

**WALLY HERGER**

2D DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

PLEASE REPLY TO:

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

2268 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
(202) 225-3076

DISTRICT OFFICES:

55 INDEPENDENCE CIRCLE, SUITE 104  
CHICO, CA 95973  
(530) 893-8363

410 HEMSTED DRIVE, SUITE 115  
REDDING, CA 96002  
(530) 223-5898



COMMITTEE ON  
WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEES:

**CHAIRMAN**  
HUMAN RESOURCES  
TRADE

## Congress of the United States

### House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0502

September 16, 2008

Sharon Heywood  
Forest Supervisor  
Shasta-Trinity National Forest  
3744 Avtech Parkway  
Redding, California 96003

Dear Sharon:

I am writing on behalf of the Recreation Outdoor Coalition (ROC) and other individual OHV enthusiasts who have contacted me regarding the Travel Management Notice of Intent issued by the Shasta-Trinity National Forest. The ROC has expressed multiple concerns that are outlined in the attached letter. I share these concerns. I am particularly troubled by the fact that the map recently put forth by the Shasta-Trinity National Forest does not remotely reflect the enormous amount of input that was provided to the Forest Service during the route designation process. Indeed, many of my constituents are of the opinion that the Forest Service has essentially ignored public input. Members of the ROC have ridden and carefully mapped trails that are extremely important to them. Their work product is not at all reflected in the document released by your office. These trails have been used for years by OHV riders, and the potential loss of the vast majority of these trails has understandably alarmed users.

As you know, Northern California has all but lost its timber industry. Recreation and tourism are vital to a local economy that has been severely damaged by federal policies designed to protect assorted threatened and endangered species. Our local economy cannot continue to be hammered by restrictive federal actions that are not explicitly required by federal law. The Forest Service has invited the public to participate in the route designation process. It is vital that the end product reflects the input and needs of the recreation community. I look forward to your response to the substantive letter provided to the Forest by the ROC.

Clearly, there are some spurs and environmentally sensitive sites that need to be avoided. The ROC does not object to the closure of some areas when there is a rational basis for the decision. However, they would like to be informed as to the criteria that is being employed for specific closures and they are very much interested in the opportunity to offer meaningful input.

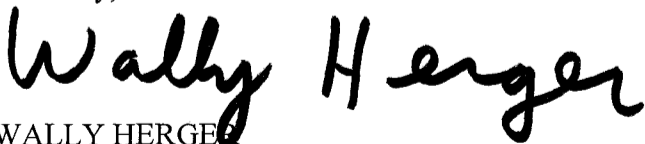
Sharon Heywood

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I have assigned this case to my Field Representative, Dave Meurer. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact him at my Redding office. He can be reached at (530) 223-5898.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wally Herge". The letters are cursive and connected, with a large "W" and "H".

WALLY HERGE  
Member of Congress