



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Beaverhead-Deerlodge  
National Forest  
Pintler Ranger District

88 10-A Business Loop  
Philipsburg, MT 59858  
(406) 859-3211

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File Code: 1950

Date: February 22, 2008

Dear Interested Party,

Thank you for providing comments on the Barton Springs Thinning Project on the Pintler Ranger District. Enclosed you will find the decision memo for the project.

These documents are also available electronically on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest web site, [www.fs.fed.us/r1/b-d](http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/b-d). To view the documents, click on "Plans & Projects", then go to the section "Individual Forest Projects".

This decision is subject to appeal pursuant to the July 2 and September 16, 2005, orders issued by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California in Case No. CIV F-03-6386JKS, *Earth Island Institute v. Ruthenbeck*. The U.S. District Court struck down the Forest Service provision at 36 CFR 215.12(f). That provision had excluded projects such as this one from appeal.

Individuals or organizations appealing this decision must meet the requirements of 36 CFR 215.13. A written appeal must be submitted within 45 days following the publication date of the legal notice of this decision in the *Montana Standard*, Butte, Montana. I anticipate the legal notice announcing this project will appear in the *Montana Standard* on February 27, 2008. The publication date of the legal notice of the decision in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an appeal. Appellants should not rely on date or timeframe information provided by any other source.

For further information on this project, please contact Sharon Sawyer, Planner, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, 420 Barrett Street, Dillon, Montana 59725, phone (406) 683-3857.

Sincerely,

*/s/CFBuchaGentry*

CHARLENE F. BUCHA GENTRY  
District Ranger

Enclosures

