



File Code: 1950; 2700
Date: July 14, 2017

Dear Interested Party,

The purpose of this letter is to provide you the opportunity to provide comments regarding the proposed *DNR Timberland Access – Little River* project. The Forest is proposing to approve a special use application from the State of Washington's Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for a special use permit authorizing road maintenance and construction to access State lands for timber harvest. Forest Service personnel are initiating an environmental analysis of the project as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

PROPOSED ACTION

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) proposes to reconstruct 1,200 feet (ft.) of National Forest System (NFS) road 3030 and 1,200 ft. of new road construction off Forest Service road 3030. The reconstruction will involve installation of a bridge at a previous crossing of the Little River to access the new construction. Approaches to the new structure over the Little River will be paved. The new road will cross approximately 1,200 feet of NFS land and will be constructed according to DNR's standard road design. A majority of the road will require a right of way 40 ft. wide, while curves and turnout will require a right of way 60 ft. in width. Additional cross drains will be installed on NFS road 3030 and approximately 950 cubic yards of soil/rock located to the northwest of the crossing will be removed. Approximately 38 thousand board feet (MBF) (1.38 acres) of timber will be removed from NFS lands to facilitate the new road. The new road will not exceed 15% in grade. The DNR is applying for a permanent easement, though a 20 year permit will be issued until the easement is granted. The road will be designed and permitted for use during all seasons. Construction is planned in the fall of 2017 and will last three to six months. Reconstruction of NFS road 3030 will also provide access to the Black Diamond Water Districts intake site on NFS land. *See attached maps.*

For more information about the project and how to comment on the proposal, please visit our website at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=51424>

If you have questions concerning the project, or would like to submit verbal comments, please call the Project Manager, Joel Nowak, at 360-956-2266 or email at joelnowak@fs.fed.us.

Decision Framework and Responsible Official

The Forest Supervisor, Reta Laford, will be the Responsible Official to make decisions concerning this proposal, including any mitigation measures and management requirements the project may require. The Responsible Official anticipates signing a decision memo using the following project category excluded from documentation in an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement:



36 CFR 220.6(e)(3)

(3) Approval, modification, or continuation of minor special uses of NFS lands that require less than five contiguous acres of land.

Your Involvement

If you have information with respect to these areas that might be affected by the proposal, that input would be valuable in ensuring that there are no adverse effects on these properties. Please submit your comments through the project website above or mail your comments in writing to the Lead Natural Resource Specialist, Joel Nowak: Olympic National Forest Supervisor's Office 1835 Black Lake Blvd., SW Olympia, WA 98512; or by phone (360) 956-2266, by August 15, so they can be considered in the review. Those submitting hand-delivered comments may do so during the regular office hours of 8:00am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday except legal holidays. If you have no input at this time but would like to remain informed, please let us know.

If you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact the project leader at (360) 956-2266 or joelnowak@fs.fed.us.

