



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Manti-La Sal
National Forest

Moab/Monticello Ranger District
432 E. Center St.
P.O. Box 820
Monticello, UT 84535
Phone # (435) 587-2041
Fax # (435) 587-2637

File Code: 1950-1

Date: March 26, 2008

Shareholders

To Whom It May Concern:

On December 5, 2007 the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit ordered an injunction precluding implementation of Forest Service Categorical Exclusion 10 for Hazardous Fuel Reduction (FSH 31.2 – 10). Therefore, the Moab/Monticello Ranger District proposes to complete environmental assessments (EA's) for three projects originally proposed under Category 10.

This notice constitutes the District Ranger's notice of intent to proceed under HFRA (Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003) authority for decisions for the following projects:

- Blue Mountain Ranch Hazard Fuels Commercial Thin Project,
- Buckeye Reservoir Hazard Fuels Thinning Project
- Willow Basin Wildland Urban Interface Fuels Treatment Project

Decisions regarding these projects will be made following 36 CFR 218. Objection periods for each project will be announced at a date following completion of each EA. Detailed descriptions of proposed actions can be found at

http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/mantilasal/projects/projects_moabmonticello/projectsmoabmonticello.shtml.

Public meetings (open house format) regarding these projects and HFRA will be held on **April 7, 2008** (Moab City Fire Station, 45 South 100 East, Moab, Utah) from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. and on **April 8, 2008** (Manti-La Sal National Forest, Monticello District Office, 432 East Center Street, Monticello, Utah) from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Each of these proposed actions was previously sent to the public for Notice and Comment. Comments already received for these projects will be considered in the respective environmental assessments. Those who previously commented within identified Notice and Comment periods will have status for objection under HFRA. This notice provides an additional opportunity for comment. The Forest Service invites written comments and suggestions on issues related to the proposals and areas being analyzed. Please be clear about which project the comments are for. Information received will be used in the preparation of environmental analysis required under the National Environmental Policy Act.

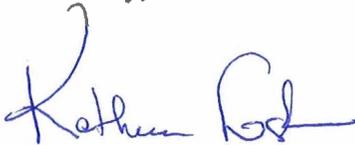


Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, oral, and electronic comments will be accepted until April 28, 2008. Comments should include your name, address, telephone number, organization represented (if any), title of the proposal, and specific facts and supporting reasons for us to consider in the analysis. Names and comments received are public information and will be released to those who request them. This will include names, addresses, and any other personal information provided with the comments.

Written comments must be submitted to: Katherine Foster, Acting District Ranger, Moab/Monticello Ranger District, PO Box 820, 432 East Center Street, Monticello, Utah 84535. Oral comments must be provided at the Responsible Officials office during normal business hours via telephone (435-587-2041) or in person; or at an official agency function (i.e. public meeting) that is designed to elicit public comments. The office business hours are: 8:00 am – noon and 1:00 – 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Electronic comments must be submitted in rich text format (.rtf) or Word (.doc) format and should be e-mailed to comments-intermntn-manti-lasal-moabmonticello or gmontgomery@fs.fed.us. Faxed comments may be sent to 435-587-2637.

As qualified HFRA projects, these projects will be subject to the objection process pursuant to 36 CFR part 218, subpart A. Following the mailing of the environmental assessment, we will publish legal notice of the opportunity to object to each proposed project in the applicable newspaper-of-record. Objections will be accepted only from those who have previously submitted written comments specific to the applicable project. These projects are not subject to notice, comment, and appeal procedures found at 36 CFR part 215.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Katherine Foster". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "K".

KATHERINE FOSTER
Acting District Ranger