



File Code: 1570-1 (215)
#07-01-00-0132
Date: May 14, 2007

Michael Garrity
Executive Director
Alliance for the Wild Rockies
P.O. Box 505
Helena, MT 59624

Dear Mr. Garrity:

This is my decision on disposition of the appeal you filed, on behalf of the Alliance for the Wild Rockies, regarding the O. T. Mining 2007 Plan of Operations Decision Notice (DN) on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest (Jefferson Ranger District).

My review of your appeal was conducted pursuant to, and in accordance with, 36 CFR 215.18 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 District Ranger's April 16, 2007, 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 DN 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.

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

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

After careful consideration of the above factors, I affirm the District Ranger's decision to implement the O. T. Mining 2007 Plan of Operations 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/ Bruce Ramsey
BRUCE RAMSEY
Appeal Deciding Officer

Enclosure

cc:
Appeal Reviewing Officer
Responsible Official
Forest Coordinator