

Legal Notice of Decision

Montana Opticom Fiber Optic Line Project

On September 16, 2013, Lisa Stoeffler, Bozeman District Ranger, signed a Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Montana Opticom Fiber Optic Line Project. The selected alternative includes installing a buried fiber optic line in the disturbed highway right-of-way between Big Sky and Four Corners area. The Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice/Finding of No Significant Impact are available at the Bozeman Ranger District, 3710 Fallon St., Suite C, Bozeman, Montana 59718

This decision is subject to appeal pursuant to regulations at 36 CFR 215. Individuals or organizations who provided comment or otherwise expressed interest in the proposed action during the comment period may appeal. Those who expressed interest or provided comments on this project prior to or after the close of the comment period do not have standing for appeal purposes.

The appeal must be filed (regular mail, fax, email, hand-delivery, express delivery, or messenger service) with the appropriate Appeal Deciding Officer. Submit appeals to: Appeal Deciding Officer, USDA Forest Service, Northern Region, P.O. Box 7669, 200 East Broadway, Missoula, MT 59807. If hand delivered, the appeal must be received at the above address during business hours (Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm), excluding holidays. Electronic appeals may be submitted to appeals-northern-regional-office@fs.fed.us with .doc, .rtf, .pdf, or .txt formats only. The appeal must have an identifiable name attached or verification of identity will be required. Names and addresses of appellants will become part of the public record. A scanned signature may serve as verification on electronic appeals.

Appeals, including attachments, must be in writing, fully consistent with 36 CFR 215.14, and filed (postmarked) within 45 days following the date this notice is published in the Bozeman Daily Chronicle. This publication date is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an appeal. Those wishing to appeal this decision should not rely upon dates or timeframes provided by any other source.

If no appeals are filed within the 45-day time period, implementation of the decision may occur on, but not before, 5 business days from the close of the appeal filing period. When appeals are filed, implementation may occur on, but not before, the 15th business day following the date of the last appeal disposition.

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