



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Eldorado National Forest

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File Code: 1950

Date: October 9, 2012

Dear Interested Citizen,

The Eldorado National Forest is beginning to prepare a supplement to the 2008 Eldorado National Forest Public Wheeled Motorized Travel Management Environmental Impact Statement to address whether public wheeled motor vehicle use will be allowed on the portions of the forty-two specific routes designated for such use in the Eldorado National Forest Public Wheeled Motorized Travel Management EIS Record of Decision, March, 2008 (ENF TMEIS) that were found by the court to be inconsistent with the Eldorado National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, 1988 (ENF LRMP) Standards and Guidelines, as amended by Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment (SNFPA). The portions of the forty-two routes that are affected have been closed to public motorized use by court order since July 2012. This analysis will be limited to addressing the 42 routes in the judge's order as they pertain to meadows and Standard and Guideline 100 of the ENF LRMP, as amended by the SNFPA.

As first step in preparing the Travel Management Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (TM SEIS), I have prepared a Proposed Action, which serves as a point from which to begin a dialog with the public about the routes. A detailed description of the proposed action is attached. Additional information including detailed maps and a Question and Answer sheet will be posted on the Eldorado National Forest website <http://www.fs.usda.gov/eldorado> the week of October 7, 2012. If you have any questions about this proposal, you may contact Diana Erickson at (530) 622-5061.

At this time, a decision has not been made regarding this project. If you have issues (points of dispute, debate or disagreement regarding potential effects of the Proposed Action) or suggestions on how issues might be resolved, please send these in writing to "Kathryn D. Hardy, Forest Supervisor; Eldorado National Forest Supervisor's Office; 100 Forni Road; Placerville, CA 15667; attn.: Travel Management SEIS" on or before November 7, 2012. Comments on the proposed action may also be sent electronically to comments-pacificsouthwest-eldorado@fs.fed.us. We will use significant issues and other ideas that are received to develop alternatives to the Proposed Action.

Sincerely,

/S/ KATHRYN D. HARDY

KATHRYN D. HARDY
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure: Eldorado National Forest Travel Management SEIS Proposed Action



Eldorado National Forest

Travel Management SEIS

Proposed Action

The Forest Service conducted field surveys in 2011 and 2012 at the 95 meadows crossed or bordered by the 42 routes to determine compliance with Standard and Guideline #100 of the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment Record of Decision (SNFPA ROD 2004).

This information was used to develop the following Proposed Action for the portions of the 42 routes that were closed by court order:

For the following 9 routes that the field survey determined did not cross or border meadows:

1. Designate 08N23B, 10N06, 10N26, 10NY04, 11N22, 11N70, 12NY15, and 13N24 as "NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles."
Designate 17E12 as "NFTS Trail: Open to Motorcycles only."

For the following 12 routes where the crossing meets Standard and Guideline 100:

2. Designate 08N35, 09N15, 10N32, 10NY05, 10NY06, 11N09A, 12NY06 and 14N27 as "NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles."
Designate 10N03 as "NFTS Road: Open to Highway Legal Vehicles only."
Designate western 2.2 miles of 09N04 (17E79) as "NFTS 4WD Trail: Open to High Clearance Vehicles." Designate 17E17 and 17E21 as "NFTS Trail: Open to Motorcycles only."

For the following route that the field survey determined a logical closure point before crossing a meadow:

3. Designate route 09N54 up to the intersection with 09N60 as "NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles." Route 09N54 is a secondary access road to Leoni Meadows.

For the following 19 routes that the field survey determined to not currently meet Standard and Guideline 100, and are needed to meet other purposes:

4. Amend SNFPA Standard and Guideline No. 100 to allow continued public motorized use for these 19 routes and designate 09N01, 09N08, 09N95, 10N01 (b), 0.5 miles of 10N13, 10N14, 10N98, 14N05 and 14N58 as “NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.” Designate 11NY32 as “NFTS Road: Open to Highway Legal Vehicles only.” Designate 09N82 (16E26), 09N83 (19E01), 6.8 miles of 10N13 (17E73), 10N21 (16E27), 11N23F (16E33), 11N26F (16E21), and 17E24 as “NFTS 4WD Trail: Open to High Clearance Vehicles.” Designate 17E16, 17E19 and 17E28 as “NFTS Trail: Open to Motorcycles only.”

