



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Nez Perce -Clearwater National
Forests
Supervisor's Office

903 3rd Street
Kamiah, ID 83536
208-935-2513
Fax: 208-935-4275

File Code: 1950
Date: October 25, 2016


Art Pope
33190 Bloomberg Road
Eugene, OR 97405

Dear Mr. Pope,

Thank you for your July 10, 2016 letter regarding the status of the Mackay Bar Bridge (Trail 122; 0.0 to 0.07 miles). I understand that you do not wish to have a meeting or teleconference to discuss your concerns, thus I am providing the following information to answer your four questions. Since I was not on the Forest at the time the existing closure order went into effect allowing motorized use to the Bluebird Hole, I have taken some time to respond. I wished to look into and better understand the history of the bridge and road as it relates to the Frank Church River of No Return Plan decision, and the subsequent appeals and negotiations which resulted in the current closure order for the road and bridge.

I anticipate issuing the Nez Perce National Forest Travel Plan Decision (DRAMVU) later this fall. In the proposed decision, Alternative 5 Modified closes the bridge to all motorized vehicles; and closes Painter Bar Mine Road (222K) beyond the campground to the Bluebird Hole, to all motorized use. This decision and publication of the Nez Perce National Forest Motor Vehicle Use Map would replace the existing order permitting motorized use to the Bluebird hole outside the control season. When the decision is made, any administrative or private motorized use of the road or bridge would be by permit only.

Sincerely,


CHERYL F. PROBERT
Forest Supervisor

