

Robert and Patti Bailey
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Hillsboro, Oregon 97124
[REDACTED]

June 27, 2024

**Regional Forester
Objection Reviewing Officer
Pacific Northwest Region
USDA, Forest Service
Attn: 1570 Appeals and Objections
1220 SW Third Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97204**

Objections and Comments on EA, DN, and FONSI

**Lake of the Woods Resort Expansion Project and Environmental
Assessment: 60600**

Date of Notice: June 5, 2024

Robert Bailey is the lead objector.

Robert Bailey has submitted previous comments on this project.

Guillermo Sereno is the Environmental Coordinator in the West Zones
Ranger Districts

Previously raised objections

- Creation of an exit from LOWR onto Dead Indian Memorial Road as hazardous to traffic at intersection
- Creation of obstacles to access for lower income, day use patrons by the creation of a 60 unit RV Park
- The lack of an aquatic-marine toilet in Rainbow Bay
- USFS public involvement at variance with department guidelines

New Information arising from designated opportunities: the USFS indicates in their draft DN and FONSI that "the parties determined that certain modifications to the Settlement Agreement would better serve the needs of LOWR and the Forest Service." According to the Settlement

Agreement, section 16, Amendments must be in a "written instrument by the party" and signed. While the DN and FONSI make reference to the amendment, there is no detail of what modifications took place, other than the deletion of the 60 space RV park. I have requested that amendment to the Settlement Agreement under the Freedom of Information Act. While most commenters likely applaud the deleting the 60 unit RV Park from the proposal, it would be helpful for all to see what tradeoffs were made.

Objections

1. The Transportation plan includes the reopening the east end of the Forest Service Road 3704-112 (Spur Road 112). Per consultation with Klamath County Public Works, the exit will be combined with spur Road 110 (boat storage parking lot). There is no distinct map of this exit and it is unclear whether the exit is onto Dead Indian Memorial Road or the road between Hwy 140 and Dead Indian Memorial Road. In that long trailers and long RVs will use this exit the traffic would be slow moving and turning in either direction, into oncoming traffic at this curve would be hazardous. Perhaps the danger has been mitigated but it is not clear from the Decision Rationale or any map where and how this exit is to operate. More detail is needed to address health and safety.
2. I applaud the determination by the USFS and LOWR to abandon the 60 site RV park. One of the reasons I objected to this was that it would diminish access to the lake and resort for day use patrons, who are more likely to be from lower income households. I did not see any Decision Rationale that referenced this as an obstacle to access. I did see a statement that the amended plan would have access for all income levels.
3. The project did not include the addition of an aquatic-marine toilet. I objected to this. The DN and EA made no reference to an aquatic-marine toilet. With the increase in users, the lack of an aquatic-marine toilet in vicinity to the LOWR is a health concern for Rainbow Bay swimmers and boaters and impacts the overall water quality of the lake.
4. I critiqued the public involvement preceding and during the scoping period. This included the USFS and LOWR holding confidential the Settlement Agreement and certain other documents until and unless a FOIA had been submitted. The Settlement Agreement was provided shortly before the close of the Scoping deadline. While I and a few

others got access to it, many of the stakeholders did not. Now, the USFS DN and EA withhold the Amendment to the Settlement Agreement. The USFS Handbook, 1909.12 Land Management, provides guidelines for public participation in project applications. Application 60600 has been at variance with this guidance.

Respectfully,

Robert Bailey

Robert Bailey, CO-Cabin Owner under Beckett Permit at [REDACTED]

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