



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Huron-Manistee National Forests
Huron Shores Ranger Station
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Oscoda, MI 48750

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Date: January 23, 2009

Dear Interested Publics:

The Huron Shores Ranger Station is proposing resource management activities to meet management objectives established in the Huron-Manistee National Forests Land and Resource Management Plan (Forests' Plan). This letter is to inform you of the Dali Aspen Project. The proposal includes timber management and wildlife habitat enhancement activities. An Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project is being prepared. We invite you to help identify opportunities and concerns which relate specifically to this project proposal.

Affected Area

The project is located on National Forest System lands in Millen Township T26N R7E, Sections 1, 2 and 12, and Gustin Township T26N R8E, Sections 6, 7 and 8; Alcona County, Michigan. These activities are proposed for implementation beginning in 2011. A map of the proposed project is enclosed.

Purpose and Need for the Proposal

The Dali Aspen Project lies within Management Area (MA) 2.1, Roaded Natural Rolling Plains and Morainal Hills, as designated by the Forests' Plan. General direction for this area is to provide high volumes of quality hardwood timber products and firewood with special consideration for enhancing wildlife habitats. Emphasis is given to managing deer, grouse and wildlife emphasis areas. A broad variety of recreational opportunities is available and visual diversity is high.

The project is proposed to create age-class diversity and maintain the aspen forest type within the planning area, to provide habitat for various wildlife species, and to provide timber products to local industry. Project proposals are designed to meet Forests' Plan management objectives, to enhance the present condition of ecosystems, and to move the Dali Aspen Project areas toward the desired future condition described in the Forests' Plan.

Proposed Actions include:

- Harvest by clearcutting approximately 309 acres of mature aspen in units up to 40 acres to maintain the aspen forest type, enhance wildlife habitat, and create age-class diversity within the project area.
- Thin approximately 168 acres of red pine plantations to improve growth and health of the remaining trees and promote diversity of understory plants.
- Maintain an existing 4 acre wildlife opening by cutting encroaching vegetation using manual and/or mechanical treatments.



Comments on the Proposal

We would like your input on the proposed project. Any suggestions you have regarding the site-specific proposal will be considered in the analysis as we identify issues and develop alternatives. Please call or provide written comment before February 20, 2009 to Becky Riegler at the phone number and address on the letterhead above, or submit comments electronically to [briegler at fs.fed.us](mailto:briegler@fs.fed.us). Comments received in response to the project will become a matter of public record. If you have questions or need further information regarding the proposal, please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

/s/Becky Riegler
Becky Riegler
Project Leader/Forester

Attachments: Project Proposal Map

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit such comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR 215. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27 (d), any person may request that a submission be withheld from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that confidentiality is granted in only very limited circumstances. The Forest Service will inform the requester of its decision regarding a request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the submission will be returned and the requester notified that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address.

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Dali Aspen Project Proposal

T26N R7E Sections 1, 2 and 12; T26N R8E Sections 6, 7 and 8



