

§ 292.24

(ii) Operations comply with Federal and State mining, air quality, water quality, hazardous waste, water disposal and reclamation standards.

(iii) The type and number of structures, including but not limited to residences associated with the mining activity, are limited to the minimum necessary for the use and development of the mining lands.

(iv) No new structures are located closer than 25 feet from a property line or 55 feet from the center line of a travel route.

(v) Mining lands are not partitioned.

(2) Notwithstanding compliance with the standards of paragraph (c)(1) of this section, the Secretary may acquire mineral interests in the HCNRA without the consent of the owner, if the Secretary deems this necessary to meet the purposes for which the HCNRA was established.

§ 292.24 Determination of compliance and noncompliance.

(a) *Compliance.* Landowners may request a determination by the Forest Service as to whether an existing or a proposed use or development complies with the relevant standards set out in this subpart.

(1) Requests for a determination of compliance must be made in writing to the Ranger and include the following information:

(i) The current land category to which the land is assigned (§292.23);

(ii) The use of development that exists or that is proposed for the property;

(iii) A statement as to whether a change in the land category assignment will be necessary to accommodate the proposed use or development;

(iv) The timeframe for implementing the proposed use or development; and

(v) A statement as to how the proposed use or development satisfies the relevant standards of §292.23 of this subpart.

(2) The Ranger shall review the request and notify the landowner in writing within 45 days whether the existing or proposed use or development is in compliance with §292.23 of this subpart. The Ranger may extend the time for making a compliance determination by

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30 days if additional information is needed.

(b) *Noncompliance.* (1) In the event that the Forest Service determines that an existing or proposed use of development is not in compliance with the standards of §292.23 of this subpart, the Ranger shall give the landowner written notice of the manner and nature of noncompliance. To the extent practicable, the notice will include suggestions for achieving compliance. The notice also must include a statement that the violation of a standard or standards and the failure to cure such violation may result in the initiation of condemnation proceedings by the Secretary.

(2) The Forest Service may initiate a noncompliance determination on its own without having first received a landowner request.

(c) *Written petition.* The landowner may file a written petition with the Forest Supervisor for a review of a decision of compliance or noncompliance. The Forest Supervisor shall render a decision within 30 days of the receipt of the petition. A decision by the Forest Supervisor constitutes the final administrative determination by the Department of Agriculture. Petitions of decisions on lands within the Rapid River Wild and Scenic River Corridor should be addressed to the Forest Supervisor, Nez Perce National Forest, Route 2, P.O. Box 475, Grangeville, Idaho 83450. All other petitions should be addressed to the Forest Supervisor, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, P.O. Box 907, Baker City, Oregon 97814.

§ 292.25 Information requirements.

The information required by §292.24 of this subpart in order for a landowner to obtain a determination of compliance constitutes an information requirement as defined in the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3507) and has been approved for use by the Office of Management and Budget and assigned control number 0596-0135.

Subpart F—Hells Canyon National Recreation Area—Federal Lands

AUTHORITY: 16 U.S.C. 460gg-7.

SOURCE: 59 FR 36882, July 19, 1994, unless otherwise noted.

§ 292.40 Purpose and scope.

(a) *Purpose.* The rules of this subpart establish standards and guidelines for the protection and preservation of historic, archeological, and paleontological resources, the use of motorized and mechanical equipment, the use of motorized and non-motorized rivercraft, and the management, utilization, and disposal of natural resources by timber harvesting, mining and grazing on National Forest System lands that comprise the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area located in the Wallowa-Whitman, Nez Perce, and Payette National Forests in the States of Idaho and Oregon as established by the Act of December 31, 1975, as amended (89 Stat. 1117, 16 U.S.C. 460gg *et seq.*).

(b) *Scope.* Management of National Forest System lands within the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area is subject to all laws, rules, and regulations applicable to the national Forest System, except as otherwise provided in this subpart. In the event of a conflict of inconsistency between rules of this subpart and other rules within this title, the rules of this subpart shall take precedence to the extent permitted by law.

§ 292.41 Definitions.

Special terms used in this subpart are defined as follows:

“*Act*” means the Act of December 31, 1975, as amended (Pub. L. 94-199, 89 Stat. 1117) which established the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

“*Authorized Officer*” is a Forest Service line officer who has been delegated the authority to take certain actions pursuant to the provisions of this subpart.

“*Comprehensive Management Plan*” is the document that establishes the array, levels, and manner of resource uses within the HCNRA. It is incorporated as part of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.

“*Cultural resources*” means historic and archeological resources.

“*HCNRA*” is the abbreviation for the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

“*Mechanical equipment*” means any contrivance which travels over ground, snow or water on wheels, tracks, skids, or by flotation that is powered by a living source. This term does not include non-motorized rivercraft which is defined separately herein, wheelchairs, or other similar devices used solely to assist persons with disabilities.

“*Mining*” means any activity related to the discovery, extraction and exploitation of minerals under the Mining Act of 1872, 30 U.S.C. 22 *et seq.*, and the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, 30 U.S.C. 181 *et seq.*, through the use of, among other things, hydraulic equipment, pans, ground sluicing, sluice boxes, rockers, or suction dredges.

“*Motorized equipment*” means any machine powered by a nonliving source. This term does not include motorized rivercraft which is defined separately herein or small, hand-held devices such as flashlights, shavers, wristwatches, and Geiger counters.

“*Motorized rivercraft*” means any boat capable of being mechanically propelled by propeller(s) or jet pump(s) upstream through rapids.

“*Non-Motorized rivercraft*” means any boat which is not a motorized rivercraft.

“*Other lands*” means all National Forest System lands in the HCNRA except for Wild and Scenic Rivers and Wilderness Lands.

“*Paleontological resources*” means any remains, trace, or imprint of a plant or animal that has been preserved in the Earth’s crust prior to the Holocene epoch.

“*Selective cutting*” means single tree or group selection cutting and is the periodic removal of trees individually or in small groups from an uneven aged forest in order to maintain diverse stands, with the sustainability and improvement of the forest using an ecosystem approach to management being a primary consideration.

“*Suitable*” means it is appropriate to apply certain resource management practices to a particular area of land, as determined by an ecological and environmental analysis of the land. A unit of land may be suitable for a variety of individual or combined management practices.