



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Allegheny National Forest
Bradford Ranger District

29 Forest Service Dr.
Bradford, PA 16701
(814) 362-4613
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File Code: 1950-1

Date: July 30, 2007

Dear Forest Friend:

The USDA Forest Service is proposing vegetation, wildlife, recreation, and road management activities on the Allegheny National Forest (ANF) within the Southwest Reservoir Project Area (see attached maps).

The purpose of this letter is to inform the public of the proposal, which includes tree harvesting, reforestation, prescribed fire, wildlife habitat improvement, scenery management, and road management. Please see the attached project description, maps, and tables for details.

The public is invited to provide comments and suggestions to help identify issues and recommendations related to the proposed actions. An "issue" is described as a point of dispute, debate, or disagreement with the proposed action based on some environmental effect. Significant issues received from the public will be used to formulate alternatives to the proposed action. Your comments are important in making this decision and will be considered for the analysis.

Please address your comments to: Joe Gomola, USDA Forest Service, Bradford Ranger District, 29 Forest Service Drive, Bradford, PA 16701. Comments will also be accepted by electronic mail addressed to: comments-eastern-allegheny-bradford@fs.fed.us. Please reference the Southwest Reservoir Project on the subject line and include your name and physical mailing address with your correspondence. Oral or hand-delivered comments must be received within our normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. To be considered, comments must be postmarked, or otherwise received, no later than August 30, 2007.

Comments received, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for this project and available for public review. After scoping comments are received, issues and alternatives for the Southwest Reservoir Project will be developed.

The Bradford District Ranger is the responsible official. The decision is to approve the proposed action, an alternative to the proposed action, or to take no action at this time. The Forest Service expects a decision of this proposal or an alternate proposal by March 2008. Actions could be implemented 5 to 15 days following a potential appeal disposition.

The Forest Service is concurrently conducting a Roads Analysis Project (RAP) in support of the Southwest Reservoir Project. This analysis takes a detailed look at the existing road system and need for administrative and public access to the area for current and future activities. Individuals interested in providing site-specific road recommendations should contact Iran Martinez at (814)-362-4613 ext. 173.

Sincerely,

/s/ Anthony V. Scardina
ANTHONY V. SCARDINA
District Ranger

Enclosures