For the following route that the field survey determined a logical closure point after the primary destination and before crossing additional meadows:

5. Designate the portion of 14N39 up to Richardson Lake as “NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.” The portion past Richardson Lake would remain closed to public use.

Table 1.1 Route Designations under Alternative A – Proposed Action

Designate for public motorized use (Route found to not cross or border a meadow)		
08N23B	Prothro Headwater	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
10N06	Pebble Ridge	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
10N26	Sciots Creek	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
10NY04	Middle Long Canyon	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
11N22	Strawberry Creek	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
11N70	McManus	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
12NY15	West Robbs Peak	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
13N24	Dry Lakes	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
17E12	Motorcycle Trail to Lover's Leap	NFTS Trail: Open to Motorcycles only.

Designate for public motorized use (Meadow/s meeting S&G 100)		
08N35	Upper West Panther	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
9N04 - western 2.2 miles (now 17E79)	Pardoe 4WD	NFTS 4WD Trail: Open to High Clearance Vehicles.
09N15	Leek Springs Valley	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
10N03	Devil's Gate Summer Home	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway Legal Vehicles.
10N32	South Beanville Creek	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
10NY05	Rocky Road	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
10NY06	Upper Long Canyon	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
11N09A	Bryan Creek	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
12NY06	Crystal Shortcut	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
14N27	Bunker Meadow	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
17E17	Bucks Pasture motorcycle trail	NFTS Trail: Open to Motorcycles only.
17E21	Horse Canyon Trail	NFTS Trail: Open to Motorcycles only.
Designate portion of route for public motorized use		
09N54 – up to intersection with 09N60.	Leoni	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles
Designate for public motorized use with S&G Amendment		
09N01	Blue Lakes	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
09N08	Stockton Camp	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
9N82 – so. portion (16E26)*	Squaw Ridge 4WD Trail	NFTS 4WD Trail: Open to High Clearance Vehicles.
09N83 (19E01)*	Clover Valley/Deer Valley Trail	NFTS 4WD Trail: Open to High Clearance Vehicles.
09N95	Cosumnes Head	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
10N01 (10N01B)*	Spur off Woods Lake	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
10N13 – 0.5 miles	Schneider Camp Road	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.

10N13 – 6.8 miles (17E73)*	Strawberry 4WD Trail	NFTS 4WD Trail: Open to High Clearance Vehicles.
10N14	Mule Canyon	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
10N21 – whole route (16E27)*	Long Canyon 4WD Trail	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
10N98	Jim Quinn Spur	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
11N23F (16E33)*	North Shanty Spur	NFTS 4WD Trail: Open to High Clearance Vehicles.
11N26F (16E21)*	Barrett Lake 4WD Trail	NFTS 4WD Trail: Open to High Clearance Vehicles.
11NY32	47 Milestone	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway Legal Vehicles.
14N05	McKinstry Lake	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
14N58	Jerrett	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.
17E16	Little Round Top	NFTS Trail: Open to Motorcycles only.
17E19	Allen's Camp motorcycle trail	NFTS Trail: Open to Motorcycles only.
17E24 (west and east portions)	Carson Emigrant National Recreation Trail	NFTS 4WD Trail: Open to High Clearance Vehicles.
17E28	Long Valley	NFTS Trail: Open to Motorcycles only.
Designate portion of route for public motorized use with S&G Amendment		
14N39 – up to Richardson Lake	Richardson Lake 4WD	NFTS Road: Open to All Highway and Non-Highway Legal Vehicles.

* Road or Trail number from the original TM EIS is listed, followed by a newer road or trail number in parenthesis. A list of the road and trail numbers that have been changed since the ENF TMSEIS is located in appendix B.

Decision to be made _____

The responsible official will decide, based upon the new analysis in this document, whether to designate all or some of those portions of the 42 routes (roads and trails) that were closed by court order for motorized travel management, and whether to amend the Forest Land and Resource Management Plan Standard and Guidelines. This will be documented in a new Record of Decision.