



## NEWS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

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### **Public Invited to Open House on Land Uses and Development Reviews in the National Scenic Area**

White Salmon, Wash. — August 29, 2019 – The Columbia River Gorge Commission and Forest Service are hosting a public open house on September 12, 2019 to review standards related to land uses and the development review process, and receive public input on the proposed topics for review and revision. This is a follow-up meeting to the public workshop held on August 14, 2019.

The revisions are part of an effort called Gorge 2020, in which the U.S. Forest Service and Columbia River Gorge Commission are fulfilling their obligation under the National Scenic Area Act to review and revise the management plan every ten years.

Gorge 2020 began with a [2017 public scoping](#), followed by the two agencies completely reviewing the plan for issues that may need revision. Last year they [announced that “Land Use and Development Review” would be one of the focus topics](#) included in the revision process. Gorge Commissioners and the six Gorge county planning departments have helped identify potential policies in need of update or revision.

Now, the Gorge Commission and U.S. Forest Service are asking local residents and regional stakeholders to join in the conversation around these topics for potential policy change. Potential plan updates are primarily related to residential development and the types of uses that should be allowed on forest, agriculture, and residential land in the National Scenic Area. All interested members of the public are welcome to attend.

**WHAT:** Land Uses and Development Reviews Open House  
**DATE:** Thursday, September 12, 2019  
**TIME:** 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm  
**LOCATION:** Hood River Fire Dept, 1785 Meyer Pkwy, Hood River, OR 97031

To prepare, participants may want to familiarize themselves with background documents for the Land Uses & Development Review focus topic as well as notes from the Land Uses public workshop held on August 14, 2019 on the Gorge Commission’s [Gorge 2020 website](#).

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The Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area encompasses 292,500 acres of Washington and Oregon, where the Columbia River cuts a spectacular river canyon



Forest Service



Columbia River Gorge Commission



United States Department of Agriculture

through the Cascade Mountains. The USDA Forest Service manages National Forest lands in the National Scenic Area and works with the Gorge Commission, states, counties, treaty tribes, and partners to protect and enhance scenic, natural, cultural, and recreational resources of the Columbia River Gorge while encouraging local economic development consistent with that protection. Learn more at [www.fs.usda.gov/crgnsa](http://www.fs.usda.gov/crgnsa) or follow updates at [facebook.com/crgnsa](https://facebook.com/crgnsa) or [www.twitter.com/crgnsa](https://www.twitter.com/crgnsa). More information on the Gorge Commission is available at [www.GorgeCommission.org](http://www.GorgeCommission.org).

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