



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Superior
National
Forest

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File Code: 1920

Date: June 14, 2006

Dear Interested Party:

I am writing to inform you of my decision for the 2006 Cook County Gypsy Moth Slow-the-Spread Project. The enclosed Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (DN/FONSI) explains my decision to implement the gypsy moth mating disruption alternative.

This project was developed and analyzed collaboratively between the USDA - Forest Service and the State of Minnesota. In addition to the Superior National Forest interdisciplinary team, the expertise of the Forest Service State and Private Forestry Northeastern Area staff and the State of Minnesota Department of Agriculture and Department of Natural Resources have been critical to this project. The public took advantage of involvement opportunities during project development and analysis as well.

Mike Prouty, Field Representative for the USDA Forest Service Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry, and I are the Responsible Officials, with each signing a separate decision for this project. As the Forest Supervisor for the Superior National Forest, I am the Responsible Official for the decision to treat National Forest System land, while Mike Prouty is the Responsible Official for the decision to treat all other ownerships.

This project was subject to the pre-decisional option process pursuant to 36 CFR 218. No objections were filed in the 30-day objection period; therefore, I am issuing a decision at this time. The DN/FONSI is being sent to those who provided input on the project. Additional copies of the environmental assessment are available upon request from the Superior National Forest at the above address or by calling (218) 626-4300. Both documents are also available at the Superior National Forest website at www.fs.fed.us/r9/superior.

If you need any additional information, please contact Erica Hahn, Forest Environmental Coordinator, at (218) 626-4300.

I would like to thank everyone who participated in this planning effort. Working with partners has been a tremendous value to this planning process and managing non-native invasive species in general.

Sincerely,

/s/ Michael T. Miller (for)
JAMES W. SANDERS
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure

