



File Code: 1950

Date: April 17, 2014

Seth Crawford
Crook County Commissioner
300 NE Third Street, Room 10
Prineville, OR 97754

Dear Mr. Crawford,

The Ochoco National Forest is interested in your comments regarding a proposal to expand the number of multi-use, non-motorized trails within the vicinity of the Lookout Mountain Recreation Area. The Lookout Mountain Trails proposal would create a 75.2 mile network of non-motorized multi-use trail on both existing and new trail miles; approximately 25 percent of the network would be new trail. Our staff has been working with various members of the community, including the Central Oregon Trail Alliance (COTA), to help develop this proposal. Your comments will help identify issues to be considered on the environmental review of this project.

Location

The Lookout Mountain Trail project is located on both the Lookout Mountain and Paulina Ranger Districts. The project area is in T13S, R19E and 20 E; T14S, R19E, 20E, 21E; T15S, R20E, 21E. Please refer to the enclosed maps for the trail locations.

Purpose and Need

The purpose of the project is to respond to the increased demand in non-motorized trail recreation on the Ochoco National Forest. The Lookout Mountain Trail project proposal responds to the direction in the Ochoco National Forest Land and Resource Plan which encourages mountain bike use (Forest Plan 4-25) both on the Forest and within the Lookout Mountain Recreation Area (Forest Plan, 4-183, 4-188). In addition, designating an official non-motorized trail system would discourage users from building unauthorized trails and thereby prevent unwanted resource damage. There is a need to expand the non-motorized trail network that allows multiple trail options, lessens congestion and reduces trail user conflict by expanding the available miles of non-motorized trails.

Proposed Action

Specifically, the proposal includes 35.4 miles of existing summer trail that would be linked to 4.6 miles of trail conversion on decommissioned roads, 5.9 miles of trail on road-to-trail conversion or within existing corridors of administratively closed roads, and 11.7 miles of trail in existing open road corridors linked by 17.6 miles of new trail for a total network of 75.2 miles. The majority of the new trail would be constructed along FS Roads 22 and 42 and within the Lookout Mountain Recreation Area. See attached map for the location of trails and a breakdown of the trail by trail development type.

The proposal uses old/decommissioned roads, creates trails within road corridors, and resurrects old infrequently used trail heads – all in an effort to minimize the disturbance yet increase the availability of sustainable non-motorized recreation carrying capacity. Within the existing network of trails and closed/decommissioned roads (54.9 miles) mountain bike use is currently permissible.



| Trail Summary | Length (Miles) |
|--|----------------|
| New Proposed Trail | 17.6 |
| Road-to-Trail Conversion (Decommissioned) Roads) | 4.6 |
| Road-to-Trail Conversion or Trail in Road Corridor (Administratively Closed Roads) | 5.9 |
| Trail in Road Corridor (Open Road) | 11.7 |
| Existing Summer Trail | 35.4 |
| Total | 75.2 |

Preliminary Issues

Issues that are being considered include the effects of expanding trail density on wildlife habitat, wild horse management, late and old forest structure, existing recreation and water quality. New trails to be constructed would be designed to modern, sustainable trail best practices and trail construction techniques would include hand tools and small machinery. Volunteers would perform much of the trail construction. Completion of trail project planning and implementation would be dependent on internal resource capacity and external funding.

Public Involvement

We are inviting your comments on this proposal. Your comments will be used to help us determine if these proposed activities are appropriate to implement or if alternate activities should be considered. Your comments would be most useful if they are focused specifically on issues pertaining to the proposed action and environmental consequences of the proposed action.

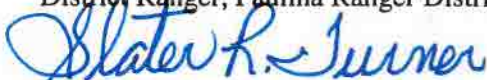
Comments may be mailed to our attention at 3160 NE Third Street, Prineville, OR, 97754, faxed to (541) 416-6695, or emailed to comments-pacificnorthwest-ochoco@fs.fed.us. Comments may also be hand-delivered between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Oral comments may be provided during normal business hours at (541) 416-6500. To be most useful, your comments on this proposed action should be received by the Ochoco National Forest on or before April 28, 2014.

For further information or questions regarding the proposed project, please contact Lynn Roby at 3160 NE Third Street, Prineville, OR 97754 or via telephone at (541) 416-6500.

Sincerely,



SANDRA HENNING
District Ranger, Paulina Ranger District



SLATER TURNER
District Ranger, Lookout Mountain Ranger District

File Code: 1950

Date: April 28, 2014

Chris Perry
County Judge, Wheeler County
PO Box 447
Fossils OR 97830

Dear Mr. Perry,

The Ochoco National Forest is interested in your comments regarding a proposal to expand the number of multi-use, non-motorized trails within the vicinity of the Lookout Mountain Recreation Area. The Lookout Mountain Trails proposal would create a 75.2 mile network of non-motorized multi-use trail on both existing and new trail miles; approximately 25 percent of the network would be new trail. Our staff has been working with various members of the community, including the Central Oregon Trail Alliance (COTA), to help develop this proposal. Your comments will help identify issues to be considered on the environmental review of this project.

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SANDRA HENNING
District Ranger, Paulina Ranger District



SLATER TURNER
District Ranger, Lookout Mountain Ranger District

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Date: April 28, 2014

Dear Interested Citizen,

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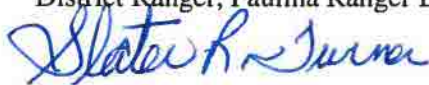
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District Ranger, Paulina Ranger District



SLATER TURNER
District Ranger, Lookout Mountain Ranger District



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Ochoco National Forest
Lookout and Paulina Ranger
Districts

3160 NE 3rd Street
Prineville, OR 97754
(541) 416-6500

File Code: 1950

Date: March 26, 2014

Don Gentry, Chair
Klamath Tribe
P.O.Box 436
501 Chiloquin Blvd.
Chiloquin, Oregon 97624

**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN
RECEIPT REQUESTED
NUMBER:**

Dear Mr. Gentry:

The Ochoco National Forest is developing a proposal to expand the number of multi-use, non-motorized trails within the vicinity of the Lookout Mountain Recreation Area. The Lookout Mountain Trails proposal would create a 78.8 mile network of non-motorized multi-use trail on both existing and new trail miles; approximately 30 percent of the network would be new trail. Our staff has been working with various members of the community, including the Central Oregon Trail Alliance (COTA), to help develop this proposal. The Lookout Mountain Trail project is located on both the Lookout Mountain and Paulina Ranger Districts. The project area is in T13S, R19E and 20 E; T14S, R19E, 20E, 21E; T15S, R20E, 21E. Please refer to the enclosed maps for the trail locations.

This letter is provided in advance of public notification and the project is still in the development stage; more detailed information will be available as the project progresses.

In accordance with our government-to-government consultation we welcome any comments and assistance in determining the effects of this project on historic properties (prehistoric through historic resources of significance) as defined in 36CFR800.2e. Please contact us via mail or email, and include your comments or input in response to this letter. If you so request, we will provide information about our efforts to identify and protect historic properties at future public meetings on this project and offer field trips to the project area.





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Ochoco National Forest
Lookout and Paulina Ranger
Districts

3160 NE 3rd Street
Prineville, OR 97754
(541) 416-6500

File Code: 1950

Date: March 26, 2014

Charlotte Rodrique, Chairperson
Burns Paiute Tribe
100 Pasigo Street
Burns, OR 97720

**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN
RECEIPT REQUESTED
NUMBER:**

Dear Ms Rodrique:

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3160 NE 3rd Street
Prineville, OR 97754
(541) 416-6500

File Code: 1950

Date: March 26, 2014

Stanley Smith
Council Chairman
Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs
P.O. Box C
Warm Springs, Oregon 97761

**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN
RECEIPT REQUESTED
NUMBER:**

Dear Mr. Stanley Smith, Council Chairman:

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"Of puns it has been said that those who most dislike them are those who are least able to utter them." ~ Edgar Allan Poe

Central Oregonian

CROOK COUNTY'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Welcome to our editorial page, where the opinions of our editors, our readers and the community in general are showcased.

It's your right to know what government is doing

For government to be of, by and for the people, it must be out in front of the people.

The theme for Sunshine Week 2019 is simply, "It's your right to know."

The reason it's your right to know is that it's your government.

From the courthouse, to the statehouse to the White House, it is your right to know what government is up to.

Every deliberation by city council, county commission, the General Assembly or U.S. Congress is the people's business.

Every penny spent by local, state and federal government is your money.

Every document held in the halls of government belongs to you.

Transparency is not, or at least should not be, partisan.

Access to government meetings and public documents should never be arduous or even controversial.

Government derives all of its powers from the public and is answerable to the public.

It is unfortunate state and federal laws are needed to protect the public's right to know.

Of course, we know those laws

are needed and more often than not must be leveraged by people requesting even the most basic information from elected and appointed officials.

No branch of government should exempt itself from freedom of information laws, and no person in government should seek to circumvent those laws.

Accessing government information and attending deliberative meetings should simply be viewed as democracy in action and not as an adversarial relationship between the governing and the governed.

Access laws are not media laws.

Every person should have free and open access.

The right to know is not only an American right, it is fundamentally right.

Government secrecy that goes beyond national security is fundamentally wrong.

So records custodians at city hall, the county courthouse, with the public school system or at the state capitol must not bristle when a person asks for public records. The records requestors are simply asking for a copy of what belongs to them already.

Records requestors should not create an unnecessarily hostile relationship when making requests.

A records request and fulfillment should be a basic, and ordinary, transaction between government and the public it serves.

City council, county commission, the board of education, the General Assembly and its committees should not balk at the public's right to attend meetings and should not look for every excuse to retreat into an executive session or closed door meeting.

Attending meetings, sitting in on deliberations, understanding not only what decisions are reached but how those decisions are reached are all things which are simply basic American rights, fundamental to living in an open and free society.

In our politically charged, polarized, vitriolic climate, there is very little conservatives and progressives can agree on.

The public's right to know is one thing that everyone, both in and out of government, both left and right leaning, and at the local, state and federal levels, should agree on.

We are the government.

The government is us.

It is, therefore, everyone's fundamental right to know what government is, and is not, doing.

Jim Zachary is CNHI's Deputy National Editor, regional editor for its Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Alabama and Texas newspapers and Editor of The Valdosta (Georgia) Daily Times. He is the vice-president of and FOI trainer for the Georgia First Amendment Foundation. He can be reached at jzachary@cnhi.com blog: transparencyprojectofgeorgia.com @OpenGovGa.

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Jim Zachary is CNHI's Deputy National Editor, regional editor for its Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Alabama and Texas newspapers and Editor of The Valdosta (Georgia) Daily Times. He is the vice-president of and FOI trainer for the Georgia First Amendment Foundation. He can be reached at jzachary@cnhi.com blog: transparencyprojectofgeorgia.com @OpenGovGa.

