



File Code: 1950

Date: November 14, 2012

Dear Interested Public:

The individual holding a recreation residence permit for Lot 14 of the Bear Creek Lake Tract has submitted a request to construct two extensions to his cabin's porch (7' x 4' and 5' x 14' respectively) and to construct a 5' x 4' addition to his cabin. The total authorized square footage of the cabin's footprint would be changed on the permit from 1,297 square feet to 1,415 square feet. Materials that blend with the natural setting would be used.

This request is consistent with the terms and conditions of the recreation residence permit and direction outlined in the St. Francis National Forest Recreation Residence Guidelines. The St. Francis Ranger District is proposing the permit for this recreation residence use area should be modified and the permit holder should be given authorization to proceed as requested. Lot 14 (0.43 acre) is located within the NE 1/4, Section 5, T. 1N, R. 4E in Lee County, AR as shown on the attached map.

The Forest Service has made a preliminary determination that this proposal falls within a category of actions listed in regulations at 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 220.6, that are excluded from documentation in an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement, and that there are no extraordinary circumstances that would preclude use of that category. [FSH 1909.15, Chapter 30, § 32.2 (3): "*Approval, modification or continuation of minor special uses of National Forest System lands that require less than five contiguous acres of land.*" 36 CFR 220.6(e)(3)]

I am requesting comments on this proposed action. The formal comment period coincides with public scoping and will be the only comment opportunity offered on this project (see 36 CFR 215.5 and 215.6). It is intended to provide those interested in or affected by this proposal an opportunity to make their concerns known before I make a decision on whether or not to approve the permit holder's request to make a change on the use area and to modify the permit. Only those who provide comment or otherwise express interest by the close of the comment period may be eligible to appeal the decision pursuant to regulations at 36 CFR Part 215. Individuals and organizations wishing to be eligible to appeal any decision on this project must meet the information requirements of 36 CFR 215.6. CFRs cited in this letter may be found at <http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/>.

Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, oral, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted for 30 calendar days following publication of a legal notice in the newspaper of record, the *Helena-West Helena Daily World*, Helena-West Helena, AR. The publication date of the legal notice is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for this proposal. Those wishing to comment should not rely on dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.



Please submit written comments to me, District Ranger James R. McCoy, Sylamore-St. Francis Ranger Districts, 1001 East Main, Mountain View, AR 72560. Oral or hand-delivered comments may be delivered at either the Sylamore District Office in Mountain View or at the St. Francis District Office located at 2675 Highway 44, Marianna, AR. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered or oral comments are 7:30 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Comments submitted via facsimile should be sent to (870) 269-3000. Electronic comments should be submitted to comments-southern-ozark-stfrancis-stfrancis@fs.fed.us in a common digital format without attachments. In cases where no identifiable name is attached to a comment, a verification of identity will be required for appeal eligibility. If using an electronic message, a scanned signature is one way to provide verification. Please be aware that comments received in response to this solicitation, including the names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record and will be available for public inspection.

Thank you for your time and for your interest in the management of the St. Francis Ranger District. If you have questions regarding this proposed action please contact Deputy District Ranger Mary Maercklein at (870) 295-5278 in Marianna or J. Swafford at (870) 269-3228 in Mountain View.

