



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Black Hills National Forest  
Northern Hills Ranger District

2014 N Main Street  
Spearfish SD 57783  
605-642-4622

File Code: 1950

Date: May 19, 2021

Greetings,

The Full Throttle Saloon in Sturgis, SD, is requesting the issuance of a five-year special use permit to hold an annual ATV Rally at the end of July. This will be the third year for the rally. Many event activities take place on private land with tours and scavenger hunts happening on National Forest System roads and trails. One hundred to two hundred participants are anticipated. Additional information on this proposal is found in the attached scoping notice and map.

I am writing to inform you of this proposal and to solicit your comments on it. My preliminary assessment is that this proposal falls within a category of actions listed in regulations at 36 CFR 220.6 that are excluded from documentation in an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS) and that no extraordinary circumstances exist that would preclude use of a categorical exclusion. Specifically, this project falls under 36 CFR 220.6(e)(3), which categorically excludes the "approval, modification, or continuation of special uses that require less than 20 acres of NFS lands."

Projects of this nature require the issuance of a decision memo but are not subject to objection. While the decision made on the project is final, all comments received on the proposed action will be considered prior to making a decision. To make the best use of any comments, we request that you submit them within 30 days of the date of this letter.

Please submit comments regarding this project to me at 2014 N. Main St., Spearfish, SD 57783. You may also submit comments via e-mail ([comments-rocky-mountain-black-hills-northern-hills@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-rocky-mountain-black-hills-northern-hills@fs.fed.us)), telephone (605-642-4622), or fax (605-642-4156). I can be reached at the phone number listed above, Monday through Friday, generally between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM Mountain time. When submitting comments electronically, please include "Full Throttle Saloon ATV Rally" in the subject line.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

  
STEVE KOZIEL  
District Ranger

Enclosure: Scoping Notice, Map



# **Full Throttle Saloon Special Use Permit Scoping Notice**

**Black Hills National Forest  
Northern Hills Ranger District  
Lawrence and Meade Counties, South Dakota**

## **Purpose of and Need for Action**

The proponent operates a saloon in Sturgis, SD. They plan to host an annual OHV/ATV rally which would include tours and a scavenger hunt happening on National Forest Service (NFS) system roads and trails.

## **Proposed Action**

Full Throttle Saloon has requested a recreation event special use permit for an annual OHV/ATV rally. This will be the third year for the rally. Many activities will take place on private land, with tours and a scavenger hunt happening on National Forest System roads and trails that are listed on the motorized vehicle use map (MVUM) and open to the public. Activity locations are across a broad area of existing trails and roads connecting into and nearby to Sturgis, SD.

Activities will occur near the end of July. This year's dates are July 25 – 31, 2021, but the dates are expected to change slightly each year. It is anticipated that the event will attract anywhere from 100 to 200 participants each year.

The permit would have a term of five years.

This permit would apply only to those activities that occur on the Black Hills National Forest. Any activities on other National Forests or on lands administered by other agencies would require the approval of those entities.

