

[Chapter Name]

[Date]

USDA Forest Service

[Comment Submission Address or Portal]

Re: Comments on USDA Reorganization – Secretary Memorandum SM 1078-015

To Whom It May Concern:

[Chapter Name], a local chapter of the Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association (SORBA), works in partnership with the USDA Forest Service in Region 8 to build, maintain, and improve multi-use and mountain bike-specific trails on National Forest lands. Our work depends on a strong Forest Service presence at the district and forest levels.

The proposed USDA reorganization raises concerns about the potential loss of field capacity, changes to local offices, and reduced access to agency staff. These changes could delay permitting, limit volunteer coordination, and slow progress on essential trail and conservation projects.

We urge USDA leadership to:

1. Engage partners like SORBA chapters in the restructuring process before decisions are finalized.
2. Protect and expand recreation and trail staff positions at the field level.
3. Maintain local district offices to keep the agency accessible to the public and partner organizations.
4. Provide clear analysis of how any office relocation or closure will impact recreation management and partnerships.

Our chapter's volunteers contribute substantial time and resources to support Forest Service priorities. These contributions are only possible when agency staff have the capacity to plan, approve, and oversee projects.

We ask that the reorganization strengthen—not weaken—partnerships, field capacity, and community engagement in Region 8.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Title or Role in Chapter]

[Chapter Name]

[Contact Information]