

Deschutes & Ochoco National Forests

Crooked River National Grassland

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Projects & Plans

Project Documents

Decision Memo Six Mile Snopark Newberry National Volcanic Monument

Deschutes National Forest Bend-Ft. Rock Ranger District Deschutes County, Oregon

On May 2, 2003, District Ranger Walter C. Schloer, Jr. made a decision to authorize the construction of a 15 x 15 foot log shelter and a handicap accessible toilet at Six Mile Snopark on the Bend Fort Rock Ranger District of the Deschutes National Forest. The shelter is currently located at Ten Mile Snopark and is not needed there.

A vault toilet, which is handicap accessible, will be constructed on site at Six Mile.

The Six Mile Snopark Facilities project is located in Township 22 South, Range 11 East, Section 3, and is accessed by Highway 97 and County Road 21.

The District Ranger may implement this decision immediately upon signature of this document. This decision is not subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 215.8 (a) (4).

For further information contact Marv Lang at 1230 NE Third Street, Suite A-

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SCHEDULE OF PROJECTS

PROJECT INFORMATION

✦ By Administrative Unit

- Deschutes SO
- Bend/Fort Rock
- Crescent
- Sisters
- Ochoco SO
- Lookout Mtn.
- Paulina
- Crooked River NG

✦ Forest Health, Fire, Fuels, Vegetation Management

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✦ Land Acquisition

✦ Miscellaneous

PLANS, ANALYSES, ASSESSMENTS

▶ **Links**

▶ **Evaluate Our Service**

We welcome your comments on our service and your suggestions for improvement.

Forest

Deschutes National Forest

1001 SW Emkay Drive
Bend, OR 97702

(541) 383-5300

Ochoco National Forest

3160 N.E. 3rd Street
Prineville, OR 97754

(541) 416-6500

**Crooked River National
Grassland**

813 S.W. Hwy. 97
Madras, OR 97741

(541) 475-9272



262, Bend, Oregon, 97701. Telephone (541) 383-4793; FAX (541) 383-4700; e-mail melang@fs.fed.us. This Notice can also be viewed at the Deschutes National Forest website: www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon/index.html.

DECISION MEMO

SIX MILE SNOPARK FACILITIES

BEND-FORT ROCK RANGER DISTRICT

DESCHUTES NATIONAL FOREST

DESCHUTES COUNTY, OREGON

DECISION

I have decided to authorize the construction of a 15 x 15 foot log shelter and a handicap accessible toilet at Six Mile Snopark on the Bend Fort Rock Ranger District of the Deschutes National Forest. The shelter is currently located at Ten Mile Snopark and is not needed there.

A vault toilet, which is handicap accessible, will be constructed on site at Six Mile.

LOCATION

The Six Mile Snopark Facilities project is located in Township 22 South, Range 11 East, Section 3, and is accessed by Highway 97 and County Road 21. The project is located within MA 9 (Scenic Views) land allocation in the Deschutes National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan. The project is located outside of the boundaries of the Northwest Forest Plan. The project lies primarily within the Paulina 6th field Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC), within the Newberry 5th field HUC. This project is within the

parameters provided in the Scenic Views management area objectives, i.e. dispersed recreation developments are permitted as long as they are consistent with the desired scenic condition. See the LRMP for more detail.

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION

The Six Mile Snopark is located at approximately 4500 feet elevation, hosting groomable snow in mid season. There are no facilities currently at Six Mile. There is a partially dismantled log shelter at Ten Mile, which is surplus to needs there. Ten Mile hosts adequate snow throughout the winter season in a normal year, and is over utilized, while Six Mile is underutilized even when there is adequate snow.

There is a need to construct facilities at Six Mile Snopark to encourage use there and relieve use pressures at Ten Mile Snopark.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Six Mile Snopark Facilities project consists of constructing a shelter and a toilet to enhance the useability of the snopark.

The shelter is 15 x 15 feet and made of large diameter logs. It currently is partially dismantled. With dismantled materials stored for reuse. The shelter is at Ten Mile Snopark and is no longer needed there since a new larger facility was constructed. It sits on a concrete slab. The project will dismantle the remainder of the logs and transport all materials to Six Mile, where they will be reconstructed on top of a new concrete foundation and slab. A bobcat will be used to excavate a site approximately 20 x 20 x 3 feet deep. The foundation and slab will be poured on site at the same time. The logs and roof structure will be constructed using a crane. The slab will be approximately 16 x 20 feet. The structure will have a metal roof.

The toilet will consist of a below ground sealed vault and a wood structure with

a metal roof above. The toilet will be accessible to wheelchairs, as will the shelter (in summer). The vault consists of thick walled concrete holding approximately 1000 gallons. It is approximately 6 x 8 x 4 feet deep. The hole for it will be excavated with a backhoe. The building will be a wood stick built structure with a metal roof and 12 black plastic vent pipe.

The shelter will be located in the northwest corner of the parking lot off the pavement and the toilet will be located in the northeast corner.

PUBLIC SCOPING

Letters outlining the proposed action were mailed to approximately 60 interested parties on the Project mailing list on September 27, 2001. The proposal at that time was to move the Ten Mile shelter to North Paulina Peak. After receiving public feedback questioning that plan due to impacts on a roadless area, the proposal was changed to the current decision.

A summary of the proposed action was also included in the Schedule of Projects (SOP) since spring Issue 2001.

There were no internal scoping issues identified. The proposed action (Decision) responds to and mitigates concerns raised by the public.

MITIGATIONS

1. Clean all equipment and vehicles before entering National Forest System lands. Remove mud, dirt, and plant parts from project equipment before moving it into project area to reduce the possibility of importing noxious weeds to the area.
2. Monitor and flag known knapweed sites within the immediate area of the project and pull any plants before project begins. Avoid all noxious weed sites if possible. Knapweed and Dalmatian toadflax should be removed from the Ten Mile Snopark before the project is

begun. The area around the shelter inspected for weeds and if any are found they must be pulled and removed before the shelter is moved.

3. Do not allow any equipment or vehicles to be parked off the pavement in the Ten Mile Snopark.
4. All equipment that is used where there are noxious weeds present should be washed before being taken to other areas of the forest.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

Appropriate surveys for Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive species were completed and a determination of "No Effect" or "No Impact" was reached for each species. Biological evaluations are contained in the project file.

There are no known water sources in the area of this project, therefore there are no effects on hydrologic or fisheries resources.

An appropriate cultural resource inventory has been completed and there would be no effect to known historic or prehistoric properties eligible for listing under the National Register of Historic Places.

There are known weed sites in the area of this project. See mitigations.

FINDINGS

This decision is categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement in accordance with 40 CFR 1508.4 and Forest Service Environmental Policy and Procedure Handbook 1909.15. This decision falls within category 31.1b (4) as established by the Chief of the Forest Service for the repair and maintenance of recreation sites. I have reviewed the physical and biological conditions with resource specialists. I have concluded that the proposed activities are consistent with the intent of recreation management plans and in

accordance with the Deschutes National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (1990) as amended by the Inland Native Fish Strategy (1995), and the best science of the draft Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project (2000). I have concluded that no extraordinary (see Note 1) circumstances exist which would indicate this action could have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

This decision may be implemented immediately upon my signature, and is not subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 215.8 (a) (4).

WALTER C. SCHLOER, JR.

DATE

Note 1: As defined by the Interim Direction "Clarification of Extraordinary Circumstances for Categories of Actions Excluded From Documentation" appearing in the Federal Register Vol. 67, No. 164, August 23, 2002.

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