

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

District: Payette National Forest, McCall Ranger District

Project Name: Idaho Angler McCall (dba Fly Fish McCall) Outfitter and Guide Special Use Reauthorization

Responsible Official: Lisa Klinger, McCall District Ranger

Project Contact: Susan Jenkins, Recreation Specialist, sjenkins02@fs.fed.us, 208-634-0415

Scoping Period: Comments requested by April 15, 2016

Submit Comments: Preferred submission via webform on the project webpage

Project Webpage: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=48821>

Project Description:

Idaho Angler McCall (dba Fly Fish McCall) is requesting reauthorization of their priority use permit for a 10-year term. Fly Fish McCall has operated under a special use authorization since 2005. On-the-ground operations have been performed in an acceptable manner by the permit holder. The authorization allows the permit holder to provide outfitting and guiding services on the New Meadows, McCall, and Krassel Ranger Districts. (The lead district for the permit is the McCall RD.) The new authorization would allocate 97 service days (one service day = one client/person per day on National Forest System Land). The holder has no assigned sites.

Purpose and Need:

The purpose of the project is issue a special use authorization to Fly Fish McCall for outfitting and guiding activities that provide clients opportunities to fish in high mountain lakes and streams. The action is necessary for Fly Fish McCall to retain the areas previously permitted for these activities because their current authorization expires May 1, 2016. This project helps fulfill Forest Plan direction to authorize commercial services that meet established national standards and broaden the range of recreation opportunities and experiences provided on National Forest System lands. Design features will be considered in the analysis and included in the terms and conditions of the permit to avoid or minimize undesirable impacts to Forest resources and visitors in compliance with applicable laws, policies, and regulations.

This project is being evaluated as a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act as provided for in 36CFR 220.6(e)(15) - *Issuance of a new special use authorization for a new term to replace an existing or expired special use authorization when the only changes are administrative, there are not changes to the authorized facilities or increases in the scope or intensity of authorized activities, and the applicant or holder is in full compliance with the terms and conditions of the special use authorization.*

As a categorical exclusion there are no additional designated public comment periods for this project so this “scoping” phase is the best opportunity for public input.

Project Area: The project area(s) consists of numerous waterbodies throughout the Payette National Forest. The waterbodies are identified in the existing permit through 8 different Operating Areas. The operating areas do not have a geographic boundary; rather, a subset of waterbodies makes up an operating area. These waterbodies and operating areas are unchanged from the current special use authorization.

Insert project map