An update on recreation planning

More people recreating on federal lands means it's necessary to prepare for continued increases in recreation use

Despite the record amount of snow we received last month, March and April are sure to bring warmer temperatures, and before long, people will start planning their summer hiking and camping adventures.

This month, I'd like to provide some updates on our recreation program for the Ochoco National Forest and the Crooked River National Grassland.

One question we commonly receive is whether visitation is trending upward. Many people feel like it must be, as do many of us who work for the land management agency, but depending on the location, visitation can be difficult to measure. National Forests are very different from National Parks in this regard. There are multiple points of entry to a National Forest, and no one is standing in a ticket booth counting vehicles as they enter and leave.

We sometimes look to the cash receipts and visitation records at our fee sites as one indicator. This only accounts for a portion of our campgrounds (many are free), and entirely misses dispersed campers and other visitors. According to fees collected, visitation at our concessionaire-operated campgrounds has steadily increased by 4 or 5 percent each year. Visitation at Skull Hollow Campground on the Grassland, our busiest recreation site, has increased by about 15 percent each year.

We've undertaken other efforts recently to better understand how people are using the Forest and Grassland. Last year, we took part in a year-long survey called National Visitor Use Monitoring. Employees patrolled select locations throughout the season, administering surveys to visitors who wished to provide answers.

The survey seeks to measure the volume of recreation visitation and produce descriptions of what types of

activities people are pursuing, where they're traveling from, and how much money they're spending in local businesses on their trips. The report is not yet available but will be posted to our website once it's finished.

We also took part in a multi-year online survey that invited people to weigh in on what places they visit across the Ochoco, Grassland and Deschutes National Forests, what they value about different locations, and what types of activities are important to them. That survey, called Human Ecology Mapping, yielded many different responses and emphasized that certain areas of the Forest and Grassland are widely used by many different people, and for a variety of recreation types and uses.

Finally, a 2016 study by the University of Oregon and the U.S. Forest Service, titled "National Forests and Communities: The relationships between



Out on the Ochoco
Shane Jeffries

See JEFFRIES / Page A9



READERS' LETTERS

Natural Resources Management Act a good start

Senate Bill 47, The Natural Resources Management Act, recently passed both houses as part of a package of major public lands bills.

This act includes Sen. Ron Wyden's version of House Bill 2075, The Crooked River Ranch Fire Protection Act, introduced in the House by Rep. Greg Walden.

I want to thank both Sen. Wyden and Rep. Walden for their efforts to help prevent wildfires on public lands adjacent to Crooked River Ranch through passage of SB 47.

Sen. Wyden's amendments to Rep. Walden's bill improved wildfire protection through the release of 688 acres of Wilderness Study Area while providing for fuels reduction and restrictions on vehicular access.

Now there is the opportunity to build upon the work started with this legislation and address other unresolved issues on public lands near Crooked River Ranch, such as vandalism and the destruction of precious natural resources.

There are significant recreational, fishery, wildlife, scenic and archeological values associated with these lands

that deserve special designation to provide permanent protection.

Let's hope our congressional delegation will now work with the concerned public to protect the larger Lower Crooked, Middle Deschutes and Lower Whychus Creek area.

Henry Mottl
Powell Butte

Abolishing the electoral college is a bad idea

Watching the field of Democrat "wanna-bes" — from New York's Ocasio-Cortez, and Ilhan Omar, the Muslim congresswoman from Minnesota, to the rantings of Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren, the self-proclaimed Native American — it looks like the wanna-bes took pages out of the Karl Marx playbook. The field of far left candidates is also now eight or 10 espousing their liberal approach.

As we watch this, suddenly reality sets in. The heavily populated East Coast states, the state of California and the state of Texas with their influx of immigrants who are voters, could put a liberal wanna-be in the White House if the move to do away with the electoral college were successful.

To ensure we keep these off-the-charts

liberals at bay, it is critical we maintain the electoral college. A nationwide popular vote would essentially make the votes of Oregon along, with other western/midwestern states, meaningless. They would be subservient to the heavily populated East Coast states.

There is a move to abandon the electoral college in favor of the popular vote to determine who sits in the White House supported by Sen. Merkley. Bad move for Oregon Sen. Merkley.

The apparent front-runner of this group of wanna-bes lists as one of her concerns bovine flatulence contributing to global warming. Absolutely amazing! And even more amazing is the amount of press she gets.

Being a congresswoman from New York, the amount of popular votes she could conceivably muster makes the popular votes, given the electoral college were abolished, simply not worth Oregonians bothering to vote.

Our legislative delegation needs to know cows passing gas would do little for Oregonians. It may be that some new faces in our Oregon legislative delegation would help put a stop to this stupidity coming out of Washington and get on with the business of running the country.

Don Smith
Prineville

Central Oregonian

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Opioids:

From page A1

in 2000 to as high as eight earlier this decade before declining to around six in more recent years. Historically, pharmaceutical opioids have been the culprit twice as often as heroin, but since 2015, a rise in heroin overdose deaths and decline in overdoses on pharmaceuticals has resulted in the numbers for each being about the same in 2017.

To combat the problem, health leaders have begun to more closely scrutinize when they prescribe opiates, who they provide them to, and for how long.

"At St. Charles, as well as emergency physicians in general, we try to be very cautious to balance the risk and benefit of a medication, an opiate are obviously a very risky medication," McGowan said. "So, if patients are on medications for long term and certainly if they are using them for chronic pain, we usually encourage them to go back to their primary doctors. Generally, we don't refill medications if they have been lost or stolen — we encourage them to go back to their primary doctors."

McGowan added that physicians will often have conversations with patients who seem to be addicted to or abusing opiates and tell them they are concerned that they may have a problem and steer them toward treatment resources in the community.

In addition, emergency department personnel are now required to query the Oregon Prescription Drug Monitoring Database, which tells physicians who else is prescribing medication to a patient, how many refills they have received, and how many prescriptions for pain medication they have received in the past year. McGowan notes that the database has limitations, namely that it does not provide information for patients who may have been seen in neighboring states.

Another safeguard is physicians can produce a print-out for frequent users of the emergency department, which opiate-dependent people often are, to review how often they have come in and for what medical conditions.

Oregon Health Authority data shows that prescription rates are in steady decline since peaking locally at more than 300 prescription fills per thousand residents in 2014 and nearly 250 statewide toward the end of 2012. Crook County numbers have since dropped to a bit more than 200 and statewide about 150. Deschutes and Jefferson counties have followed the same trend, and both counties have slightly lower prescription rates than Crook County.

The downward trend opioid prescriptions comes at a time when St. Charles put greater emphasis on other methods of pain management. McGowan said that other medications and treatments can absolutely be effective.

"Medicine is something that is continually evolving, and we are continuing to learn and trying to do things better," she said. "Fifteen years ago, when I started practicing medicine, we were told opiates are not addictive, you can give them to everybody and they will be just fine. We have unfortunately learned that is absolutely not the case. Now we are trying to figure out what the right balance of that is."

McGowan said that the prevailing belief is opiates are not a good option for treating people with chronic pain. She points out that such medications are typically a good option to treat major injuries or other medical situations like passing a kidney stone where pain is intense but temporary.

"That is going to be a time-limited thing," she says of the opiate prescription, adding that patients are given enough to last a few days.

However, opiates are no longer considered a good medication option for people who are dealing with chronic pain, fibromyalgia or other long-term conditions.

"There are much better alternatives for this type of pain," McGowan said. "There are actually physicians who specialize in pain management, and we have several with St. Charles who are able to take patients with Chronic Complex Pain Syndrome and help them find ways to wean off those opiates and find other medications and ways to address their pain that are safer."

In addition to connecting opiate users with pain man-

agement physicians, people can turn to treatment facilities in the Crook County community, McGowan said.

"There are some really successful ways to treat this and get patients off of opiates and back to a place where their pain is well controlled," she said.

While hospital leaders institute changes to slow opioid abuse, the Crook County Health Department has been taking their own steps to combat the crisis. Heather Stuart, the department's prevention coordinator, said CCHD is pursuing a grant that would focus on preventing the onset and reducing the progression of opioid use in people ages 9 to 20. The health department is also trying to add a staff member dedicated solely to opioid overuse and abuse, although those efforts have not yet been fruitful.

In addition, the health department's AmeriCorps VISTA Katie Walsh has been working on an opioid assessment for Crook County.

"She has been meeting with stakeholders around the community," Stuart said of the effort, noting that she has talked to the Prineville Police Department, District Attorney Wade Whiting and others.

The information will be used in part to develop a chronic pain class, Stuart said, which would require them to know first how many people experience chronic pain and then determine how many people use opioids — legal or illegal — to deal with that pain.

"The Central Oregon Health Council has a regional workshop called the Pain Standards Task Force," Stuart added. "Right now, they are getting ready to release information around acute pain guidelines."

Another continual issue driving the opioid crisis is medication getting into the wrong hands. McGowan points out that about 80 percent of overdose patients got the medication from someone else. She notes that some people will have surgery or get injured, receive opiates and then fail to use them all and either lose them or have them stolen.

"So if you are not using that medication anymore, take it to a pharmacy or to any local law enforcement (agency)," she said. "They are happy to help us dispose of those medication properly."

Jeffries:

From page A5

land and people in the Pacific Northwest Region," estimated 172,000 visitors per year to the Ochoco and the Grassland between 2010 and 2015.

Even though we don't have exact visitation numbers, we are preparing for continued increases in recreation use. The fact that the population across Central Oregon continues growing at a steady clip means we will likely experience something similar on our public lands. To that end, I want to update you on two recent efforts that seek to get out in front of the growth with recreation planning.

Last year, I issued a decision for the Skull Hollow Campground and Trailhead Improvement Project that authorizes up to 32 additional campsites and a number of other improvements to the parking area and trailhead. Skull Hollow has long been a favorite camping spot for overflow visitors to Smith Rock State Park, and a popular recreation area during the spring when other public lands are still under snow. Its close proximity to Madras, Prineville, Terrebonne and Redmond mean large numbers of people can easily get there.

For many years, we've been challenged to manage the many different uses taking place in the Skull Hollow area while protecting the natural resources and ensuring

visual scenic quality. For instance, tent campers can often scatter across the trailhead, blocking access for hikers and equestrians while horse trailers are often parked in multiple directions because there is no defined parking area. We also struggle to control invasive weed infestations, and the fire danger they cause, without well-defined trails, parking and camping areas. Overall, this project will help to alleviate many of these issues and make the experience more enjoyable for visitors.

You may have also heard about a recent proposal from the Ochoco Trails Strategy Group to designate a number of non-motorized trails or trail extensions in the Ochoco Mountains. The National Forest has been working with this group for more than a year, mostly in a technical advisory role, as the group worked through ideas from different user groups for expanded recreation trail opportunities. Last fall, the group's work culminated in a proposal. They held a public meeting in Prineville to share their ideas. The meeting was well-attended, and the group further refined their proposal based on conversations with the public.

