



File Code: 1950; 1570
Date: August 24, 2020

Tadd Moore
President
Oregon Hunter's Association
Umpqua Chapter
P.O. Box 871
Winchester, OR 97495

Dear Tadd,

I received your objection to the draft Record of Decision (ROD) for the Calf-Copeland Restoration Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), located on the Umpqua National Forest.

Eligibility to object to this and other projects is described in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 36 CFR 218, specifically at 36 CFR 218.5 under "Who may file an objection." Specifically, it states that "[i]ndividuals and entities who have submitted timely, specific written comments regarding a proposed project or activity...during any designated opportunity for public comment may file an objection."

A review of our records for this project found no written comments submitted by you during the scoping or the other designated comment periods on the EIS. Therefore, because you did not provide any written comments during these specific opportunities for public comment, you are not eligible to object. Thus, in accordance with the regulation at 36 CFR 218.10(a)(3), your objection is being set aside without review. Please note, however, that some of the issues you raised have been raised by others. Specifically, there was a concern that to best meet the purpose and need of the project, Alternative 4 should be selected as it closes or decommissions fewer miles of road, which are important for maintaining access in the area for public access, fire suppression, and future forest management. Through our objection resolution process, the Forest and the objecting parties reached the following agreement:

The final Record of Decision will select Alternative 3, however, implementation of the closure and storage of four Forest Roads of about 4 miles total, (2800-800, 2801-130, 2801-275, and 4750-600) will be delayed until some of the hazardous fuels reduction work, including shaded fuel breaks, have been completed in the planning area. This will allow for continued use and access of these routes for wildfire initial attack and public use until adequate fire hazard reduction activities in the project area have been completed.

Based on additional concerns raised during the objection resolution process, the Forest and the objecting parties reached the following agreement:



The Forest Service agrees to continually improve its public engagement efforts on travel management in future projects and to provide clear information on how changes to the motor vehicle use map (MVUM) will alter public use of and access to Forest System roads and lands. The Forest will consider options such as the feasibility of road signage at an early stage of the NEPA process.

Although we were not able to consider your objection, through the resolution process with other objectors I see an opportunity where I believe your organization might be able to help us on the Umpqua. We need organizations like yours to help us identify roads that are highly valued for their recreation use that might not otherwise seem valuable for fire suppression or forest management.

The Umpqua National Forest has several upcoming projects that are proposing motor vehicle use map (MVUM) (aka Travel Management) changes. Here is a summary of those projects and a point of contact for each:

- Buckeye Integrated Resource Restoration Project – Public scoping period closed July 6, 2020. Please contact Elsa Gustavson at elspeth.gustavson@usda.gov for more information.
- Moore Steamboat Restoration Project – Public scoping period closed June 5, 2020. Please contact Mark Sommer at mark.sommer@usda.gov for more information.
- Fish Creek Integrated Resource Restoration Project – Public scoping period is expected to begin in the fall of 2020. Please contact Elsa Gustavson at elspeth.gustavson@usda.gov for more information.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the objection process, please contact Debbie Anderson, Regional Administrative Review Coordinator, at 503-808-2286 or debbie.anderson2@usda.gov. I do want you to know that we consider you a valuable partner and look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,



ALICE CARLTON
Forest Supervisor
Objection Reviewing Officer

cc: Debbie Anderson, Sherri Chambers