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USDA Forest Service Legal Notice of Official Comment Period Public Motorized Travel Management Plan The Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests are preparing a Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement (RDEIS) for the Public Motorized Travel Management Plan in Apache, Coconino, Greenlee, and Navajo counties. The purpose of this project is to comply with the Travel Management Rule by providing a system of roads, trails, and areas designated for motor vehicle use (36 CFR 212) and for that system to reduce impacts to biological, physical, and cultural resources in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests. This RDEIS analyzed three alternatives. The preferred alternative is Alternative 2 - The Proposed Action. The road system would have 15 percent fewer open roads and 68 percent more motorized trails than the current system under this alternative. That would result in 2,889 miles of National Forest System roads open to public motorized travel and 202 miles of motorized trails. The proposed action would designate 300 feet from on one or both sides of around 35 percent of the designated open roads (1,027 miles) for the sole purpose of accessing dispersed camping locations. Where compliant with the Forest Plan, motorized big game retrieval would be allowed within a 1-mile distance off the designated road and motorized trail system (1.2 million acres) for elk. There would be one motorized use area designated (17 acres). All other motorized cross-country travel would be prohibited. The documents are available at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=22692>. (<https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=22692>.) We are conducting public meetings during the comment period to share information. Open house meetings will be held on September 10, 12 and 19. More details are available at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/TMPHomePage>.

(<http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/TMPHomePage>.) Additional information, including requests for a hard copy of the Revised DEIS, please contact the Travel Management hotline at 928-333-6267 or send an email to asnfttravel@fs.fed.us. The Apache-Sitgreaves Forest Supervisor is the responsible official for this project. The project is subject to the objection process pursuant to 36 CFR 218, subparts A and B. The Notice of Availability for the Revised DEIS is expected to be published in the Federal Register on Friday, August 30, 2019. Comments will be accepted for 60 days beginning on the first day after the date of publication of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register. Comments will be accepted until the end of the next Federal working day if the comment period ends on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday. The publication date in the Federal Register is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source. It is the responsibility of the persons providing comments to submit them by the close of the comment period. Electronic comments including attachments may be submitted by electronically in word (.doc), rich text format (.rtf), text (.txt), hypertext markup language (.html), or portable document format (.pdf). Specific written comments may also be submitted via mail or hand delivered to Supervisor's Office (30 S. Chiricahua Drive, Springerville AZ 85938) between the hours of 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays. Comments can be mailed to Travel Management Plan Comments, P.O. Box 640, Springerville, AZ 85938; faxed to 928-333-5966; or submitted electronically at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/TMPWrittenComments>. (<http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/TMPWrittenComments>.) Geographic-based comments can be submitted (as

explained under tab 3 of the interactive map application) at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/TMPCommentMap>.
(<http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/TMPCommentMap>.) Published in White Mountain Independent: #52420, F,
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