The group's work is very useful for several reasons. Different user groups frequently come to the Forest Service requesting new trails, such as a new equestrian experience or more mountain biking opportunities. It can be difficult to coordinate and balance individual trail proposals with the various other

user groups, the conservation community, and the public at large.

The Ochoco Trails Strategy Group has done all the coordination on the front end by bringing the different interest groups together for lengthy dialogue and reaching consensus before making a proposal. Their work has the added benefit of originating with local users and groups for a community-based vision, rather than a plan the agency tries to create for them. The Prineville-Crook County Chamber of Commerce played an integral role in bringing the group together, and the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council provided professional, third-party facilitation to ensure a fair, transparent process.

Moving forward, the Forest Service plans to take the group's proposal and apply the customary analysis, which includes seeking and responding to public comments. Our hope is to land on a trail expansion plan that accommodates growing and future use, while protecting the natural and scenic qualities that people enjoy about the Ochoco National Forest. I want to thank the group for all of their hard work on this proposal, and I look forward to more conversation with them, the public, and our new Recreation Program Manager Chris Joosen, as we consider the proposal.

Shane Jeffries is the Ochoco National Forest Supervisor. He can be reached at 541-416-6500.



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File Code: 1950

Date:

MAR 19 2020

Cecil Dick
Chairman
Burns-Paiute Tribe
100 Pasigo Street
Burns, OR 97720

Dear Chairman Dick:

The Ochoco National Forest is requesting consultation and input from the Burns Paiute Tribe for several trail development projects.

The Forest has been working with the Ochoco Trails Strategy Group (OTSG) over the last couple of years to develop proposals for sustainable trail systems that meet current demand for recreation opportunities. OTSG is a collaborative with representation from various user groups. Input from the Forest Service and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has helped focus the trail proposals and avoid areas of sensitive resource concerns, such as elk security habitat.

The following four projects are now under consideration for development on the Ochoco: Allen Creek Equestrian Trails, Dry Creek Equestrian Trails, Bandit Springs Summer Trails, and Corral Flat Equestrian Endurance Trail System. See the attached document for more detail and maps. We expect these trail projects to be analyzed and approved through a combination of Categorical Exclusions and Environmental Assessments, depending on the scope of resource issues that arise during public outreach. Public scoping is expected to begin this spring.

Under revised regulations for implementing the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian tribal officials and members are invited to comment and assist in how we determine the effects of proposed activities on historic properties (prehistoric through historic resources of significance) as defined in 36 CFR 800.2e. Your participation is encouraged throughout the Section 106 process, from first determining methods of identifying evidence of past human use and occupation of the area, and evaluating whether such resources would qualify as historic properties under NHPA. The final step after identifying historic properties is determining what effects, if any, the proposed project may have on any such historic property and how to reduce or eliminate those effects.

Some of the project area may have been surveyed in the past for historic properties. Additional survey will be completed by the Forest Service and will be based on environmental factors that can affect past human use, and any input we receive from you. There is little ground disturbance associated with most of these projects, as they primarily occur on a combination of system and user-created roads and trails.

Your comments about the development of this project or other concerns are welcome and would be considered in the decision. We welcome your input at any time during the project development and analysis; however, your comments would be most helpful if received by April 20, 2020. You may provide comments by mail or email. Please direct any confidential



comments to Penni Borghi, Forest Archaeologist and Tribal Liaison. If the information provided is confidential, it will not be included in the project record. General comments or feedback may be submitted by email to Beth.Peer@usda.gov or mailed to 3160 NE 3rd Street, Prineville, OR 97754. Hand-delivered and oral comments may be delivered to the same address during normal business hours.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Shane Jeffries', written in a cursive style.

A. SHANE JEFFRIES
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure

cc: Calla Hagle; Diane Teeman



File Code: 1950

Date:

MAR 19 2020

Don Gentry, Chairman
Klamath Tribes
PO Box 436
Chiloquin, OR 97624

Dear Chairman Gentry:

The Ochoco National Forest is requesting consultation and input from the Klamath Tribes for several trail development projects.

The Forest has been working with the Ochoco Trails Strategy Group (OTSG) over the last couple of years to develop proposals for sustainable trail systems that meet current demand for recreation opportunities. OTSG is a collaborative with representation from various user groups. Input from the Forest Service and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has helped focus the trail proposals and avoid areas of sensitive resource concerns, such as elk security habitat.

The following four projects are now under consideration for development on the Ochoco: Allen Creek Equestrian Trails, Dry Creek Equestrian Trails, Bandit Springs Summer Trails, and Corral Flat Equestrian Endurance Trail System. See the attached document for more detail and maps. We expect these trail projects to be analyzed and approved through a combination of Categorical Exclusions and Environmental Assessments, depending on the scope of resource issues that arise during public outreach. Public scoping is expected to begin this spring.

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comments to Penni Borghi, Forest Archaeologist and Tribal Liaison. If the information provided is confidential, it will not be included in the project record. General comments or feedback may be submitted by email to Beth.Peer@usda.gov or mailed to 3160 NE 3rd Street, Prineville, OR 97754. Hand-delivered and oral comments may be delivered to the same address during normal business hours.

Sincerely,



A. SHANE JEFFRIES
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure



File Code: 1950

Date:

MAR 19 2020

Raymond Tsumpti, JR
Council Chairman
Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs
PO Box C
Warm Springs, OR 97761

Dear Chairman Tsumpti:

The Ochoco National Forest is requesting consultation and input from the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs for several trail development projects.

The Forest has been working with the Ochoco Trails Strategy Group (OTSG) over the last couple of years to develop proposals for sustainable trail systems that meet current demand for recreation opportunities. OTSG is a collaborative with representation from various user groups. Input from the Forest Service and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has helped focus the trail proposals and avoid areas of sensitive resource concerns, such as elk security habitat.

The following four projects are now under consideration for development on the Ochoco: Allen Creek Equestrian Trails, Dry Creek Equestrian Trails, Bandit Springs Summer Trails, and Corral Flat Equestrian Endurance Trail System. See the attached document for more detail and maps. We expect these trail projects to be analyzed and approved through a combination of Categorical Exclusions and Environmental Assessments, depending on the scope of resource issues that arise during public outreach. Public scoping is expected to begin this spring.

Under revised regulations for implementing the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian tribal officials and members are invited to comment and assist in how we determine the effects of proposed activities on historic properties (prehistoric through historic resources of significance) as defined in 36 CFR 800.2e. Your participation is encouraged throughout the Section 106 process, from first determining methods of identifying evidence of past human use and occupation of the area, and evaluating whether such resources would qualify as historic properties under NHPA. The final step after identifying historic properties is determining what effects, if any, the proposed project may have on any such historic property and how to reduce or eliminate those effects.

Some of the project area may have been surveyed in the past for historic properties. Additional survey will be completed by the Forest Service and will be based on environmental factors that can affect past human use, and any input we receive from you. There is little ground disturbance associated with most of these projects, as they primarily occur on a combination of system and user-created roads and trails.

Your comments about the development of this project or other concerns are welcome and would be considered in the decision. We welcome your input at any time during the project development and analysis; however, your comments would be most helpful if received by April



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Sincerely,



A. SHANE JEFFRIES
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure



File Code: 1950
Date: April 29, 2020

Dear Reader:

The Paulina Ranger District of the Ochoco National Forest is proposing to create an equestrian trail system associated with the Allen Creek Horse Camp. The project area is located on the northeast side of Big Summit Prairie, about 40 miles east of Prineville, Oregon.

Background

The Allen Creek Equestrian Trails project is part of a larger suite of trail proposals submitted by the Ochoco Trails Strategy Group (OTSG). The Forest Service has been working with the OTSG over the last couple of years on the development of proposals for sustainable trail systems that meet current demand for recreation opportunities. OTSG is a collaborative group originally convened by the Prineville Chamber of Commerce. The group has representation from various who met from late 2017 through 2018 and held a public meeting about trail proposals in September 2018. Input from Forest Service specialists and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has helped focus the trail proposals and avoid areas of sensitive resource concerns, such as elk security habitat.

Proposed Action

This project would create about 20 miles of official trail system routes using open roads, closed roads, and livestock and user-created trails. This trail system would improve user experience, establishing an official trail system for Allen Creek Horse Camp, which currently has no designated trails associated with the infrastructure built for equestrians. The target user group is equestrians, though the Forest is considering allowing all non-motorized use.

Ground disturbance would be limited to installing 4" X 4" posts at trail entrances and to establish drainage dips and water bars. Closed roads would remain as two track, double-wide riding trails for side by side riding. Livestock and user-created trails would have a treat of 18 to 24 inches wide. Small trees (< 10" diameter) would be removed where encroaching on the trail tread prism. Signs and trail markers would be installed.

We expect this project to be documented with a Decision Memo and excluded from documentation in an Environmental Assessment of an Environmental Impact Statement.

Invitation to Comment

We welcome your thoughts and discussions about the Allen Creek Equestrian Trails Project as your input is a vital part of our planning process. Your comments are appreciated throughout the planning process; however, for your input to be timely and considered in project design, it would be most helpful if we receive your comments by June 1, 2020.

We strongly encourage you to submit comments electronically. Those wishing to provide electronic comments should use the Forest Service online comment system available at:



<https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?project=58063>

Comments may be typed into the online form, or uploaded as an attachment in Microsoft Word, rich text format (rtf), or portable document format (PDF) only.

Comments may also be submitted in writing. Written comments should be sent or delivered to Johanna Kovarik, District Ranger, Paulina Ranger District, 3106 NE 3rd Street, Prineville, OR 97754. Written comments may only be hand-delivered by appointment at this time, due to the current COVID-19 pandemic and Executive Order by Governor Brown. Please call Beth Peer at 541-416-6463 if you wish to hand-deliver your comments.