Sincerely,

/s/ **James R. McCoy**

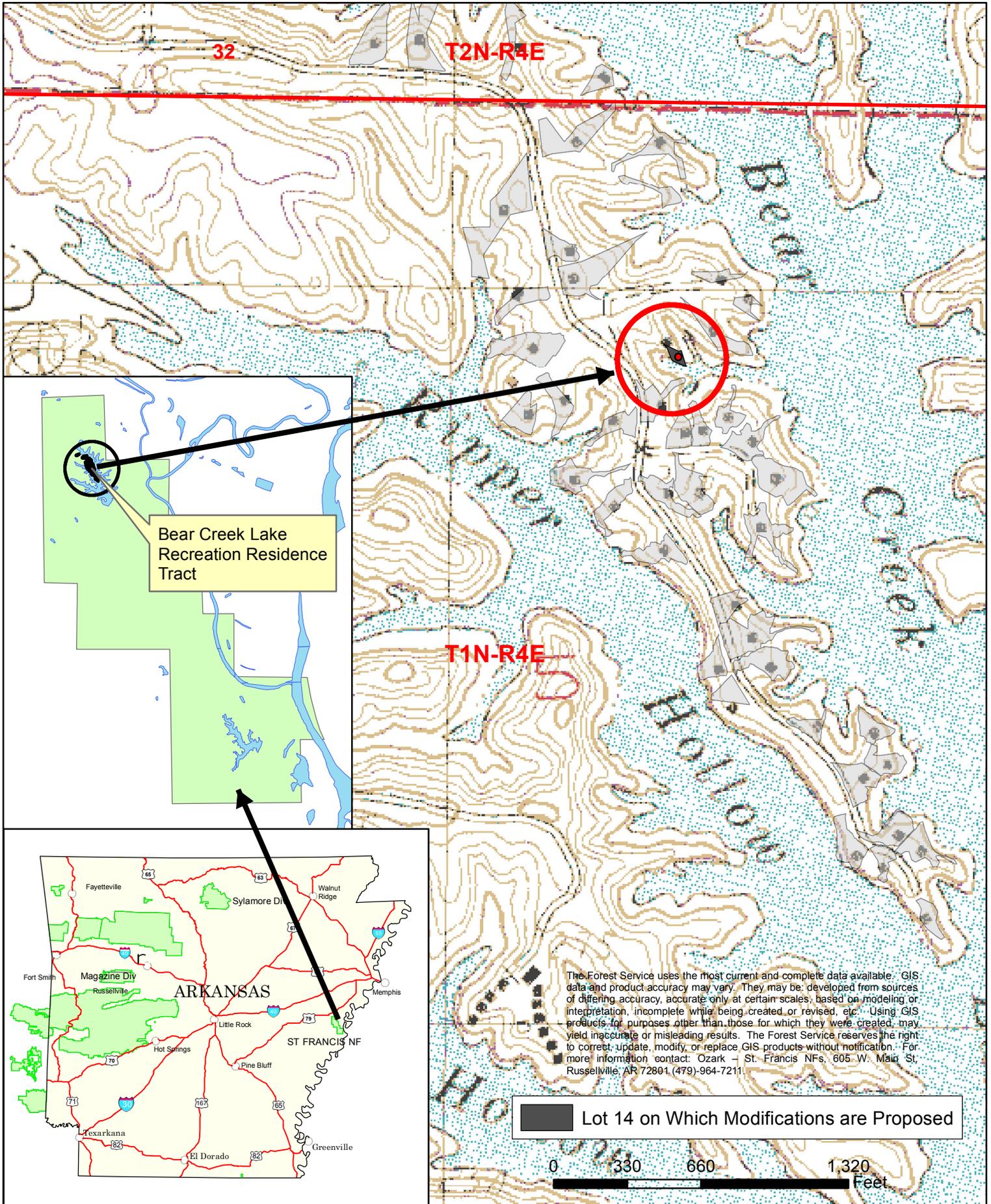
JAMES R. MCCOY
District Ranger, Sylamore-St. Francis Ranger Districts

jlf
attachment (1 map)



St. Francis National Forest

Proposed Modifications for Lot 14
T1N-R4E Section 5



Bear Creek Lake
Recreation Residence
Tract

The Forest Service uses the most current and complete data available. GIS data and product accuracy may vary. They may be developed from sources of differing accuracy, accurate only at certain scales, based on modeling or interpretation, incomplete while being created or revised, etc. 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 - St. Francis NFs, 605 W. Main St, Russellville, AR 72801, (479)-964-7211.

Lot 14 on Which Modifications are Proposed

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Feet