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Title:

Comments: [External Email]Question on FS camping Management materials

[External Email]

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Hello Beth,

February 23, 2023

I can't recall if we've met before but I'm the long-time agency contact for the GARNA Friends of Fourmile chapter. I was in the meeting yesterday evening but had to shift over to the GARNA event next door before I could introduce myself.

As a retired NPS planner with experience in writing plans and EAs and NEPA procedures I congratulate you and the team for coming up with a thoughtful and understandable set of documents. As you may know, the FoF chapter has a long history of assisting both FS and BLM in recreation observation and management in the Fourmile TMA - our chapter core members were all a part of the citizens groups which help craft the travel management plan for the joint TMA signed in 2002. We're the ones that have done a windshield visitor use survey in Fourmile every Memorial Day since 2009 and provided results and analysis to the agencies, and we're largely responsible for all the Fourmile mapping and brochures. (In fact we're looking forward to helping in revisions that are likely as designated camping and other changes come on line.)

I'll be contacting District Ranger Edwards with some questions I wasn't able to pose in the meeting, but I do want to ask if the graphics on the wall are available somewhere to download. I already have the VB Designated Camping pdf and the Heat map, but not those expanded graphics that cover potential campground sites. It happens I think there is a mapping error in the graphic that shows a potential campground along 375C in Fourmile but I didn't get chance to mention it before the presentation started.

District Ranger Mercer and I have been in contact recently mostly because I am leading the GARNA-sponsored Salida to Leadville Stage and Rail historic route project. We're nearing completion of the formal designation and signing of that 75 mile route, and the last 15 miles at the north end passes through sections of BLM and FS managed lands. Pat and I and Jim Fiorelli are just waiting on final Lake County actions to getup and sign these last miles.

The FoF submitted comments in the scoping phase so we're already "on record," but in case it's of interest I'm attaching another copy. At least on initial reading of the DCM_NOPA and VB map it seems that much of what we were suggesting for Fourmile appears in your proposal. We'll be looking more closely at the proposal and expect to provide additional comments prior to the deadline.

Thanks for you efforts and for the nice presentation.

Alan

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