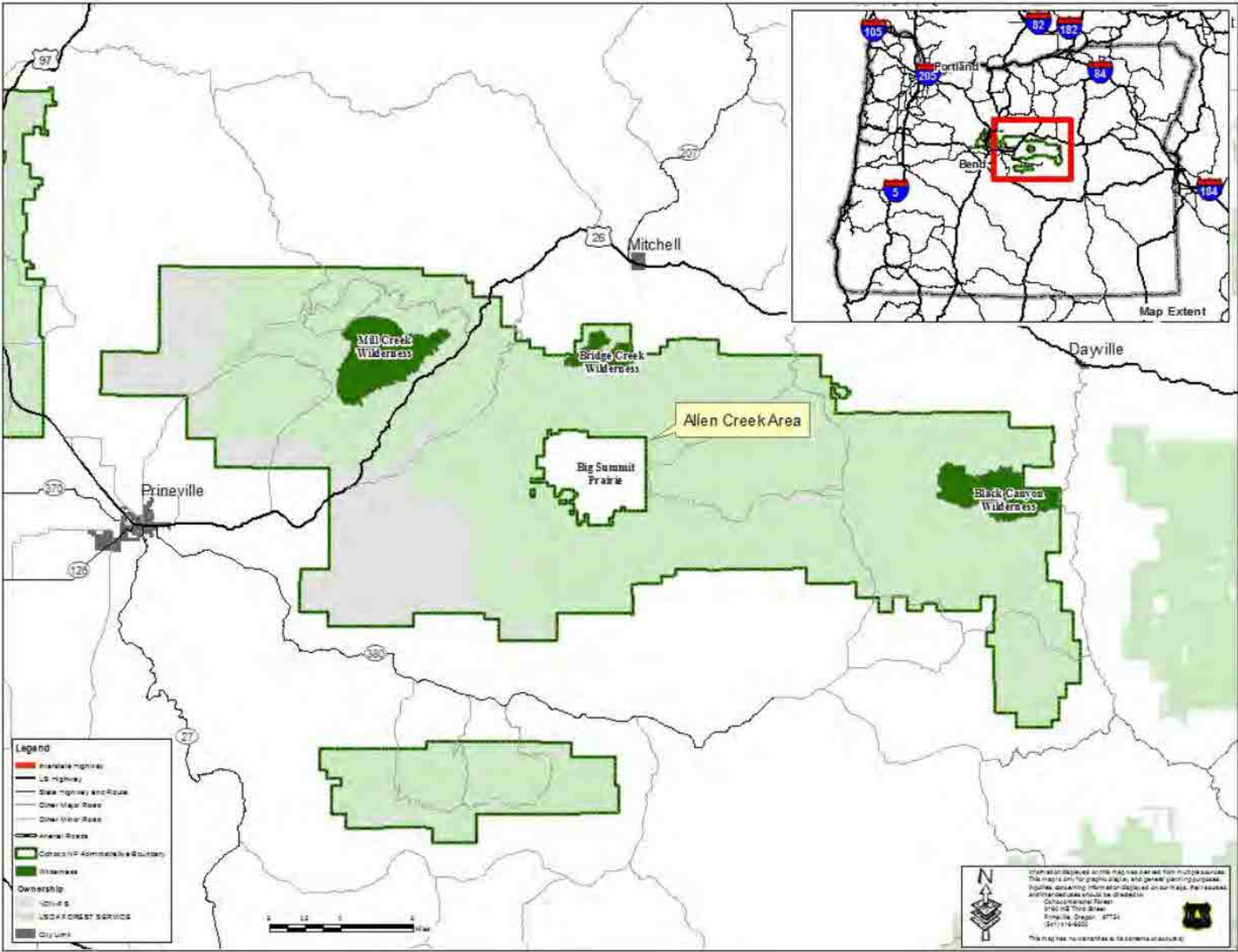
This letter also serves as an invitation to participate in the Forest's National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 process for the project.

Please see the attached maps for details on the location of this project. If you need additional information please contact Beth Peer at 541-416-6463 or beth.peer@usda.gov.

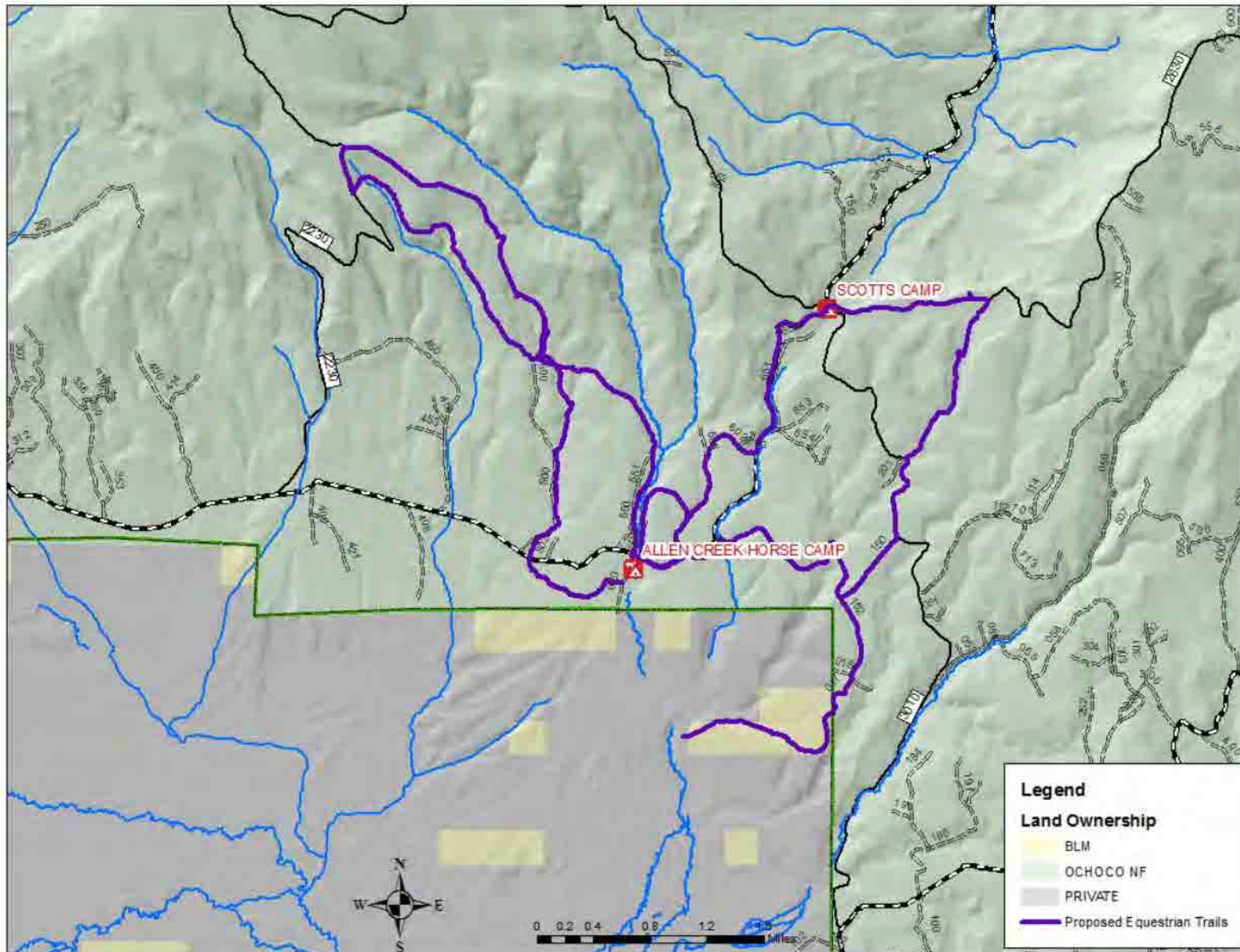
Sincerely,

/s/ Johanna Kovarik
JOHANNA KOVARIK
District Ranger

Map 1 – Vicinity of the Allen Creek Trails Project on the Ochoco National Forest



Map 2 – Proposed Trails





File Code: 1950
Date: May 22, 2020

Dear Reader,

The Lookout Mountain Ranger District of the Ochoco National Forest is proposing to create a multi-use summer trail system associated with the Bandit Springs Sno-Park and Trailhead and an equestrian trail system associated with Dry Creek Horse Camp. The Bandit Springs project area is located off Highway 26 about 30 miles northeast of Prineville, Oregon (Maps 1 and 2). The Dry Creek project area is located north of the Dry Creek Horse Camp, about 20 miles northeast of Prineville, Oregon (Maps 1 and 3).

Background

The Forest Service has been working with the Ochoco Trails Strategy Group (OTSG) since 2016 to develop proposals for non-motorized sustainable trail systems on the Ochoco National Forest and Crooked River National Grassland that meet current demand for recreation opportunities. OTSG is a collaborative with representation from various user groups, such as equestrians, hikers, and mountain bikers, as well as community members and volunteer organizations. The trails projects described below were presented to the Ochoco National Forest by OTSG.

Proposed Action

The Bandit Springs Summer Trails project would create approximately 6.5 miles of non-motorized summer trails for multiple uses including hiking, biking, and horseback riding. The summer trails would be built in the existing Bandit Springs non-motorized winter trail corridor. The winter trails currently have a cleared winter trail corridor but no tread; therefore, the proposal includes creating new tread (18" x 36") within the most suitable area of the trail corridor. This project also includes retreading 5.6 miles of existing non-motorized summer and winter multiple use trails (Ponderosa Loop Trail and McGinnis Creek Trail), installing 4"x4" signposts at trailheads and junctions, and removing any trees or brush less than 10 inches in diameter encroaching on the trails. All work would be completed with hand tools, chainsaws, and a mini excavator. Clearing obstacles, brush, and small trees for the summer trails would help facilitate skiing and snowshoeing in low-snow winters.

The Dry Creek Equestrian Trails project would designate approximately 5 miles of non-motorized system trails on closed roads in the vicinity of Dry Creek Horse Camp. There are designated system trails associated with Dry Creek Horse Camp; however, users often add mileage or add to their experience on closed roads. The OTSG has proposed these closed road routes be designated as official system trails with signage and reassurance trail markers. The closed roads would be left as two track, double wide riding trails for side by side riding. Trails would be open to all non-motorized uses but would be maintained for and by equestrian users. 4"x4" sign posts would be installed at trail entrances and junctions and drainage dips and water bars would be installed to reduce erosion and facilitate drainage.

Invitation to Comment

We welcome your thoughts and discussions about both the Bandit Springs Summer Trails project and the Dry Creek Equestrian Trails project. Your input is a vital part of our planning process and your comments are appreciated throughout the planning process. However, for your input to be timely and considered in project design, it would be most helpful if we receive your comments by June 21, 2020.

We strongly encourage you to submit comments electronically. Those wishing to provide electronic comments should use the Forest Service online comment system available at:



<https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public//CommentInput?Project=58064>. Comments may be typed into the online form, or uploaded as an attachment in Microsoft Word, rich text format (rtf), or portable document format (PDF) only.

Comments may also be submitted in writing. Written comments should be sent or delivered to Elysia Retzlaff, NEPA Planner, Ochoco National Forest, 3160 NE 3rd Street, Prineville, OR 97754. Hand-delivered comments will only be accepted by appointment due to the current COVID-19 pandemic. Please call Elysia Retzlaff at 541-416-6436 if you would like to set up an appointment to hand-deliver your comments.

This letter also serves as an invitation to participate in the Forest's National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 process for the project.

Please see the enclosed map for details on the location of these projects. Maps of the project areas and this scoping letter are also available online at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=58064>. If you need additional information, please contact Elysia Retzlaff at 541-416-6436 or elysia.retzlaff@usda.gov.

