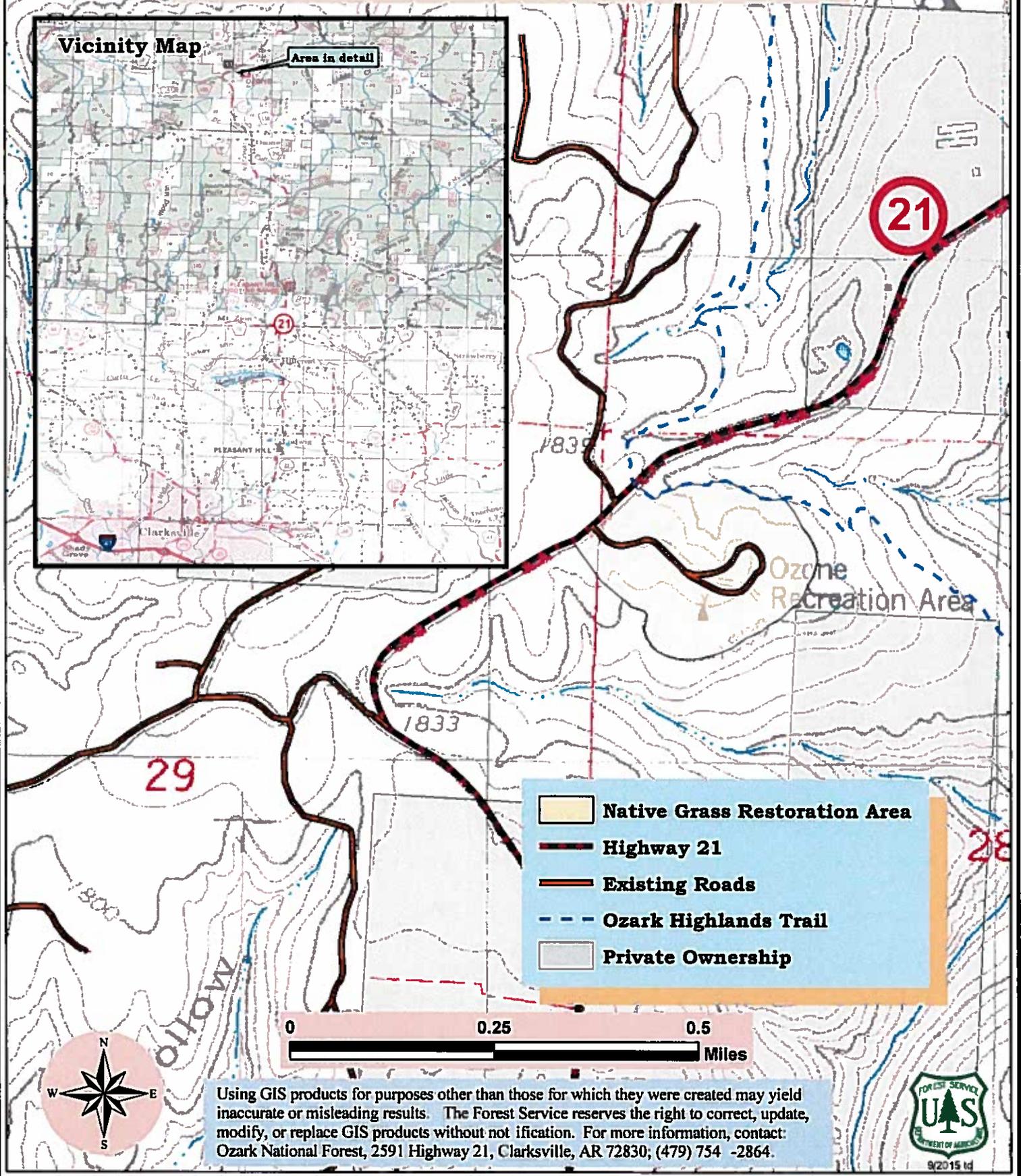
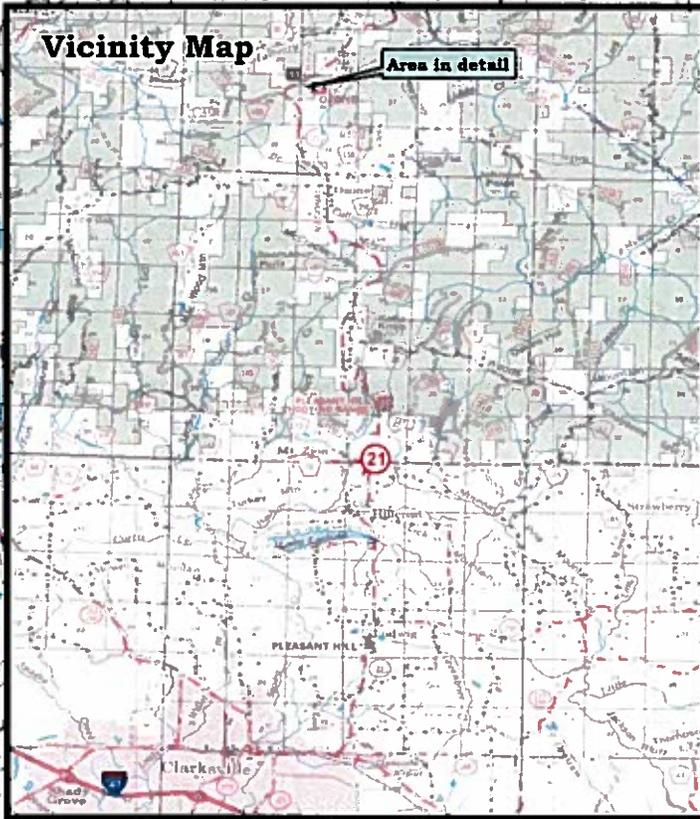
Sincerely,



GREG TAYLOR  
Acting District Ranger

Enclosure

# CCC Camp Native Grass Restoration Project Section 28 & 29, T12N R23W Johnson County, Arkansas



Using GIS products for purposes other than those for which they were created may yield inaccurate or misleading results. The Forest Service reserves the right to correct, update, modify, or replace GIS products without notification. For more information, contact: Ozark National Forest, 2591 Highway 21, Clarksville, AR 72830; (479) 754 -2864.