



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Region One

200 East Broadway
P.O. Box 7669
Missoula, MT 59807

File Code: 1570-1 (215)
#02-01-00-0073
Date: September 18, 2002

Ryan Shaffer
Alliance for the Wild Rockies
P.O. Box 8731
Missoula, MT 59807

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Dear Mr. Shaffer:

This is my decision on disposition of the appeal you filed on behalf of Alliance for the Wild Rockies; The Ecology Center, Inc.; The Lands Council; and the Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club regarding the White Pine Record of Decision (ROD) on the Kootenai National Forest.

The Appeal Reviewing Officer has considered your arguments, the appeal record, and the transmittal letter and recommends the Forest Supervisor's decision be affirmed and your requested relief be denied.

My review of your appeal was conducted pursuant to, and in accordance with, 36 CFR 215.17 to ensure the analysis and decision are in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, policy, and orders. I have reviewed the appeal record, including your arguments, the information referenced in the Forest Supervisor's August 23, 2002, transmittal letter, and the Appeal Reviewing Officer's analysis and recommendation (copy enclosed). The transmittal letter provides the specific page references to discussions in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), the ROD and project file which bear upon your objections. I specifically incorporate in this decision the appeal record, the references and citations contained in the transmittal letter, and the Appeal Reviewing Officer's analysis and recommendation.

Based upon a review of the references and citations provided by the Forest Supervisor, I find the objections were adequately considered in the EIS/ROD. I agree with the Appeal Reviewing Officer's analysis and conclusions in regard to your appeal objections. I find the Forest Supervisor has made a reasoned decision and has complied with all laws, regulations, and policy.

After careful consideration of the above factors, I affirm the Forest Supervisor's decision to implement the White Pine project. Your requested relief is denied.



My decision constitutes the final administrative determination of the Department of Agriculture [36 CFR 215.18(c)].

Sincerely,

/s/ Kathleen A. McAllister
KATHLEEN A. MCALLISTER
Appeal Deciding Officer
Deputy Regional Forester

Enclosures (1)

cc:
Kootenai NF