## **National Environmental Policy Act Compliance**

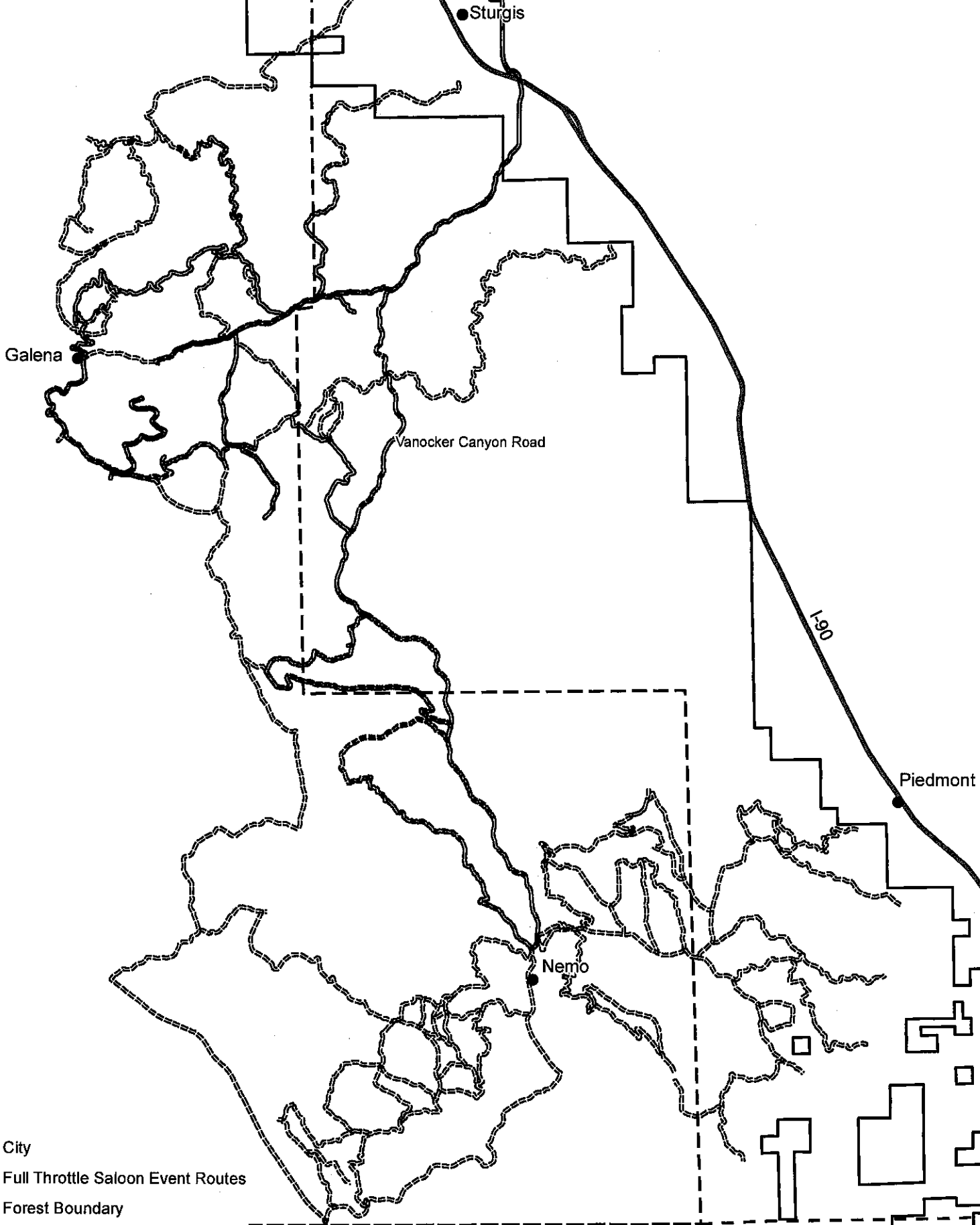
Projects of this nature may be categorically excluded from documentation in an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS) per provisions at 36 CFR 220.6 provided no extraordinary circumstances exist. Specifically, this project falls under 36 CFR 220.6(e)(3), which categorically excludes "approval, modification, or continuation of special uses that require less than 20 acres of NFS lands." A decision memo is required, but categorically excluded projects are not subject to objection.

Based on the input received during the project scoping period and review by agency resource specialists the responsible official, District Ranger Steve Kozel, will determine whether to authorize this activity.

## **Contact Information**

For more information about this project please contact Bonnie Jones (Recreation Specialist) at (605) 443-3075.

# Full Throttle Saloon ATV/OHV Event Routes



- City
- Full Throttle Saloon Event Routes
- ▭ Forest Boundary
- - - - County Line
- Interstate

0 1 2 4 Miles