

Identifying Issues

Issues were generated from responses from meetings with key publics, county commissioners, the Nez Perce tribe and ID Team member knowledge from past project analysis. Only issues related to the Forest scale will be used in this analysis. Subforest scale issues will be recommended for addressing at a scale below the Forest level during watershed analysis or project analysis.

?? Forest Scale Issues

1. Road maintenance funding is not adequate to maintain and sign roads to standard.
 - ~~✍~~ Congressionally appropriated road maintenance funding is approximately 22% of what is needed for the current classified road system.
 - ~~✍~~ With limited funding the Clearwater National Forest needs to focus on high priority areas for: a) road maintenance and b) conducting subforest scale roads analysis to identify unneeded roads and maintenance opportunities
2. Road access may not be adequate for future management needs.
 - ~~✍~~ The arterial and collector road system on the Forest was developed over several decades to access different portions of the Forest to manage different resources and provide for a variety of public uses. This roads analysis will provide supporting documentation for future transportation planning to be completed during subforest and project level roads analysis.
3. Management of the Forest road system can affect cultural and traditional uses (such as plant gathering, access to traditional & cultural sites) and American Indian treaty rights.
4. Some roads are causing adverse impacts, such as sedimentation in streams, wildlife impacts, and reduced access due to landslides, and should be prioritized for evaluation at the subforest level.
5. Existing roads provide public access and may be needed for future activities not currently planned.
 - ~~✍~~ The public was concerned that decisions about reducing or reconfiguring the Forest's transportation system might be made

without the benefit of public involvement. Forest roads are an integral part of the entire public road system on the Forest. People rely on them to drive to their job and to recreate on the Forest. Decisions that will change the existing system will occur through public involvement and project specific analysis that considers effects on any roads in the system now and any proposed for addition or deletion from the system in the future.