

## Rapid River Travel Management Project Environmental Assessment Available

1 message

USDA Forest Service <forests@public.govdelivery.com>

Thu, Mar 4, 2021 at 3:43 PM

Reply-To: forests@public.govdelivery.com

To: CITYCLERK@newmeadowsidaho.us



Dear potentially interested or affected party:

The New Meadows Ranger District of the Payette National Forest announces the public comment period on the Rapid River Travel Management Project's environmental assessment. The assessment is available at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=36507>. The project's purpose is to review the designated use of six trails within and adjacent to the Rapid River Wild River corridor. The project is approximately fifteen miles northwest of New Meadows, Idaho, within Adams County.

This project implements the Payette National Forest's 2003 Land and Resource Management Plan and is subject to 36 CFR 218 subparts A and B, which provide direction for comments and objections. Comments will be accepted for thirty days following the publication of the legal notice in the newspaper of record, the McCall *Star-News*. The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period. A copy of the legal notice will be posted on the project webpage (link above). Only those who submit timely and specific written comments regarding the proposed project or activity during a public comment period established by the responsible official are eligible to file an objection. For objection eligibility, each individual or representative from each entity submitting timely and specific written comments regarding the proposed project or activity must also either sign the comments or verify identity upon request. An objection period, if required, would occur in the spring of 2021.

You may submit comments electronically through the project webpage (link above), by clicking on "*Comment/Object on Project*". If you are uploading comments, please do so in Word (.doc or .docx), pdf, or rich text (.rtf). You may also mail comments to New Meadows Ranger District, Attn: Rapid River Travel Management Project, PO Box J, New Meadows, ID 83654. Comments must be postmarked by the end of the comment period. You may also fax comments to 208-347-0309 with "Rapid River Travel Management" in the subject line. We are not accepting hand delivered comments due to COVID-19 precautions. Note that comments are available to the public and will become part of the project record.

Form letters or comments that are not specific to the project or analysis do not generally provide the type of information that is helpful for the decision-making process. I request that you provide unique, project-specific comments with detailed cause-effect statements and rationale. This will help me to better understand your concerns or suggestions and arrive at a more fully informed decision for the next stage of project development.

We have developed a story map to provide an interactive virtual platform for you to learn about the project (<https://tinyurl.com/77hwredf>). I will also host two virtual public meetings to provide an overview of the project and answer questions:

- March 11 from 12 to 2:30 (<https://usfs.zoomgov.com/j/1604948076>, or by telephone at 669-254-5252, passcode 1604948076#); and

- March 18 from 5 to 6:30 (<https://usfs.zoomgov.com/j/1603804972>, or by telephone at 669-254-5252, passcode 1603804972#)

Thank you for your interest in the project. Please feel free to reach me at 208-514-5809 or [erin.phelps@usda.gov](mailto:erin.phelps@usda.gov) with any questions on the project or clarification on how to engage in the project as we move forward.

Sincerely,

Erin Phelps, District Ranger

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