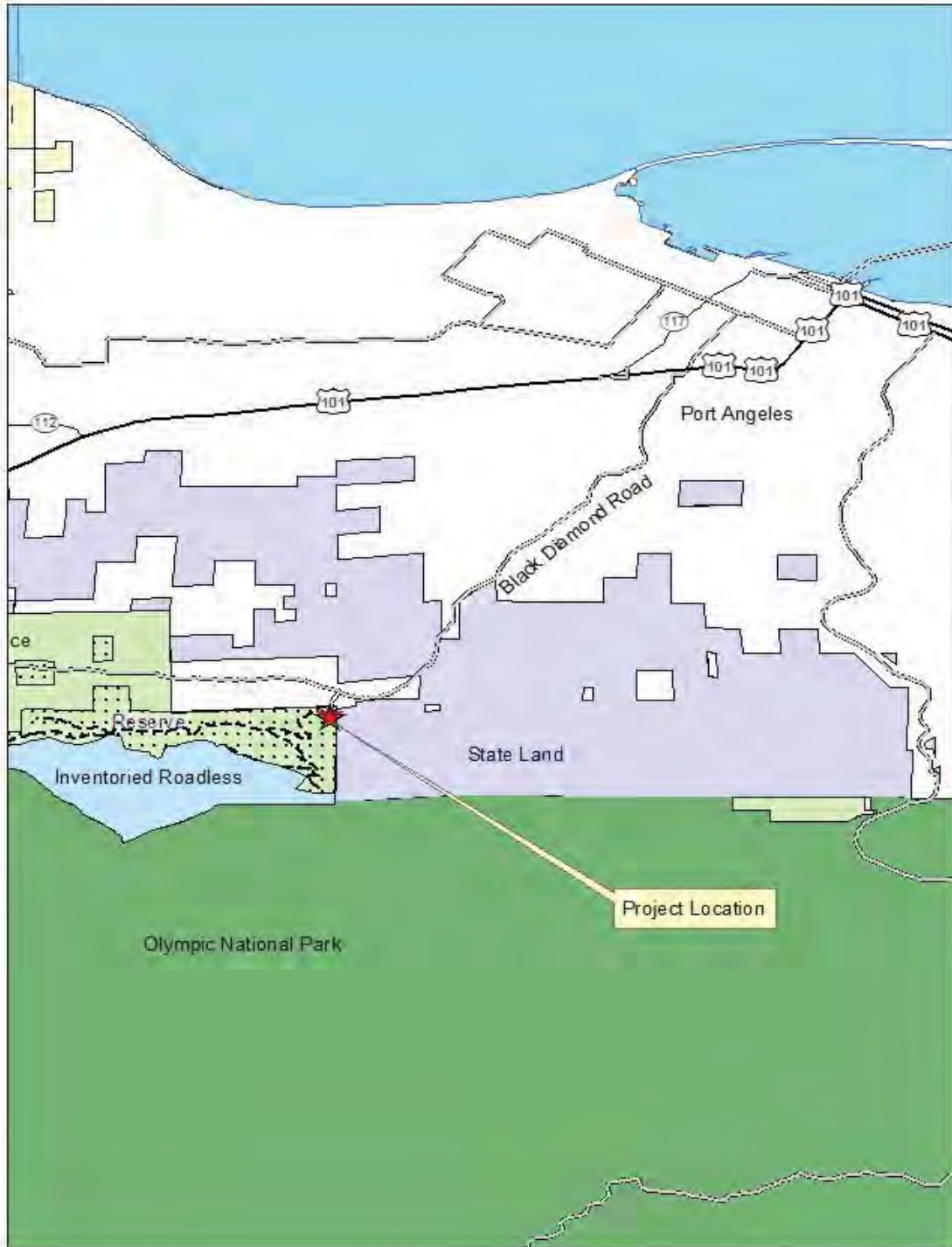
Sincerely,



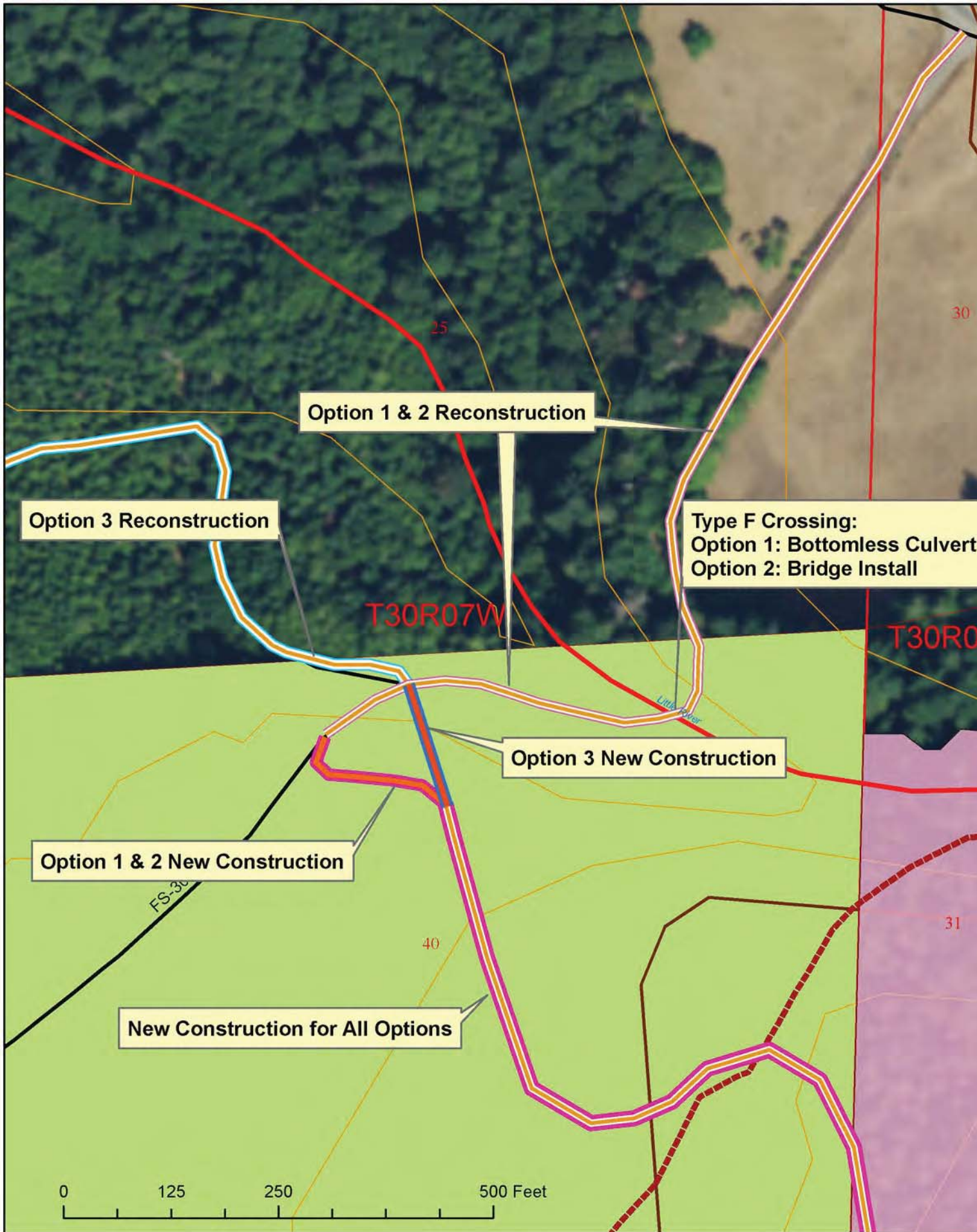
DEAN R MILLETT
District Ranger

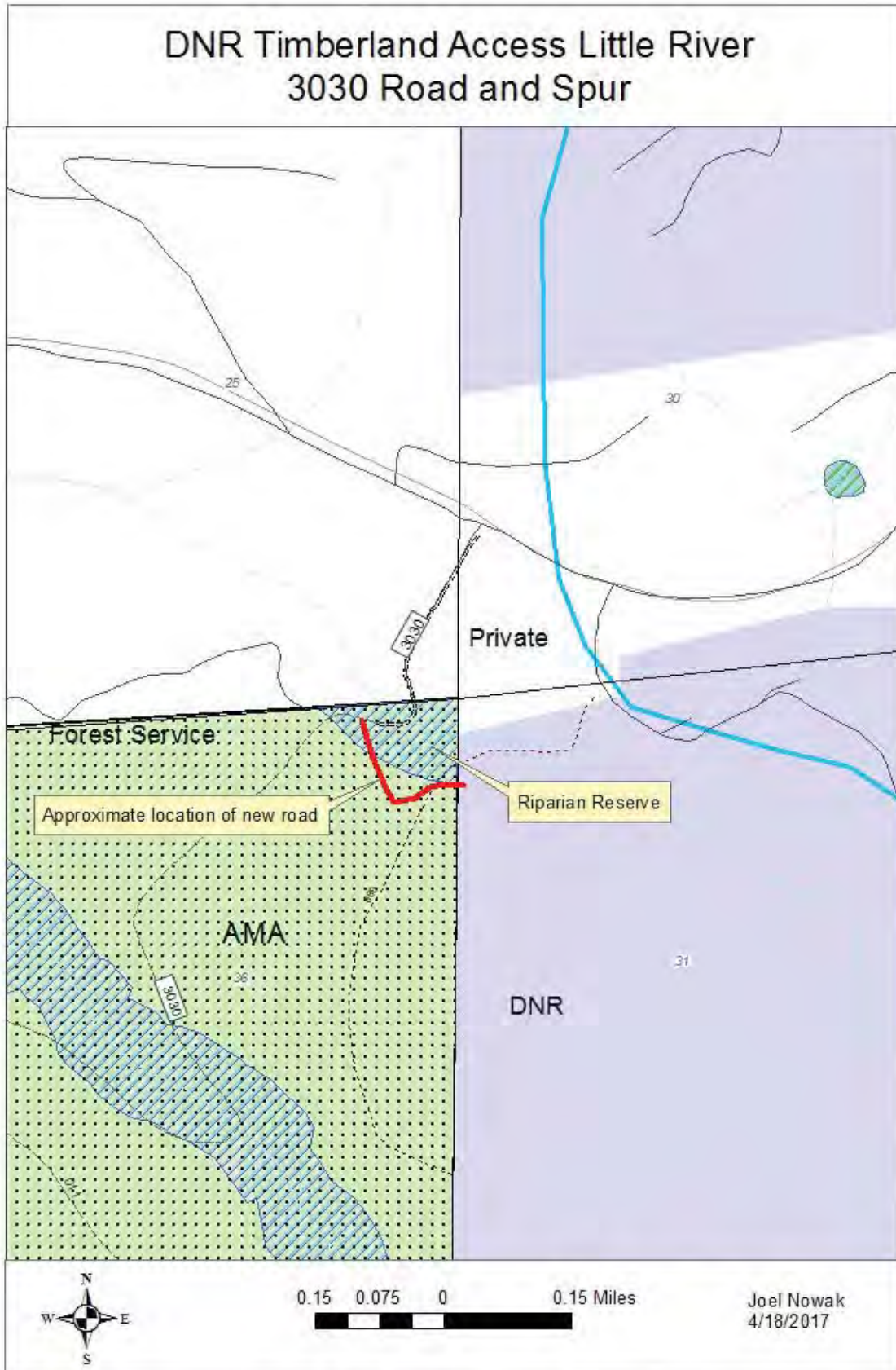
cc: Greg Wahl, Forest Environmental Coordinator

DNR TIMBERLAND ACCESS



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Wild Olympics Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

