Close approximately 6.8 miles of road to over snow motorized vehicle travel.

- Places seasonal restrictions on all trails open to motorized wheeled vehicles 50” or less. There are no seasonal restrictions in the existing condition.
- Approximately 4 miles of trail would be open to wheeled motorized vehicles 50” or less from 5/15–10/14.
- Approximately 8.8 miles of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDNST) would be closed to wheeled motorized use.
- Closure of creek/river fords until the fords can be replaced by bridges, bottomless arches or culverts in the following locations FSR #4100 across the Little Blackfoot River; FSR #495–D1 across two unnamed streams in Section 28 and FSR #227–D1 across the Little Blackfoot River at Larabee Gulch.
- Installation of signs to clarify changes to the transportation system on the ground.

- Wheeled motorized vehicle travel for camping would be allowed within 300 feet of designated system routes, including roads and trails (unless signed otherwise) as long as: (1) No new permanent routes are created by this activity; (2) no damage to existing vegetation, soil, or water resource occurs; (3) travel off-route does not cross streams; and (4) travel off-route does not traverse riparian or wet areas.
- Designated roads or trails includes all terminal facilities, trailheads, parking lots, and turnouts associated with the road or trail. The designation would also include parking a motor vehicle on the side of the road when it is safe to do so without causing damage to NFS resource or facilities, unless prohibited by state law, a traffic sign, or an order (36 CFR 261.54). Parking would be limited up to 30 feet from the edge of the road surface.

- Public use of a motor vehicle on routes and areas not included in the above designations, including currently available unauthorized routes of approximately 7 miles, would become prohibited pursuant to 36 CFR 212.50 and 261.13 at the time the Motor Vehicle Use Map is published.

Possible Alternatives

The following alternatives were developed in preparation of an environmental assessment and may represent reasonable or required alternatives to consider in the environmental impact statement.

Alternative 1—No Action

This alternative represents the existing, baseline condition or trends by which the other alternatives are compared. Under the no action, alternative, management of public motorized access would continue through the pre-existing system of prohibitions, including those decisions made in the Off-Highway Vehicle Record of Decision and Plan Amendment for Montana, North Dakota and portions of South Dakota (2001). This alternative would not implement the requirements of the 2003 travel management regulation at 36 CFR part 212 subpart B.

Alternative 2

During the 2008 scoping process, this alternative was presented as the proposed action. It was developed using the current Forest Transportation System maps, information from the 2004 Helena Roads Analysis, field verification, and public input from the 2008 scoping process. It provides more opportunities for motorized use on roads and trails including winter travel use.

Alternative 3

This alternative was developed in response from the 2008 scoping process input regarding wildlife security issues, non-motorized uses, and general resource concerns relative to erosion and sedimentation from road conditions. It reduces motorized use on the CDNST and would reduce potential resource impacts in areas such as Sweeney Creek and Kading/Limburger Springs areas.

Responsible Official

The Responsible Official is Kevin T. Riordan, Helena Forest Supervisor.

Nature of Decision To Be Made

The responsible official will decide whether to implement the proposed action, no action or other alternatives considered under analysis. He will consider the comments, disclosures of environmental consequences, and applicable laws, regulations, and policies in making the decision and stating the rationale in the Record of Decision. Upon completion of this plan, an implementation plan would be developed that would analyze methods for closure of routes identified from this decision. Additional NEPA may be required prior to implementation.

Preliminary Issues

Public input from the 2008 scoping process identified several areas of particular interest to the public. Many comments spoke specifically to the CDNST, and Sweeney Creek, Kading/Limburger Springs, and Electric Peak areas. These areas generated the most public interest regarding motorized and non-motorized uses.

Forest Plan Consistency

Preliminary analysis indicates this proposal may require a programmatic amendment to the HNF plan for the project area regarding the standard for the hiding cover/open road density index. The proposed programmatic plan amendment would establish a new standard for elk security for those herd units within the project area. As a result, the Forest Plan standard would be amended specifically at this time and place as it relates to the Divide Travel Planning Area.

