



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie
National Forest
Mt. Baker Ranger District

810 State Route 20
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284
(360) 856-5700

File Code: 1950

Date: August 30, 2010

Illabot Road (FS Road 16)

Dear Interested Public:

The Mount Baker Ranger District of the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest is seeking comments on a proposal to decommission 14.5 miles of the Illabot Road (FS Road 16). Information about the project and possible alternatives to the proposal is provided in the enclosures. The project area is located approximately 15 miles east of the town of Concrete and 13 miles north of Darrington, Washington (Location Map). The project area is accessed by State Route 530. The legal description of the project area is: Township 34 north, Ranges 10 and 11 east.

As part of this environmental analysis process, required by the National Environmental Policy Act, I am asking those who may be interested in the proposed project for their comments and concerns. As the Responsible Official, I plan to issue an Environmental Assessment (EA) for public review in January 2011. Your comments would be most valuable if received by October 1, 2010. Comments on this project may be submitted electronically, through the mail, by fax, or hand delivered. Electronic comments may be sent to: dgay@fs.fed.us. Written comments should be sent to: Jon Vanderheyden, District Ranger, Mount Baker Ranger District, 810 State Route 20, Sedro-Wooley, WA 98284-1263. Facsimile comments can be sent by fax to (360) 856-1934. Hand delivered comments can be brought to the Ranger District Office at the above address during business hours. The Responsible Official is Jon Vanderheyden, District Ranger. For further information regarding this project, please contact Don Gay, Interdisciplinary Team Leader, Mt. Baker Ranger District, at (360) 854-2632, or email at dgay@fs.fed.us.

If you would prefer to receive this information hard copy please contact Don Gay and he will provide it.

/s/ Jon Vanderheyden

Jon Vanderheyden
District Ranger

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Parts 215 or 217. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons



requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requester of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within 10 days.