

PUBLIC NOTICE

**The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
Draft Environmental Assessment
FEMA-1733-DR-OR
Oregon Department of Forestry**

Gales Creek Trail Repair and Partial Relocation

Notice is hereby given that FEMA plans to assist the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) by providing partial funding to reconstruct and at times relocate six miles of a non-motorized recreation trail extending north from Gales Creek Campground in Washington County, Oregon. The trail was badly damaged by severe storms, flooding, landslides, and mudslides that occurred from December 1 through 17, 2007. The President declared the event a major disaster on December 8, 2007 under FEMA-1733-DR-OR. Federal financial assistance would be provided pursuant to the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93-288, as amended (The Stafford Act).

FEMA prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed project pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and FEMA's implementing regulations. The Draft EA will be finalized after agency and public review and input. The EA evaluates alternatives for compliance with applicable environmental laws, including: Executive Orders No. 11988 (Floodplain Management), No. 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), No. 12898 (Environmental Justice), and No. 13084 (Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments). The alternatives evaluated include: (1) No Action, and (2) Repair Gales Creek Trail and Relocate Vulnerable Portions (the Proposed Action).

This notice will constitute the final notice as required by Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, and Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands. If no significant issues are identified during the comment period, FEMA will finalize the EA, issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), and fund the project.

The Draft EA is available for viewing at the following locations:

1. ODF Forest Grove District Office, 801 Gales Creek Road, Forest Grove, OR 97116
2. ODF Tillamook District Office, 5005 3rd Street, Tillamook, OR 97141-2999
3. FEMA website: <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/index.shtm>

Please submit your written comments to FEMA Region X Environmental Officer, Mark Eberlein no later than 5 p.m. on August 27, 2009. Comments can be submitted by:

1. Mail: 130-228th Street SW, Bothell, WA 98021
2. E-mail: mark.eberlein@dhs.gov
3. Fax: (425) 487-4622

After the public comment period ends, the final EA and the FONSI will be available for viewing at: http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/archives_index.shtm.