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Comments: A board member of Our Cabin Owner's Association, (Governmental Mineral Springs Cabin Association) participated in the webinar on 2/25/24. Through that process, we learned of the need to submit preliminary comments by 2/2/24 to secure legal standing to ensure our ability to participate in future discussions and reviews.

1. We understand that recreational facilities, including cabins on leased land are not included in the 5 "Notice of Intent" areas. If, however, overlapping concerns/interests surface, how will we be notified, how much advanced notice will we receive and what opportunities will we have to provide input and/or respond to the concerns raised?

2. Protection efforts for the Northern Spotted Owl have been in effect for more than 30 years now. During the webinar, it was clearly stated that the two biggest threats to their habitat are: fires and the invasion of the Barred Owl. Humans were not noted as threats. Will the focus on protecting the Northern Spotted Owls be redirected to fires and the invasion by the Barred Owl? What can we, as humans in their habitat do to assist with these efforts?

3. Last year we were informed by the Forest Service that beginning in the not too distant future approximately 85% of cabin land lease payments will be retained locally. Most, if not all of that, as we understood, will be for cabin Associations to used to enhance conditions in and around their tracts. We were asked to submit plans outlining project needs. To a very large degree, our projects focused on fire management, the removal of ground level and ladder fuel, brushing our roads for optimal ingress by first responders and egress by all during emergencies, risks created by dispersed (unofficial) campsites where fires are created. Should our plans be integrated into your Notice of Intent" item #1 Fire Resilience in hopes to provide support for our project goals?

4. We believe the updated Forest Plan might provide guidance to your 20 year Special Uses Permits review processes. Will we be informed of and permitted to comment on planning deliberations that likely will guide the SUP review process? Our tract is up for the re-issuance of permits on 1/1/2029. An opportunity to provide feedback, during the planning phase of the new Forest Plan. Additionally, any advanced notice of such guidance will help us prepare for our 20 year review.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. We appreciate the opportunity to participate in this discussion moving forward.

Sincere regards,

Paul Janssen
Government Mineral Springs Cabin Association (SW Washington State)
President