

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/1/2020 7:00:00 AM

First name: James and Della

Last name: Cothorn

Organization:

Title:

Comments: James H. and Dena M. Cothorn

January 1, 2020

Re: Forest Plan Amendment

Dear Mr. Anderson:

Thank you for your correspondence of December 18, 2019, to my wife and I regarding Forest Plan Amendment, File Code 1950. We have studied the information contained in your correspondence and understand the objectives of that plan. Our problem is understanding what methods you will use to complete the plan.

To be specific the information we require is to know if part of the plan would be to close any Forest Service roads to public access. In particular we are concerned about Forest Service roads numbered 62865 and 62866. To be brief we own 20.07 acres on Trapper Creek. Approximately 4 acres lie between the middle of Trapper Creek and Forest Service Road 5628. The other 16 acres lie north of 5628 and consist of a ridge running from the north to the south having grades of approximately 60% on the east, south, and west of the 16 acres. The only access to the 16 acres for motor vehicles or equipment required to service our property is at the northwest corner of our property where road 62866 adjoins our property. If it is possible that this road would be abandoned we would suffer substantial harm to the use and value of our property.

Would you please take a moment and let us know if you think it is necessary for us to file by January 17th our concerns about the project? We have had the cooperation of our Darby Ranger, Eric Winthers, and his predecessor, Chuck Oliver, in keeping this road open. We are in favor of protecting our wildlife and environment. A seasonal closing of the road would not be objectionable so long as we had access by Forest Service roads during the spring and summer season to continue our legal requirements of eradicating noxious weeds, especially knapweed, and maintaining laddering of trees and needed thinning of the timber.

I know you are acquainted with Buck Titus, the current mayor of Darby. He is well acquainted with our situation and has helped us maintain the forest on this land for the last 26 years. If you have any questions, Mr. Titus would be happy to visit with you.

I hope this is not too much of a burden on you, but we are looking forward to a response prior to January 17th

Sincerely,

James H. Cothorn