Scoping Process

This notice of intent initiates the scoping process, which guides the development of the environmental impact statement. It is important that reviewers provide their comments at such times and in such manner that they are useful to the agency’s preparation of the environmental impact statement. Public comments received during the December 2008 scoping process for the initial Environmental Assessment were taken into consideration in developing the above Alternatives. These comments do not need to be resubmitted; the HNF requests that only new or additional be submitted. Comments should be provided prior to the close of the comment period and should clearly articulate the reviewer’s concerns and contentions. Public meetings will not be held; however, if an individual, group or organization have any questions or would like to set up a meeting please contact Lori Wood, Helena District Ranger or Jaime Tompkins, Divide Travel Plan Interdisciplinary Team Leader at the Helena National Forest office located at 2880 Skyway Drive, Helena, MT 59602, or phone 406–449–5201.

Dated: August 31, 2011.

Kevin T. Riordan,
Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 2011–22929 Filed 9–7–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–11–P
SUMMARY: The Butte County Resource Advisory Committee will meet in Oroville, CA. The committee is authorized under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (Pub. L 110–343) (the Act) and operates in compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The purpose of the committee is to improve collaborative relationships and to provide advice and recommendations to the Forest Service concerning projects and funding consistent with the title II of the Act. The meeting is open to the public. The purpose of the meeting is to review Cycle 2 project applications for potential funding recommendations to National Forest Supervisors.

DATES: The meeting will be held September 26, 2011 from 6–9:30 p.m. This meeting was rescheduled from August 29, 2011.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Feather River Ranger District Conference Room located at 875 Mitchell Ave, Oroville, CA. Written comments may be submitted as described under Supplementary Information. All comments, including names and addresses when provided, are placed in the record and are recognized by the Committee Chair. Three minutes or less after being recognized by the Committee Chair, the public may inspect comments received at the Plumas National Forest Supervisor’s Office. Please call ahead to 530–283–7850 to facilitate entry into the building to view comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: (or for special needs): Lee Anne Schramel Taylor, Forest Coordinator, USDA, Plumas National Forest, P.O. Box 11500/159 Lawrence Street, Quincy, CA 95971; (530) 283–7850; or by e-mail eataylor@fs.fed.us. Other RAC information may be obtained at http://www.fs.usda.gov and http://www.fs.fed.us/srs. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday. Please make requests a minimum of 5 days in advance for sign language interpreting, assistive listening devices or other reasonable accommodation for access to the facility or proceedings by contacting the person listed FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following business will be conducted: Committee Review of Cycle 2 project applications for potential funding recommendations to Lassen, Plumas or Mendocino Forest Supervisors. An agenda and other information will be posted at http://www.fs.fed.us/srs.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XA664
New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is revising the agenda for a public meeting of its Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) on September 14, 2011 to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: This meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 14, 2011 at 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Hilton Providence, 21 Atwells Avenue, Providence, RI 02903; telephone: (401) 831–3900; fax: (407) 751–0007.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465–0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The original meeting notice published on August 26, 2011 (76 FR 53415). The meeting was to be held on September 14 and 15, however, the meeting for September 15th is cancelled.

Wednesday, September 14, 2011
The Scientific and Statistical Committee will recommend ABCs for the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan for FY 2012–14. Additionally, the SSC will develop comments on terms of reference for upcoming assessments for Atlantic sea herring and Southern New England yellowtail flounder scheduled for the 54th Stock Assessment Workshop (SAW) in 2012. Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council’s intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations
This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, at (978) 465–0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.


Tracey L. Thompson, Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

RIN 0648–XA687
New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council’s (Council), it’s Groundfish Advisory Panel and Plan Development Team along with its Scientific and Statistical Committee will meet to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

DATES: The workshop will be held on Tuesday, October 25, 2011 at 8:30 a.m.