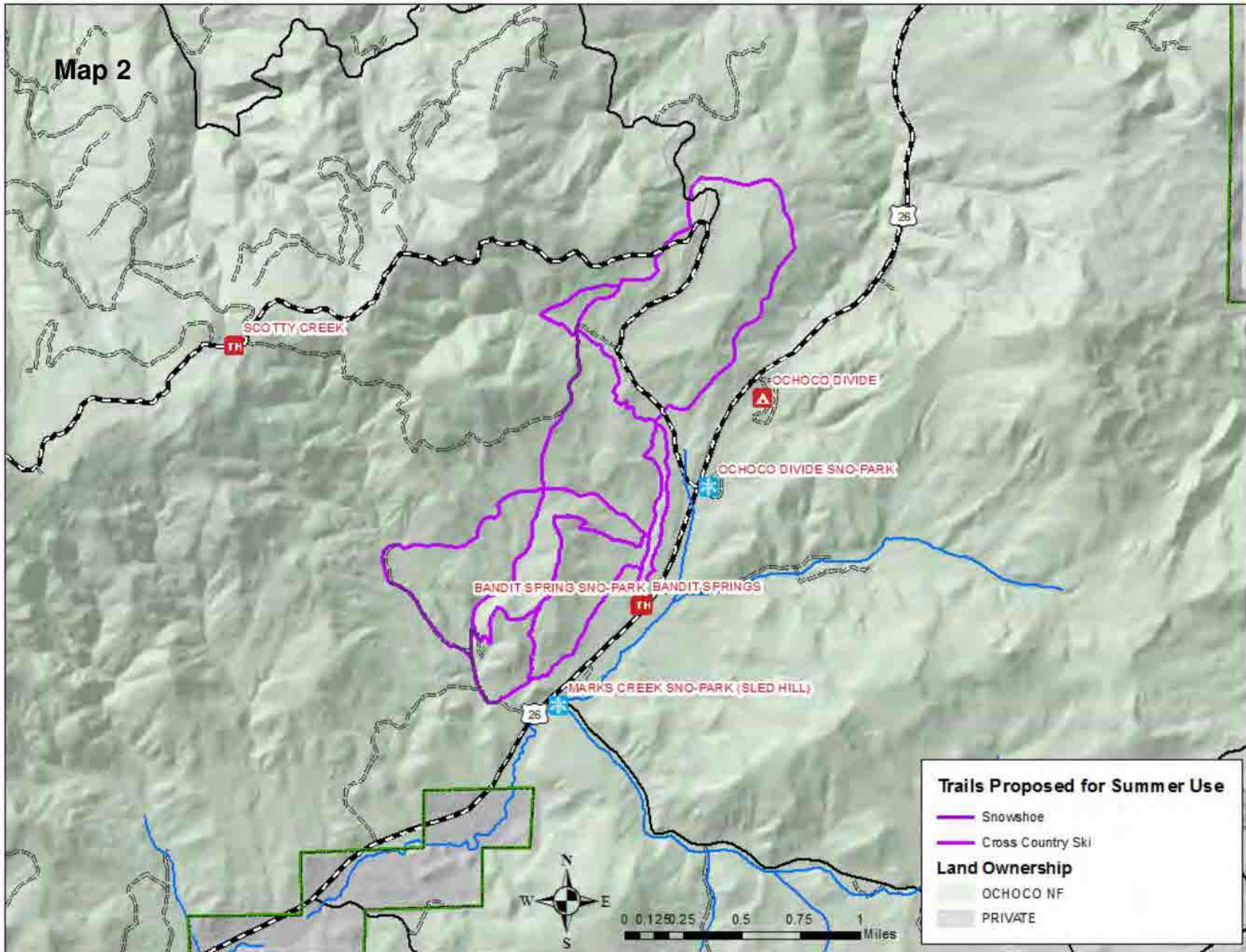
Sincerely,



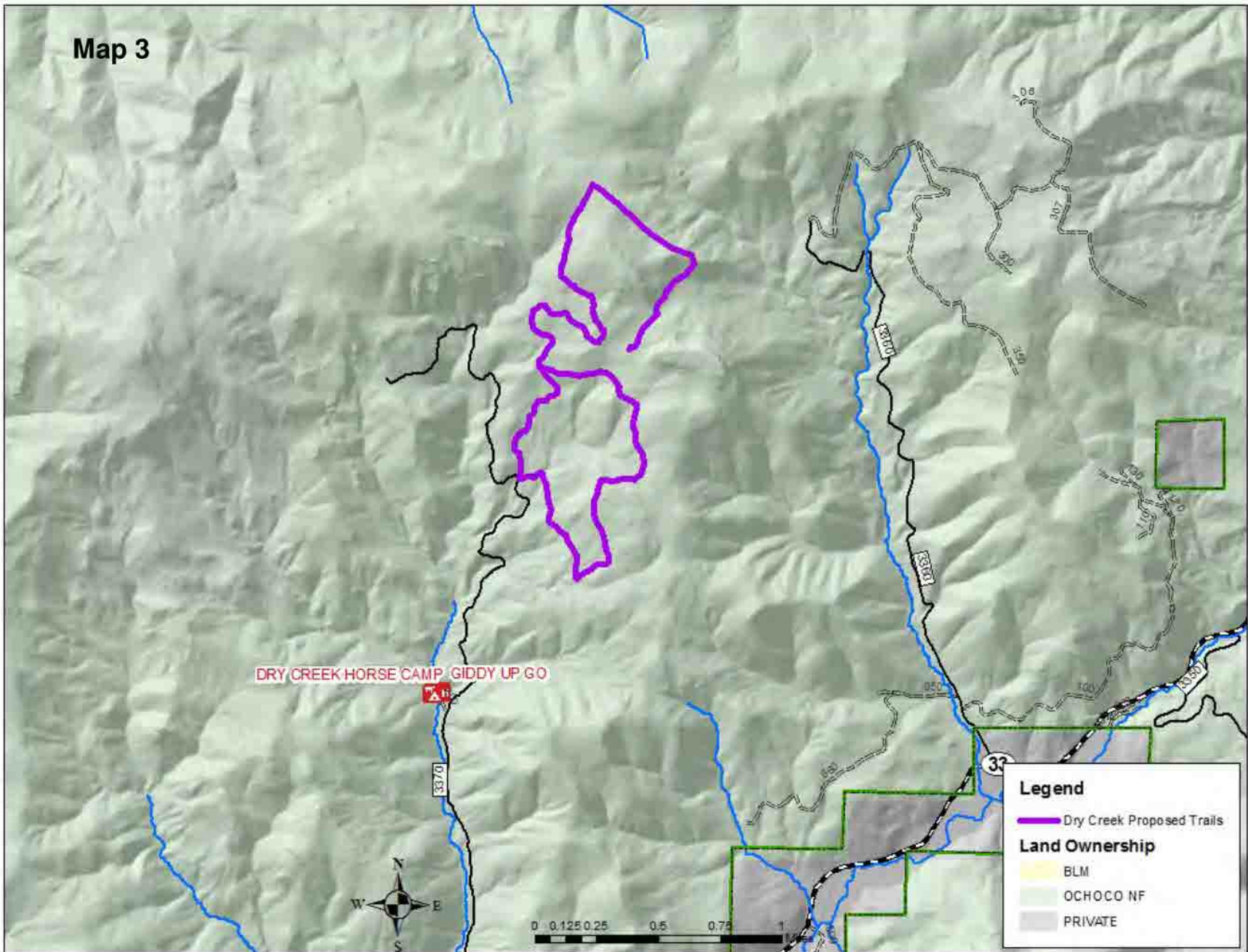
SLATER R. TURNER
District Ranger

Enclosure

Bandit Springs Summer Trails Project



Dry Creek Equestrian Trails Project





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Ochoco National Forest
Lookout Mountain Ranger District

3160 NE 3rd Street
Prineville, OR 97754
541-416-6500

File Code: 1950
Date: December 1, 2020

Cecil Dick
Chairman
Burns-Paiute Tribe
100 Pasigo Street
Burns, OR 97220

Dear Chairman Dick:

The Ochoco National Forest is requesting consultation and input from the Burns-Paiute Tribe for a trail development proposal.

The Forest has been working with Ochoco Trails, a collaborative group with representation from various user groups on development of sustainable trail systems that meet current demand for recreation opportunities. The Lemon Gulch Mountain Bike Complex is now under consideration and the NEPA process will begin in calendar year 2021. Please see the attached document for more details and maps.

Under revised regulations for implementing the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian tribal official and members are invited to comment and assist in how we determine the effects of proposed activities on historic properties (prehistoric through historic resources of significance) as defined in 36 CFR 800.2e. Your participation is encouraged throughout the Section 106 process, from first determining methods of identifying evidence of past human use and occupation of the area, and evaluating whether such resources would qualify as historic properties under NHPA. The final step after identifying historic properties is determining what effects, if any, the proposed project may have on any such historic property and how to reduce or eliminate those effects.

Some of the project area may have been surveyed in the past for historic properties. Additional survey will be completed by the Forest Service and will be based on environmental factors that can affect past human use, and any input we receive from you. Your comments about the development of this project or other concerns are welcome and would be considered in the decision. We welcome your input at any time during the project development and analysis; however, your comments would be most helpful if received by December 31, 2020. You may provide comments by mail or email. Please direct any confidential comments to Penni Borghi, Forest Archaeologist and Tribal Liaison. If the information is confidential, it will not be included in the project record. General comments or feedback may be submitted by email to Beth.Peer@usda.gov or mailed to 3160 NE 3rd Street, Prineville, OR 97754. Please call Beth Peer at 541-416-6463 to make arrangements if you'd like to submit hand-delivered or oral comments.

Sincerely,

SLATER TURNER
District Ranger

Enclosure





File Code: 1950
Date: December 1, 2020

Don Gentry
Chairman
Klamath Tribes
PO Box 436
Chiloquin, OR 97624

Dear Chairman Gentry:

The Ochoco National Forest is requesting consultation and input from the Klamath Tribes for a trail development proposal.

The Forest has been working with Ochoco Trails, a collaborative group with representation from various user groups on development of sustainable trail systems that meet current demand for recreation opportunities. The Lemon Gulch Mountain Bike Complex is now under consideration and the NEPA process will begin in calendar year 2021. Please see the attached document for more details and maps.

Under revised regulations for implementing the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian tribal official and members are invited to comment and assist in how we determine the effects of proposed activities on historic properties (prehistoric through historic resources of significance) as defined in 36 CFR 800.2e. Your participation is encouraged throughout the Section 106 process, from first determining methods of identifying evidence of past human use and occupation of the area, and evaluating whether such resources would qualify as historic properties under NHPA. The final step after identifying historic properties is determining what effects, if any, the proposed project may have on any such historic property and how to reduce or eliminate those effects.

