



**File Code:** 1570  
**Date:** November 1, 2023

Dear Objectors:

This letter and the enclosure are my final response to the objection issues for the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail Comprehensive Plan, Environmental Assessment and draft Decision Notice/Finding of No Significant Impact, which completes the objection process pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 218. The intent of this process is to allow an opportunity for a review and resolve issues before project approval.

On October 10, 2023, I held a resolution meeting that many of you attended. I would like to express my appreciation for your thoughtful discussions and respectful nature. Both the Northern and the Pacific Northwest Region, along with their PNT Administrator and partners, have a complex, long-term journey ahead of them and will only be successful with your help.

Acting Regional Forester Liz Berger and I agree that it will be helpful to include an executive summary in the comprehensive plan, outlining the major sections of the plan and the relationship between them. After reviewing your objections, I have also identified areas where improvements or clarifications would benefit the final plan and help address some of your issues. These instructions are included in my final response to your objections in the enclosed letter.

Once instructions are incorporated, the Responsible Official may sign the decision, then notify interested and affected persons in accordance with the regulation at 36 CFR 218.12 and 36 CFR 220.7(d). After the decision notice is signed, the comprehensive plan will be presented to the Chief of the Forest Service for approval and then forwarded on to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture for submittal to Congress.

Sincerely,

X 

Signed by: TROY HEITHECKER For  
JACQUELINE EMANUEL  
Reviewing Officer for the Chief

Enclosure

cc: Elizabeth Berger; Leanne Marten; Rick Pringle; Debbie Anderson; Jody Sutton

