



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests
Forest Supervisor's Office
903 3rd Street
Kamiah, ID 83536

Grangeville Office 208-983-1950
Orofino Office 208-476-4541

File Code: 1950

Date: March 12, 2014

Dear Planning Participant,

Thank you for interest in the Crooked River Valley Rehabilitation Project (CRVR project) planning effort. The Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests, in cooperation with the Nez Perce Tribe, Bonneville Power Administration and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; have prepared the **Crooked River Valley Rehabilitation Project, Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS)**. The Draft EIS is now available for public comment.

I am requesting comments on the Draft EIS at this time. The Draft EIS and other detailed project information are available by visiting our project website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php/?project=40648>. A full copy and/or CD of the Draft EIS is available at Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest offices in Kamiah, Grangeville, Elk City, Orofino; and many local libraries, including Kamiah, Grangeville, Elk City, Orofino and Missoula.

At this time, I have identified the preferred alternative as Alternative B. The Narrows Road alternatives have been eliminated from detailed study in this Draft EIS. The Narrows Road Improvement project would be included in a future NEPA effort by the forest. In order for me to make a reasoned decision, it is important that any comments you provide are substantive and specific.

How to Provide Comments

Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, oral, and electronic comments concerning this project should be submitted at this time. To assure your comments are fully considered during the analysis of this project, please submit your comments by 45-days following the publication of the Notice of Availability in the *Federal Register*, estimated to be on March 28, 2014. Comments submitted after that date will be accepted, but our ability to respond effectively could be reduced. Please note that all comments received will be included in the public record; therefore, names, phone numbers, physical addresses, and e-mail addresses of participants cannot be kept confidential [7 Code of Federal Regulations(CFR) Part 1 Subpart B 1-27(c)]. The publication date in the *Federal Register* is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for this project. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

Written comments should be submitted to Jennie Fischer, Team Leader, Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests, 104 Airport Road, Grangeville, Idaho 83530. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are: 7:30 am to 4:30 pm (PST), Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Oral comments must be provided during normal business hours via telephone (208) 983-4048 or in person. Faxed comments must be provided via telephone to (208) 983-4099.



Electronic comments should be submitted in rich text format (.rtf) or Word (.doc) to comments-northern-nezperce-red-river@fs.fed.us. Email comments must have an identifiable name attached, or verification of identity will be required, and the project name “**CRVR project**” in the subject line of your message. A scanned signature may serve as verification on electronic comments.

If you choose to comment on the proposal, please include the following: (1) your full name, address, and (if possible) your telephone number, and organization represented (if any); (2) title of the project on which you are submitting comments; (3) specific facts and related rationale concerning this project that you feel should be considered. Additional information regarding how to comment can be found at 36 CFR 215.6. This project will follow the new project-level predecisional administrative review process (36 CFR 218).

We plan to host public meetings at forest offices on May 6th in Grangeville and May 8th in Elk City (6:00 to 7:30 p.m.), to review this draft and answer questions you may have. If you have questions or would like additional information on this project, please contact Jennie Fischer, Team Leader at (208) 983-4048.

Thank you for your interest in the management of the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests.

Sincerely,



RICK BRAZELL
Forest Supervisor