

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Monongahela  
National  
Forest

Potomac Ranger District  
HC 59, Box 240  
Petersburg, WV 26847  
304-257-4488

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**"CARING FOR THE LAND AND SERVING PEOPLE"**

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Reply to: 2320

Date: September 29, 1993

Mr. Bob Nore, Project Manager  
Dolly Sods OEW Removal  
Huntsville Division, DOD Corps of Engineers  
P.O. Box 1600  
Huntsville, AL 35807-4301

Dear Mr. Nore:

It has been over six months since we discussed our concerns relative to the Dolly Sods OEW removal with you. During that time additional UXO has been found on our property in both the Dolly Sods Wilderness and in Dolly Sods North. This included a chemical bomb that was removed earlier this month. Because of our concerns for public safety and government liability should an accident occur as a result of the UXO, as well as our responsibility to manage the wilderness in a natural state, we are anxious to know the status of your plans for removal of the UXO.

In FY93, we understood that the Corps started working on a report that will result in a decision on the alternative to be followed for remediation of the OEW in the Dolly Sods Wilderness of the Monongahela National Forest. In February you indicated to me that you would probably not complete that report until you were funded to do so in a future FY. With the new FY starting this week, can you tell us whether or not you will be working on this report in FY 94, and give us an estimate of when it will be completed? We would also like to have contact information for the current project manager, if that is not yourself.

In our February letter we outlined some of our concerns and regulations that must be considered in planning and carrying out this project. When you are ready to resume work on the project, I strongly urge you to meet with us on this project as soon as possible. Such a meeting can reduce the work and stress for both of us.

In the February letter from Forest Supervisor Jim Page, we asked you whether or not you were exempt from laws such as the Wilderness Act, Endangered Species Act, Antiquities Act of 1906, National Historic Preservation Act 1964 (as amended), Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, NEPA, FLPMA, and the Monongahela National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, as some earlier discussions with other persons in your agency indicated that you might be. We

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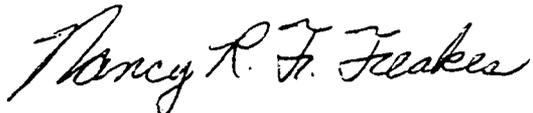


Page 2, 1993  
September 29, 1993

did not receive a reply to that question. Again, if you are, we need you to provide us with documentation of your authority and exemptions.

Let me emphasize again that because our requirements as the land managers of the area may have a strong impact on your proposal, giving us a chance to provide early input to your report and to review your project prior to releasing it to the public could reduce the amount of work and headaches that both of us have to go through, and greatly facilitate the project. Because of that, I again urge you to contact us as soon as possible to set up a meeting to discuss this project. We also would like to have two copies of your draft report to review as soon as you have it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy R. F. Feakes". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

NANCY R. F. FEAKES  
District Ranger