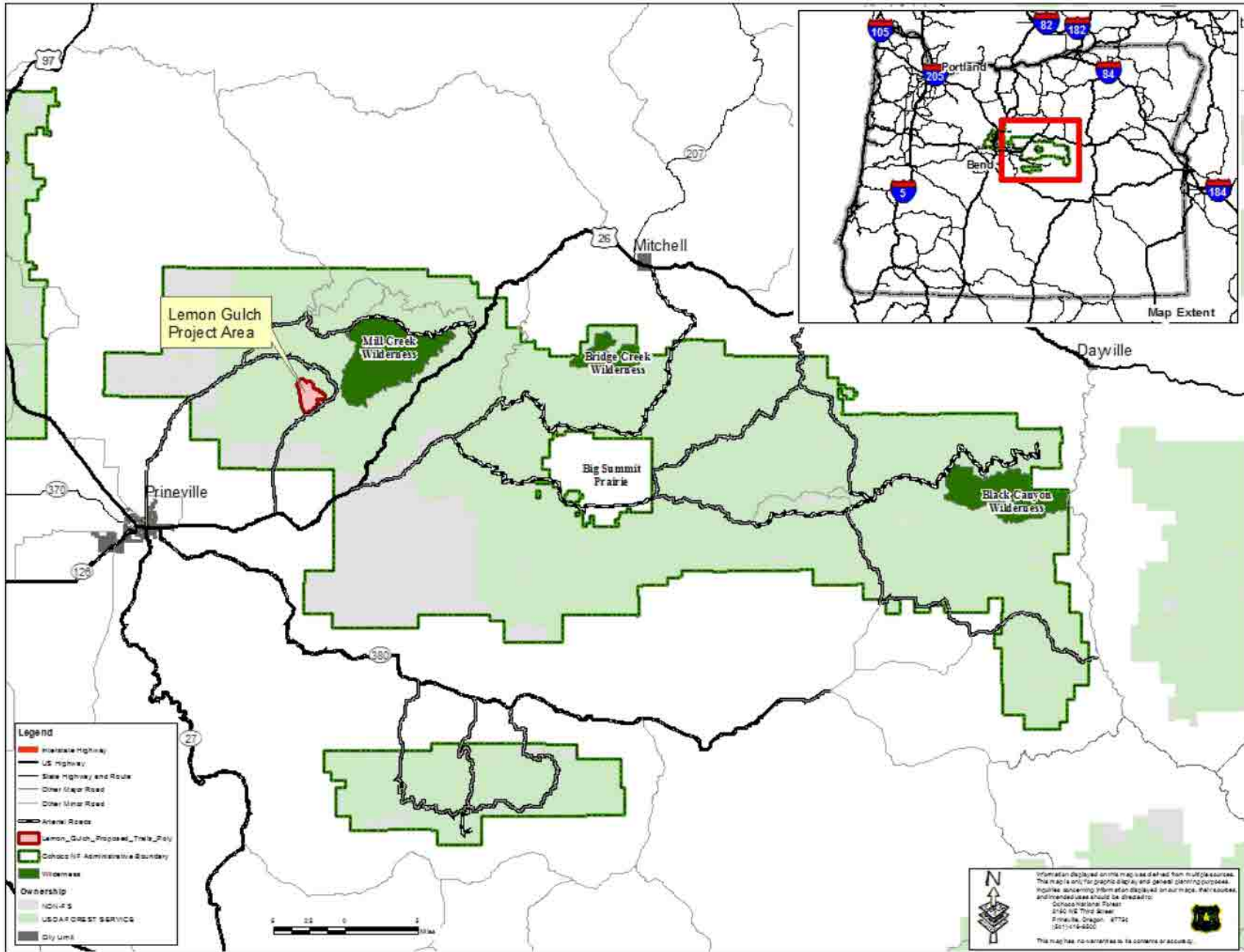
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Sincerely,


SLATER TURNER
District Ranger

Enclosure

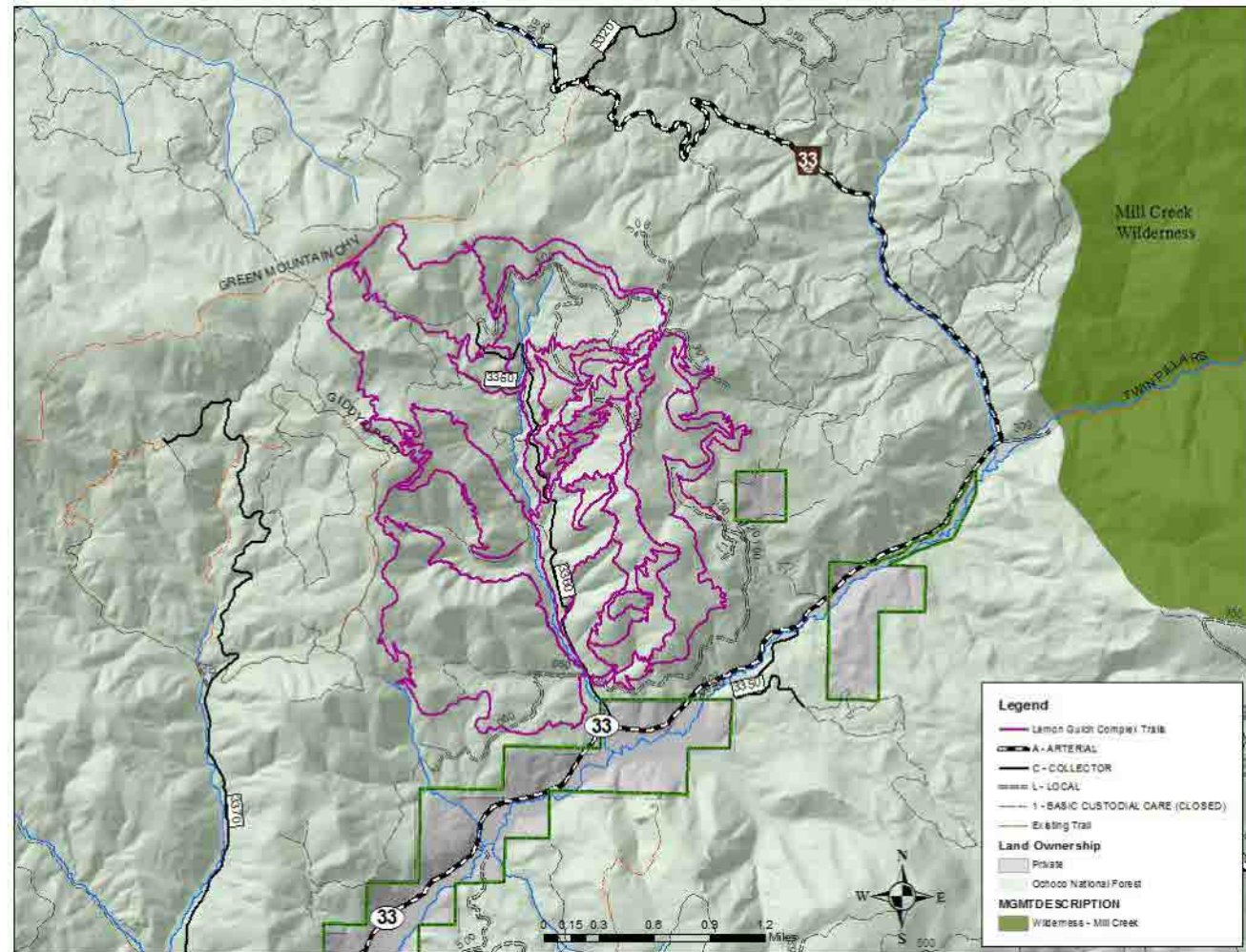




The Lemon Gulch Mountain Bike Complex is a proposed system of up to 50 miles of trails specifically developed for mountain bikes to accommodate current and future use of local, regional, and destination riders.

This system would include at least one trailhead with parking and a toilet and kiosk. Signposts at trail entrances and junctions would also be required.

Tread construction would be 18 inches wide with turns up to 36 inches wide. A professional trails contractor using small machinery and hand tool would complete the work. The trails (shown on the map to the right) have been flagged on the ground to facilitate environmental analysis.





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Ochoco National Forest
Lookout Mountain Ranger District

3160 NE 3rd Street
Prineville, OR 97754
541-416-6500

File Code: 1950
Date: December 1, 2020

Raymond Tsumpti, Jr.
Council Chairman
Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs
PO Box C
Warm Springs, OR 97761

Dear Chairman Tsumpti:

The Ochoco National Forest is requesting consultation and input from the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs for a trail development proposal.

The Forest has been working with Ochoco Trails, a collaborative group with representation from various user groups on development of sustainable trail systems that meet current demand for recreation opportunities. The Lemon Gulch Mountain Bike Complex is now under consideration and the NEPA process will begin in calendar year 2021. Please see the attached document for more details and maps.

Under revised regulations for implementing the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian tribal official and members are invited to comment and assist in how we determine the effects of proposed activities on historic properties (prehistoric through historic resources of significance) as defined in 36 CFR 800.2e. Your participation is encouraged throughout the Section 106 process, from first determining methods of identifying evidence of past human use and occupation of the area, and evaluating whether such resources would qualify as historic properties under NHPA. The final step after identifying historic properties is determining what effects, if any, the proposed project may have on any such historic property and how to reduce or eliminate those effects.

Some of the project area may have been surveyed in the past for historic properties. Additional survey will be completed by the Forest Service and will be based on environmental factors that can affect past human use, and any input we receive from you. Your comments about the development of this project or other concerns are welcome and would be considered in the decision. We welcome your input at any time during the project development and analysis; however, your comments would be most helpful if received by December 31, 2020. You may provide comments by mail or email. Please direct any confidential comments to Penni Borghi, Forest Archaeologist and Tribal Liaison. If the information is confidential, it will not be included in the project record. General comments or feedback may be submitted by email to Beth.Peer@usda.gov or mailed to 3160 NE 3rd Street, Prineville, OR 97754. Please call Beth Peer at 541-416-6463 to make arrangements if you'd like to submit hand-delivered or oral comments.

Sincerely,


SLATER R. TURNER
District Ranger

Enclosure





Project Initiation

The Lookout Mountain Ranger District is beginning the planning process for the Lemon Gulch Trail System Project. The project area is located about 15 miles northeast of Prineville, Oregon in the Ochoco Mountains.

