



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Region One

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

File Code: 1570-1 (215)
#02-01-00-0060
Date: July 18, 2002

Richard J. Dolan
Attorney
Goetz, Gallik, Baldwin & Dolan, P.C.
P.O. Box 6580
Bozeman, MT 59771-6580

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Dear Mr. Dolan:

This is my decision on disposition of the appeal you filed on behalf of Lynda Caine (Firehole Ranch) regarding the West Lake Timber Sale and Road Decommissioning Project Record of Decision (ROD) on the Gallatin 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 June 18, 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 West Lake Timber Sale and Road Decommissioning 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:
Gallatin NF