

MESSAGE SCAN FOR NANCY R. PEAKES

FAX!301 983 8058@ATT:X400
 To FAX!304-529-5136@ATT:X400
 CC S.Chandler:so
 CC Mike
 CC J.Knibbs:d1
 CC Sara
 CC nancy

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AOS error 8212: (X400) Conversion not allowed

From: NANCY R. PEAKES
 Postmark: Mar 25, 97 2:23 PM Delivered: Mar 25, 97 3:09 PM

Subject: Forwarded: Sods North UXO project

 Comments:

From: NANCY R. PEAKES:R09F21D05A
 Date: Mar 25, 97 2:23 PM
 Nancy Vyas & Wally Dean - here's some additional input that we received today. Part of it is outside of your project and we will need to address, but part of it is for you!

Previous comments:

From: Rick Landenberger:X400A
 Date: Mar 25, 97 12:06 PM
 From: C-US/ADMD=ATTMATT/ORG=ATTMATT/PN=Rick Landenberger/
 DD.ID=internet (b)wvu.edu (b)rlanden/

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Nancy Feakes
District Ranger
Potomac Ranger District
March 25, 1997
Martinsburg, WV

Dear Nancy,

I am sorry I was unable to attend the meeting in Elkins on March 24th, 1997. Enclosed are my comments on the Dolly Sods North Ordnance Removal Project. If you are not the lead agency on the upcoming EA, please forward them to the responsible official.

For the record:

- 1) I am strongly opposed to any use of motorized access to the area. I understand that the Forest Service currently has no guidelines by which to assess the qualities for potential wilderness in the upcoming Forest Plan revision, and am opposed to use of vehicles for this (and other) reasons. In the absence of any criteria, I think that pre-existing sanctioned administrative motorized vehicle use could be used along with other subjective criteria in an attempt to disqualify the Dolly Sods North unit for wilderness recommendation. Past performance by the Forest Service is adequate evidence for this contention. I also recommend that you begin thinking about criteria and quantifiable characteristics for potential wilderness recommendation so that these issues are made more clear to the general public.
- 2) I recommend that the Forest and Army Corps seriously consider the no action alternative, and am concerned that the Army Corps and Forest Service may use unreasonable and biased rational to select a removal alternative. I recommend that the environmental analysis use objective risk assessment procedures to evaluate the potential of future human hazard from UXO's. For instance, in the very most simplistic scenario, it would be easy to calculate a "probability of risk" to the average Dolly Sods North visitor assuming you have accurate use levels for the area(s). The basic statistic would be the number of injured individuals expressed relative to the number of visitor days since the ordnance were extant. It is probably around 1:several million or so, for a (conservative) probability of approximately 0.000001. (This assumes that the risk of explosion is fixed and doesn't change over time, which may or may not be a valid assumption-the Army Corps UXO specialists would know). I recommend that you develop meaningful risk-assessment procedures for use as a basis of the environmental assessment, rather than simply assuming the risk is great and that the risk somehow (in some not yet documented rational) justifies the actions. I disagree with the current rational, as it appears at best to be based on one injury that should never have occurred in the first place.
- 3) Before proceeding with the removal, I recommend that you gather quantitative information on existing "route" related erosion and water quality in the area. Having spent hundreds of hours in the Dolly Sods North hiking and examining the various routes (both in the early 1990's and since the recent flooding), I think that the routes can be rehabilitated without using motorized equipment, and that motorized equipment would only cause greater damage. Rehab would be labor intensive, but within reason assuming the technical ability exists and the project would have the support of the Forest Service. This would perhaps best be accomplished (planned, analyzed, and implemented) within the context of a specific EA, or might best wait until the Forest Plan revision. In the meantime, I recommend that you develop descriptive water quality and erosion data to use as a basis of any possible objective analysis procedures.

