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Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
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**Route To:** Appeals Reviewing Officer

**Subject:** 18.1 Supplemental Information Report

**To:** Appeal Reviewing Officer

18.1 Supplemental Information Report for Pipeline Environmental Assessment,  
Bonnerr Ferry Ranger District - IPNF.

#### INTRODUCTION

This memo documents my findings after reviewing new information about the soil resource in the Pipeline EA. This Supplemental Information Report documents the analysis, which forms the basis of my decision, concerning whether or not to reissue the Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Pipeline EA.

The Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) at 40 CFR 1502.9 (c) (1) require the agency to prepare a supplement to a NEPA document if:

- (i) The agency makes substantial changes in the proposed action that are relevant to the environmental concerns; or
- (ii) There are significant new circumstances or *information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed action or its impacts*.

**BACKGROUND** - District Ranger Steven J. Kozel signed the Pipeline EA Decision Notice and FONSI on 4/20/01. The decision was appealed and then reversed by the Regional Forester because the Pipeline EA inadequately addressed the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to the soil resource in the Pipeline EA - Cumulative Effects Area (CEA).

POTENTIAL NEW INFORMATION – Since the first DN/FONSI was signed on 4/20/01:

- No new plant or animal species that could be impacted by the Pipeline EA have been upgraded or listed as a threatened species. Therefore, the original biological assessments are still valid.
- No new reasonably foreseeable actions have been proposed on federal or private land.

NEW INFORMATION – Recent soil surveys, dated July 23, 2001 and located in the Project file at section 2550, in the Pipeline analysis area and the soils cumulative effects report dated July 23, 2001 and located in the Project file at section 2550, reveal that:

- The existing soils overall are rocky, and therefore resist compaction from harvesting activities.
- Existing detrimental soil compaction levels are currently low, and are expected to remain low and well within the Regional Soil Quality Standards after the Pipeline EA has been implemented.
- There will be little to no detrimental impacts to the soil resource in the Pipeline CEA.

FINDINGS – I have carefully examined the Pipeline EA, Decision Notice, and FONSI that were completed on 4/20/01. In light of the new information pertaining to the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to the soil resource in the Pipeline EA, my decision is to implement the project in full, as described in the Decision Notice and FONSI.

STEVEN J. KOZEL  
District Ranger