



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Ottawa National Forest
Supervisor's Office

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File Code: 1950

Date: December 12, 2012

Dear Interested Party:

Enclosed is a copy of the Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (DN/FONSI) for the Eastern Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Connector Route Project. The Decision Notice documents my Decision to proceed with Alternative 2-modified and provides a rationale for this Decision. Alternative 2-modified is mostly identical to Alternative 2 as presented in the Environmental Assessment for the project; however, it includes a minor modification in the vicinity of Sidnaw, Michigan, to use Forest Road 2011-K as proposed in Alternative 3 instead of FR 2011-G as originally proposed in Alternative 2.

This decision includes the establishment of two OHV connector routes that would allow for contiguous OHV travel between the State of Michigan Multi-Use trails on the eastern side of the Ottawa. The Iron River to Sidnaw Route would allow motorized travel between the Iron River to Marenisco and Sidnaw to Bergland State Multi-Use trails, as well as between the communities of Iron River, Sidnaw, and Kenton, Michigan. The Sidnaw to Rousseau Route would connect the Sidnaw to Bergland State Multi-Use Trail and Bill Nicholls Trail. This route would allow OHV travel between the communities of Sidnaw and Rousseau, Michigan. The Eastern OHV Connector Route would be accomplished through the use of forest roads and minor segments of new trail on NFS lands, as well as roads of other jurisdictions (i.e. county roads) that are currently open to OHV use (see a detailed description of the Decision on page 2-6). The Finding of No Significant Impact documents my finding that the project will not result in significant impacts and that an Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act.

This DN/FONSI is being mailed or emailed to those who provided comments on the initial scoping document or the Environmental Assessment, or who have expressed an interest in receiving documentation related to all Ottawa National Forest projects. These documents and additional supporting documents are also available on the Forest's website: <http://fs.usda.gov/goto/ottawa/projects>. If you need additional information or would like to receive hard copy documents, please contact Susanne Adams, District Ranger, at the Ontonagon Ranger District office (telephone: 906-884-2085, extension 14; e-mail: smadams@fs.fed.us). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Sincerely,

ANTHONY V. SCARDINA
Forest Supervisor

