

September 23, 2026 | Via CARA | Project No. 284162

To: Brian Glaspell, Forest Supervisor, White River National Forest

Supplemental DEIS comment: safety records still unavailable

Dear Supervisor Glaspell:

This supplements my Sweetwater Lake egress comments (CARA 284162-6986-46 and 284162-6986-55). My July 6 FOIA request, 2026-FS-R2-05762-F, sought existing emergency-response and evacuation plans, road-closure assumptions, route analyses, and consultation with first responders. After the August 30 mudslides blocked Sweetwater Road, my August 31 email made that already-requested egress material the first priority for rolling production. It did not add a new request or withdraw the other active items (Attachment 1, pp. 1-2).

On September 3, Acting Regional FOIA Coordinator Misty DeSalvo wrote to me, copying you and Leanne Veldhuis: "We will provide the below documents as quickly as possible, and then continue with the top 10 'priority' list." (Attachment 1, p. 1). As of September 23, I have received neither the prioritized egress production nor a written determination that no responsive records were located, and I have no estimated production date. Her email gave no fixed delivery deadline. The lack of production does **not** prove that safety records do not exist.

But the Draft EIS comment period closes today. The public still cannot review the very safety materials the Forest Service agreed to prioritize after the only public exit was actually blocked. FOIA processing is separate from the Forest Service's obligation to disclose and analyze the information supporting its project decision. Residents need to see how each alternative addresses an impassable road, evacuation, emergency-responder access, and the risks added by visitor traffic.

Please place any relevant existing safety analyses, assumptions, and first-responder consultations in the project record; identify the precise Draft EIS or technical-report pages that evaluate actual loss of Sweetwater Road under each alternative; and state clearly if the necessary analysis has not been done. If it is missing or later-produced records materially change the safety picture, complete and disclose the analysis and allow at least 90 days for public comment after disclosure. Do not select an alternative or issue CPW's special use permit while this known, demonstrated safety issue remains deferred to future planning.

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Wright III

Authorized Representative, Sweetwater Lake Working Group

Attachment 1: July 6 request and August 31-September 3 Forest Service FOIA correspondence (six-page original email thread).