



File Code: 1570-1 (215)
#06-01-00-0033
Date: June 1, 2006

Kent Roche
P.O. Box 1552
Salmon, ID 83467

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Dear Mr. Roche:

This is my decision on disposition of the appeal you filed regarding the Chief Joseph Nordic Ski Trail Hazard Tree Salvage Decision Memo (DM) on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge, Bitterroot, and Salmon-Challis National Forests.

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 Rangers' May 5, 2006, 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 DM 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 Rangers' decision be affirmed and your requested relief be denied.

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

After careful consideration of the above factors, I affirm the District Rangers' decision to implement the Chief Joseph Nordic Ski Trail Hazard Tree Salvage 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

Enclosures (1)

cc:
Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF (R-1)
Bitterroot NF (R-1)
Salmon-Challis NF (R-4)