



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Heber Ranger District

2460 South Highway 40
P.O. Box 190
Heber City, UT 84032

File Code: 1950

Date: February 13, 2004

Dear Interested Party:

The Heber Ranger District, Uinta National Forest is initiating scoping and is asking for public comment on a proposal to treat several small lodgepole pine stands in the Telephone Hollow and Sink Hollow area. The proposed project is being called the Telephone Hollow Timber Sale.

The primary implementation method for the proposed treatments is planned to be through a non-traditional timber sale (i.e, a "Stewardship Contract"). The stewardship contract would include field preparation, road work, and both removal of commercially useable material and treatment of non-commercial "fuels."

The purpose of the proposed action is to maintain mature lodgepole pine stands in the affected landscape, to reverse the successional trend toward conversion from lodgepole pine dominated stands to subalpine fir dominated stands, to reduce stand susceptibility to mountain pine beetles, and to reduce the risk of stand replacing crown fires in the treated stands.

The need of this proposed action is to address the issues of vegetation successional trend, insect populations and lodgepole pine mortality, and hazardous fuels. The need to treat hazardous fuel conditions is exacerbated by the proximity of residential and summer homes to treatment units.

The attached Public Interaction Document gives additional details of the current proposal, location information, and several photos of the area. Additional sources of information and information on the project schedule are in the attachment.

Your written comments should be submitted to me by March 31, 2004.


JULIE K. KING
District Ranger

Enclosure