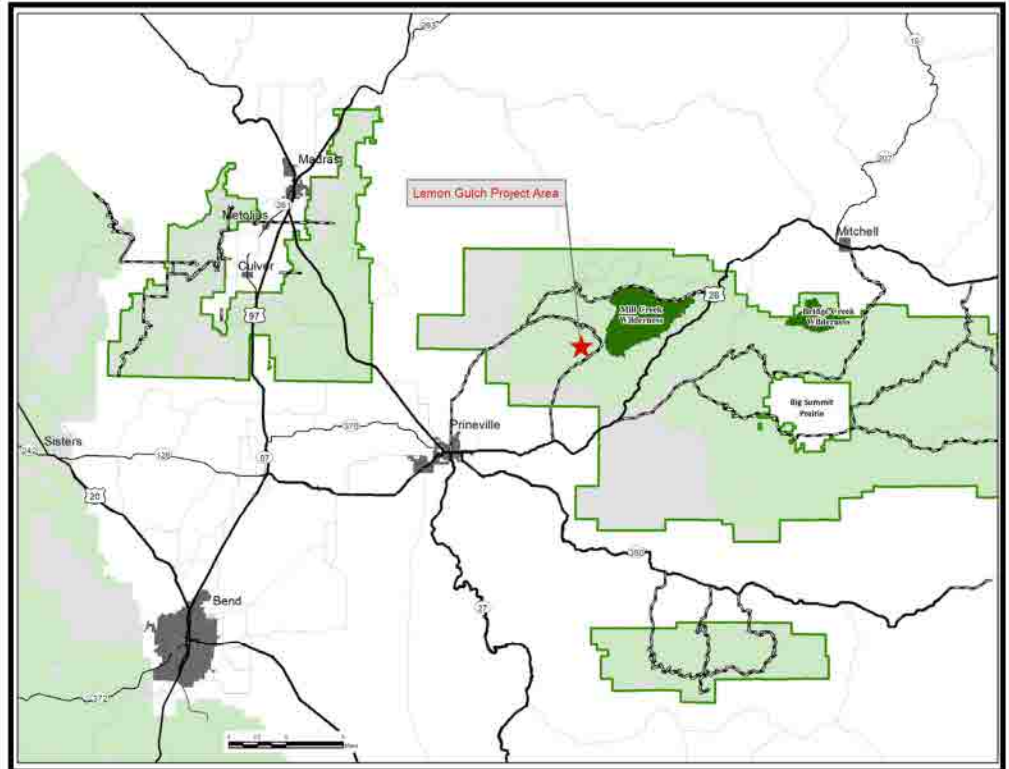
The proposal involves approximately 52 miles of non-motorized trails with primary use by mountain bikes but also open to hiking. More details of the proposal are provided on page 2.

The purpose of the project is to meet the needs of the community and the desire for new mileage, multiple loops, downhill riding opportunities, and trails designed and managed for mountain bike use.

Lemon Gulch area would meet the community’s need for an easily-accessible network of trails. The project is also expected to draw and more evenly distribute current and future mountain bike use from the high use areas of Lookout and Round Mountain. This would minimize interactions and improve the experience and safety of equestrians and hikers in these areas.

The proposal is in alignment with the Forest Plan objective that a managed trail system will be provided for a variety of uses, including hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, all terrain vehicles, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiles.

See page 4 for information on how to comment on this proposal.



Sustainable Recreation

The Lemon Gulch Trail System is part of a larger scale trails proposal developed through a collaborative process led by Ochoco Trails.

Ochoco Trails is a community-based coalition dedicated to building and maintaining a sustainable non-motorized trail system that offers a desirable range of experiences, while protecting and enhancing forest resources for future generations. Member organizations include: Central Oregon Trail Alliance, Oregon Equestrian Trails, Backcountry Horsemen of Oregon, Sawyers With Attitude To Spare, Oregon Wild, Discover Your Forest, Oregon Hunters Association, local ranchers, and Prineville Chamber of Commerce with participation and coordination with US Forest Service and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

As we move forward, Ochoco Trails is committed to providing resources for building and maintaining the trails.

For more information, see OchocoTrails.org.





Proposed Action

Trails

The system would consist of a maximum of 52 miles of single-track trails, as shown on the map page 3. The trail system would follow the trail difficulty framework of Green Circle – Beginner, Blue Square – Intermediate, Black Diamond – Advanced, Double Black Diamond - Expert.

Trails would be built with a mini excavator and hand tools.

Design and construction would follow direction and guidelines in the Trails Management Handbook (FSH 2309.18), Forest Service Standard Specifications for Construction and Maintenance of Trails (EM-7720-103), the Central Oregon Trail Alliance Trail Standards, and National Best Management Practices for Water Quality Management on National Forest System Lands (BMP 2012).

Trailheads and Facilities

Three trailheads and parking areas are proposed. One would be located at the bottom of the system near the 3360 and 3360100 road junction, one centrally located near the 3360 and 3360200 road junction, and one at the top along the 3360307. Signs would be installed to warn of frequent bike traffic on these roads.

Entry and junction signs would be installed on 4x4 posts. Installation of a CXT vault toilet is proposed at the bottom trailhead. Multi-panel kiosks would be constructed at each trailhead with maps, rules and regulations, and interpretive sign panels. Invasive plant prevent measure such as boot brush stations may also be included at trailheads.

The trail system would be built out over time and as the availability of grants, funding, and volunteer and employee labor allow. Priorities for build out include the two main arterial trails and two trails that would be designed for people with disabilities on adaptive mountain bikes as well as a few technical, downhill trails.

Maps and other information will be posted to the project web page as planning continues:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=58831>



Proposed trail routes are marked with orange flagging



Lemon Gulch Project Area

Ochoco Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan)

The Forest Plan has the following recreation goal: Provide for a variety of recreational experiences across all areas of the Ochoco National Forest, in a manner consistent with other resource objectives and environmental constraints. (LRMP 4-22).

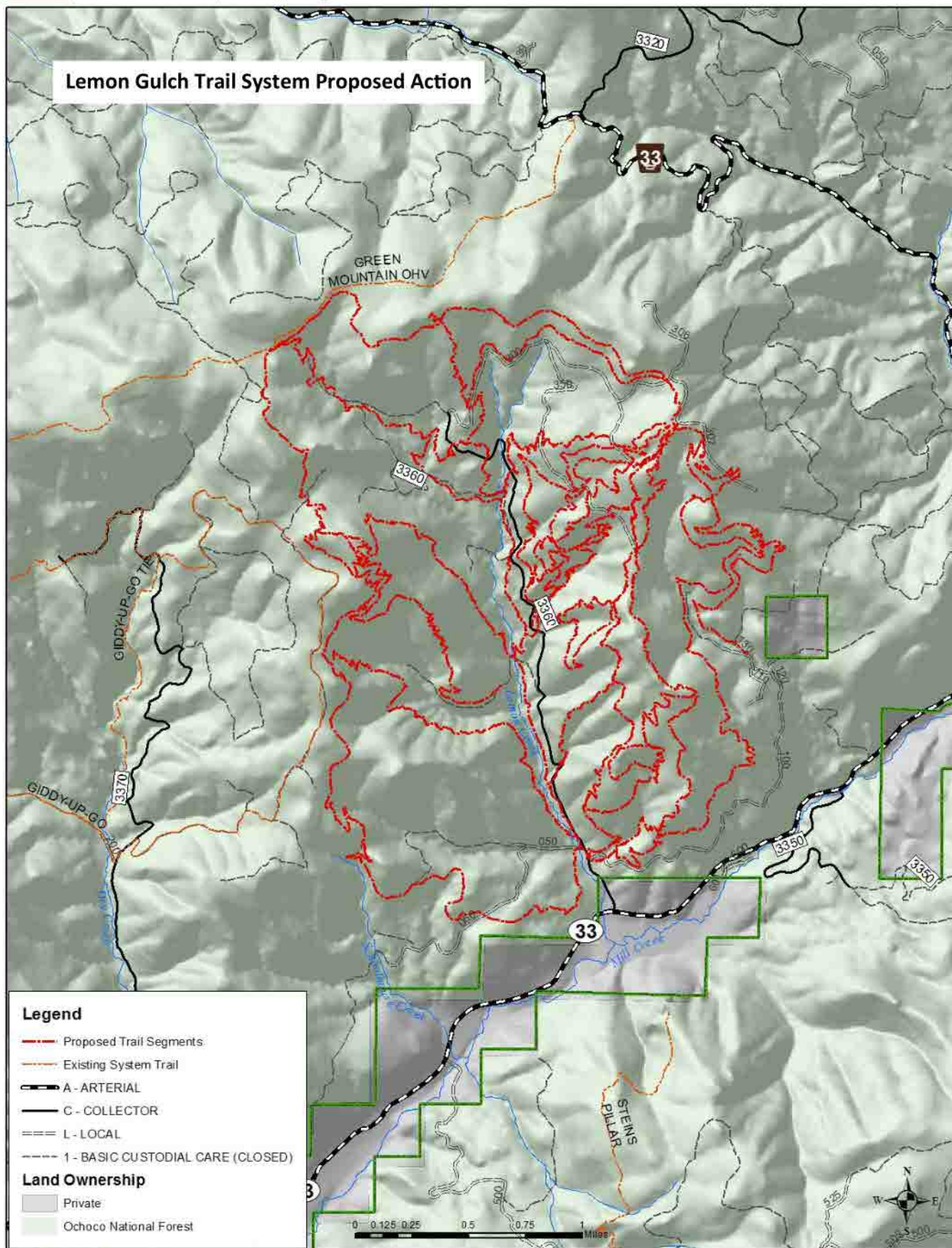
Trails are proposed within the General Forest (MA-F22) and Winter Range (MA-F-20) management allocations. The management emphasis in General Forest is on the production of timber and forage while meeting Forest-wide standards and guidelines for all resources. The management emphasis in Winter Range is on managing for big game winter range habitat. Big game use on winter range is considered the primary activity with other human activities restricted from November 30 to May 1; therefore, trails in Winter Range MA would be closed to non-motorized use during this period to encourage wildlife utilization in the winter months.



Forest Service

Lookout Mountain Ranger District

March 10, 2021





Invitation to Comment

We are informing you about this proposal so that you can provide comments to us. Your comments and feedback will help provide valuable information used to identify issues and opportunities associated with this proposal. This notice marks the beginning of the scoping comment period. Please provide feedback by April 15, 2021. There will be an additional opportunity to provide comments when the environmental assessment is completed.

We strongly encourage you to submit comments electronically. Those wishing to provide electronic comments should use the Forest Service online comment system available at:

<https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?project=58831>. Comments may be typed into the online form, or uploaded as an attachment in Microsoft Word, rich text format (rtf), or portable document format (PDF) only.

Comments may also be submitted in writing or in person. Written comments should be sent or delivered to Slater Turner, District Ranger, Lookout Mountain Ranger District, 3160 NE Third Street, Prineville, OR 97754. Hand-delivered and oral comments may be delivered to the same address after arranging an appointment.

Anyone wishing to obtain additional information on the project should contact

Beth Peer, Environmental Coordinator, at Elizabeth.Peer@usda.gov or by phone (541)416-6463.

Thank you for your interest in the Ochoco National Forest and the Lemon Gulch Project. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Slater Turner

District Ranger

NOTICE: Documents associated with this project, including public comments, are part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process (40 CFR parts 1500-1509) and may be released under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 5 U.S.C. 552. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will become part of the public record for this proposed action. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, anonymous comments will not provide the agency with the ability to provide the respondent with subsequent environmental documents or the eligibility to object.



