



Our mission: to educate through the identification, preservation, and interpretation of Idaho's cultural heritage.

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BOISE NATIONAL FOREST

APR 20 2004

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April 16, 2004

Mr. Dick Smith
Forest Supervisor
Boise National Forest
1249 South Vinnell Way #200
Boise, Idaho 83709

Dear Mr. Smith:

Our office has been working closely with Susie Osgood of the Boise National Forest (Forest) to address the need for a Programmatic Agreement (PA) for the Warm Lake Recreation Residences Tracts east of Cascade, Idaho. Ken Reid, Tricia Canaday, and myself met with Ms. Osgood on April 2 to review where we were on the PA and to determine what direction the agreement should take. At that time, our office decided not to sign the PA as it was presented for the following reasons:

1. This was the first time we had seen this copy of the PA and therefore did not have time to review it and provide comments. Appendix A, referred to in the PA, was not attached for review; it outlines how projects will be reviewed by the district, the Forest, and our office. It became evident that the previous comments and agreement for changes made with the former forest archaeologist were not incorporated into this version of the PA.
2. This PA essentially allowed decisions about building alterations to be made by the District Ranger. The District Ranger does not meet qualifications stipulated in 36CFR61 regulations.
3. The PA removed the Forest Heritage personnel from much of the review process and as written, the District Ranger "may ask for a review of his determination...." We do not feel that this is appropriate for managing or protecting historic properties.
4. This PA will set a precedent for Idaho. Therefore, it needs to be re-written to meet our expectations and the Forest's without jeopardizing historic properties. It also needs to be consistent with other PAs extant in Idaho. I talked with Mary Williams on the Bitterroot NF about this PA and the proposed provisions for review. She has one of the best working relationships with a District that I know of in Idaho. She stated that she would not sign on to a PA that gave such discretion to the District Ranger and removed the Heritage Program Leader from review.



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We agreed to Work with Ms. Osgood on crafting a PA that will work for the Forest and our office. We stated that we wished to bring the PA back to what we thought it would be---a working agreement that allows District approval for routine maintenance and all other proposals to be reviewed by the Heritage Program leader at the Supervisor's Office. The only review by our office will be for those projects where we are asked to participate, resolution of adverse effects, and of the annual report. We will review the PA in an annual meeting. This mirrors how our other PAs are written and that will provide consistency with the other Forests in Idaho.

On April 16, I met with Ms. Osgood to rework the PA for a final time. During that meeting, we came to agreement on most issues and finished a PA that is both thoughtful to the resource and workable for the permit holders. This PA mirrored that used in USFS Region 5 and provided a list of minor maintenance activities that can be completed by the permit holders without review by the District Ranger or the Heritage Program Leader. We are comfortable with this agreement and hope that the Forest will also feel it meets expectations for its needs.

Both Ken Reid and I wish to comment on the professionalism of Susie Osgood. She has the knowledge and interaction skills that really work for a Forest employee in this position. Our consultation with the Forest is greatly improved with her assignment as the forest archaeologist.

Sincerely,



Mary Anne Davis
Associate State Archaeologist

Cc: Ken Reid, ISHS
Tricia Canaday, ISHS
Steve Guerber, ISHS
Susie Osgood, Boise NF