Sincerely,

Rick Landenberger
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Morgantown, WV 26505
304-296 2320

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Larry W

FAX COVER PAGE

Date: Tue Mar 25 17:27:08 GMT 1997

Destination Fax: +1 304 529 5136

From: N.FEAKES

Subject: Heads up - Dolly Sods UXO

Number of pages: 2
(including cover page(s))

UA-Message ID: BBF-UIEGNU

Addressed To:

K.Goodrich

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nancy
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Just got off the phone from an interview with Jeff Young of W Va Public Radio in Morgantown. (He's Bureau Chief for the north central part of the state, usually Clarksburg to Morgantown, but also covers parts of the Monongahela NF - 304-293-8780).

He was aware that we & the COE had a public meeting in Elkins last night on the Dolly Sods North UXO, and wanted background info and to ask some questions about the proposed UXO removal in Dolly Sods Wilderness and DSN. He specifically asked about the implications of using the roads in DSN on the possible future designation of the area as wilderness. I told him that we do not believe that this will affect that eligibility, but because the criteria have not been finalized, we cannot be totally certain. Based on the DRAFT criteria for roadless area designation, this use would NOT affect any designation. He asked about the current mgmt Rx, & I told him that while we are managing it to maintain flexibility and not preclude a given prescription, we have not determined which Rx it will receive and probably won't until the next Forest Plan. When? 2001. Timeline for interim steps in planning? Don't have a good handle on that - call Steve Chandler in SO in Elkins...Need for removal action/public risk? COE performing risk assessment; risk to a hiker low, but chance of explosion if ordnance is hit by a tent spike, during digging, or if a hot fire is built on one, etc. Related Wally Dean accident. He will call Wally for further info.

Walley

MESSAGE SCAN FOR NANCY R. FEAKES

TO FAX: 304-529-5136@ATTN:X400

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From: NANCY R. FEAKES

Postmark: Mar 24, 97 9:32 AM

Delivered: Mar 24, 97 9:42 AM

Subject: Forwarded: Road building in Dolly Sods North?

Comments:

From: NANCY R. FEAKES:R09F21D05A

Date: Mar 24, 97 9:32 AM

For Wally Dean and Rick Meadows.

Please call me immediately so we can discuss - I've been unable to reach you in the past week, including this morning. Thanks.
304-257-4486 Nancy

Previous comments:

From: JOSEPH A. ROBLETS:R09F21A

Date: Mar 22, 97 12:09 PM

Misinformation over the telephone lines. So you know what to expect on Monday night? Would love to make it on Monday, but have a previous engagement (this is the first I've heard of the public meeting - guess I've been out of the loop for a while....). Joe

Previous comments:

From: Gregory A. Good:X400

Date: Mar 21, 97 3:36 PM

From: C US/ADMD=ATTMAIL/ORG=ATTMAIL/PN Gregory GA Good/
DD: (E)Internet (E)wvu.edu (b)ggood/

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ALERT!!

Public Meeting to Discuss Ordinance (bump) Removal in Dolly Sods North
Monday, October 24
7:00 pm
County Courthouse Annex Meeting Room
Bikins

It looks like the Forest Service will allow/encourage the Army Corp of Engineers to use 4x4 vehicles to do the ordinance removal in the Dolly Sods this coming summer. The plan is to use the "existing road system" which appears to include the Blackbird Knob Trail for motorized access. This appears to be an attempt to establish motorized roaded use of the area, thereby disqualifying it for consideration as wilderness or G.2. Getting these vehicles in will require road construction and vegetation removal, including on Blackbird Knob Trail.

The Forest Service is also not planning on doing an Environmental Impact Statement, claiming that the one developed for the the wilderness area ordinance removal suffices. This logic is flawed, since by using motorized vehicles and improving roads they are not practicing the same "low impact" removal procedures as employed in the wilderness area.

Please attend this meeting and let Nancy Peakos, the District Ranger, know that this is totally unacceptable. Roadless areas in the Monongahela River watershed can be counted on one hand, and one doesn't need to use every finger. Higher levels of development may well be appropriate in city parks, but surely not atop the Alleghenies.

FA

FAX COVER PAGE

Date: Fri Mar 21 20:50:00 GMT 1997

Destination Fax: +1 304 529 5591

From: N.FEAKES

Subject: Heads Up

Number of pages: 2
(including cover page(s))

UA-Message ID: BHB-UHBAYR

Addressed To:

K.Goodrich

Carbon Copied To:

nancy
Lynn
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