Forest Service

Lookout Mountain Ranger District
Ochoco National Forest

March 10, 2021

March 20, 2021 Facebook

Trail Fundamentals and Trail Me: x (8) U.S. Forest Service - Ochoco: x +

facebook.com/OchocoNatForestCrookedRiverNatGrassland/posts/4193386484023689

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U.S. Forest Service - Ochoco National Forest
March 20 · 🌐

The Lemon Gulch Trail System is part of a larger scale trails proposal developed through a collaborative process led by Ochoco Trails. Ochoco Trails is a community-based coalition dedicated to building and maintaining a sustainable non-motorized trail system that offers a desirable range of experiences, while protecting and enhancing forest resources for future generations. Member organizations include: Central Oregon Trail Alliance, Oregon Equestrian Trails, Backcountry Horsemen of Oregon, Sawyers With Attitude To Spare, Oregon Wild, Discover Your Forest, Oregon Hunters Association, local ranchers, and Prineville Chamber of Commerce with participation and coordination with US Forest Service and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. As we move forward, Ochoco Trails is committed to providing resources for building and maintaining the trails.

Learn more at: https://www.fs.usda.gov/.../nepa/114478_FSPLT3_5601634.pdf



March 20, 2021 Twitter

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Twitter profile of ONFCRNG - Ochoco NF & Crooked River NG. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://twitter.com/OchocoNatForest>. The profile header includes the name "ONFCRNG - Ochoco NF & Crooked River NG" and a "Following" button. The profile bio states: "Interested in #mountainbiking trails in Central Oregon? Check out this new project planned by the Ochoco Trails group:" followed by a link to [fs.usda.gov/nfs/11558/www/...](https://fs.usda.gov/nfs/11558/www/). A tweet from March 20 features a photograph of a wooden sign in a forest that reads "OCHOCO National Forest". Below the photo are icons for replies (1), likes (7), and retweets. A second tweet from March 18 thanks @KATUNews for a chat with a partner organization about #DiscoverYourForest and #responsiblerecreation in Central Oregon, with a link to katu.com/features/trave.... The left sidebar contains navigation options: Home, Explore, Notifications, Messages, Bookmarks, Lists, Profile, and More, with a blue "Tweet" button at the bottom. The right sidebar includes a search bar, a "COVID-19: News and updates for California" widget, and a "Topics to follow" section with categories like Birdwatching, Environmentalism, Wildlife photography, Nature, and Seattle, each with a "Follow" button. At the bottom right, there is a "Messages" button.

From: [Kurtz, Tory -FS](#)
To: [Roy Beyer](#) ; santucciranchturf@gmail.com; dvogel@wildblue.net
Cc: [Peer, Beth- FS](#)
Subject: Lemon Gulch Trail proposal
Date: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 9:29:35 AM
Attachments: [2021_03_11_LemonGulchTrailsScopingNotice.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Hi Roy, Shelley and Don!

Please find the attached notice for the trail proposal in Lemon Gulch which is up Mill Creek area. Since you are getting the notice late, your time to respond will be extended to April 30. We are also mailing you a hard copy to review. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you!



Tory Kurtz
Rangeland Management Specialist
Forest Service
Lookout Mtn RD/Crooked River NG

p: 541-416-6407

c: (b)(6)

f: 541-416-6695

tory.kurtz@usda.gov

3160 NE 3rd Street
Prineville, OR 97754

www.fs.fed.us



Caring for the land and serving people

Lemon Gulch Trail System Project

Scoping Notice

Project Initiation

The Lookout Mountain Ranger District is beginning the planning process for the Lemon Gulch Trail System Project. The project area is located about 15 miles northeast of Prineville, Oregon in the Ochoco Mountains.

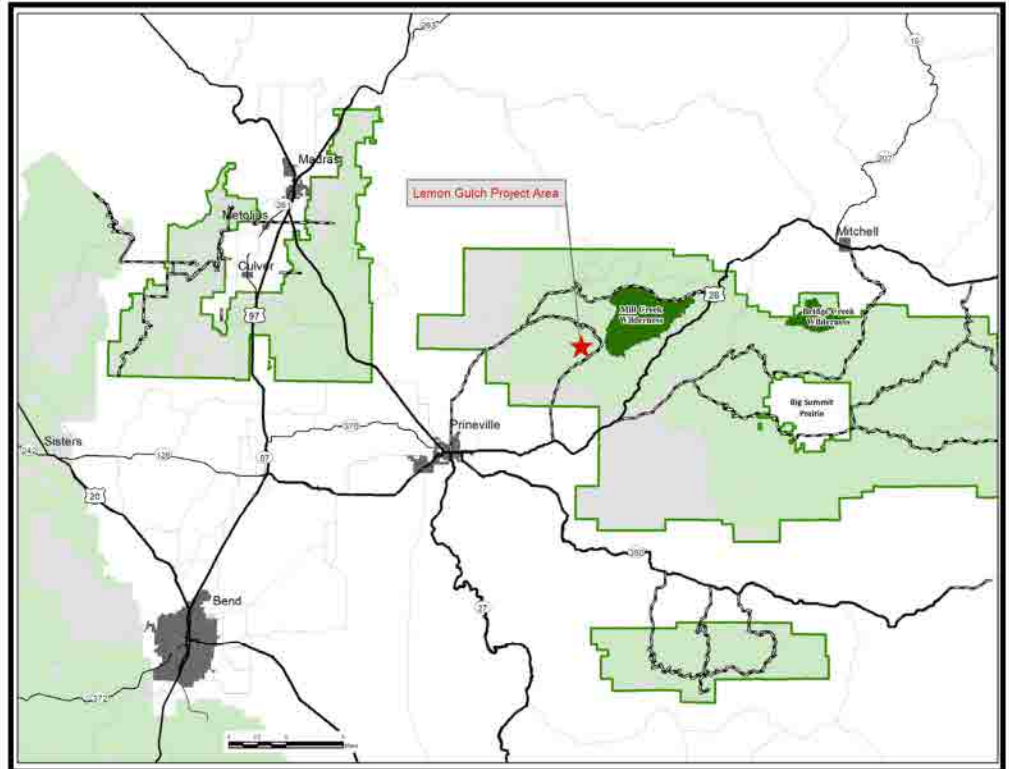
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Lemon Gulch Project Area

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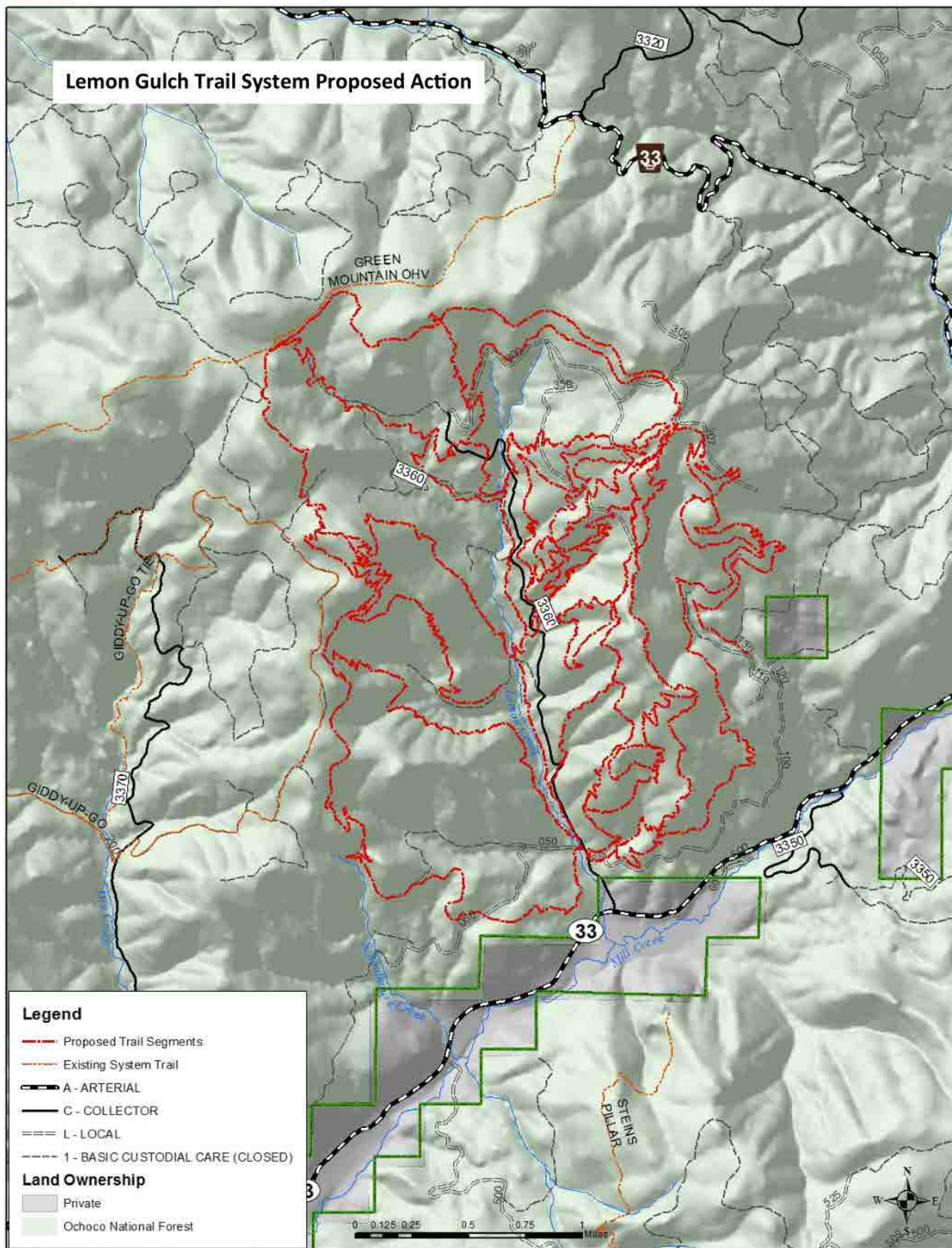
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Forest Service

Lookout Mountain Ranger District

March 10, 2021





Invitation to Comment

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Sincerely,

Slater Turner

District Ranger

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Forest Service

Lookout Mountain Ranger District
Ochoco National Forest

March 10, 2021

From: [Peer, Beth- FS](#)
To: ["downingl.W@yahoo.com"](mailto:downingl.W@yahoo.com)
Subject: Info re: Lemon Gulch Trails Project
Date: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 10:50:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good morning,

Thanks for talking with me this morning about your concerns with our planning process. I'd like to share the Forest Service's web page that provides information about our ongoing planning projects.

This web page provides information about each project that is in the works:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/ochoco/landmanagement/projects>

You will see from the screen shot of the web page I posted below, that you can get email updates by entering your email address in the box and clicking on "submit."

You will then receive notifications that are sent out when a project begins, an environmental assessment is available for review and comment, or when a decision is made.



Beth Peer
Environmental Coordinator

Forest Service
Ochoco National Forest

p: 541-416-6463
elizabeth.peer@usda.gov

3160 NE Third Street
Prineville, OR 97754

www.fs.fed.us
USDA

Caring for the land and serving people