



File Code: 1950

Date: February 12, 2015

Dear Forest User,

A Draft Record of Decision for the Hooper Springs Transmission Project and Proposed Land Use Plan Amendment, FEIS and additional information are available online at:

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/ctnf/landmanagement/projects> and
<http://efw.bpa.gov/environmentalservices/Document Library/HooperSprings/>

The Hooper Springs Transmission project proposes to build a new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Caribou County, Idaho. The proposed line will cross approximately three miles of the Soda Springs District of the Caribou-Targhee National Forest. To be consistent with the direction of the Revised Forest Plan for the Caribou National Forest, an amendment is needed to designate a new project right-of-way for the transmission line. This amendment will allow for the approval of a special use permit for the construction and operation of the proposed transmission line. The Responsible Official who will issue a decision on this project is Garth Smelser, Forest Supervisor, Caribou-Targhee National Forest.

A copy of the draft Record of Decision, FEIS, and additional information regarding this proposed project can be obtained from: Jack Isaacs, Soda Springs District Ranger, 410 East Hooper Avenue, Soda Springs, ID 83276.

This project is subject to the Predecisional Administrative Review Process (Objection Process) pursuant to 36 CFR 218 and 219. Legal notice initiating the 60-day objection period for the Draft Record of Decision for this project will be published in the *Idaho State Journal*. Individuals who have previously submitted specific written comments regarding the proposed project or the plan amendment, either during scoping or other designated opportunity for public comment, may file an objection. If an objection is filed, an objection review process begins. Based on the discussions and findings in the objection review, a final decision will be issued. The decision will be consistent with the final review of the project. Pursuant to 36 CFR 218.12 and 219.58, the Record of Decision may not be signed until the Reviewing Officer has responded in writing to all pending objections. If no objections are received, the Record of Decision may be signed five (5) business days after the close of the objection filing period and implementation may begin immediately upon signature.

Objections will only be accepted from those who have previously submitted specific written comments regarding the proposal project during scoping or other designated opportunities for public comment in accordance with 36 CFR 218.5(a) or 219.53(a). Issues raised in objections must be based on previously submitted timely, specific written comments regarding the proposal project unless based on new information arising after the designated comment opportunities.



At a minimum, an objection must include the following (36 CFR 218.8 (d), 219.54(c)):

- 1) The objector's name and address, with a telephone number, if available;
- 2) A signature or other verification of authorship upon request (a scanned signature for email may be filed with the objection);
- 3) When multiple names are listed on an objection, identification of the lead objector (verification of the identity of the lead objector shall be provided upon request);
- 4) The name of the proposed project, the name and title of the Responsible Official, and the names (s) of the National Forest (s) and/or Ranger District (s) on which the proposed project will be implemented;
- 5) A description of those aspects of the proposed project addressed by the objection, including specific issues related to the proposed project if applicable, how the objector believes the environmental analysis or draft decision specifically violates law, regulation, or policy; suggested remedies that would resolve the objection; supporting reasons for the reviewing officer to consider; and
- 6) A statement that demonstrates connection between prior specific written comments on the particular proposed project or activity and the content of the objection.

Objections, including attachments, must be filed via mail, fax, email, hand-delivery, express delivery, or messenger service (Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), excluding holidays to:

Objection Reviewing Officer Intermountain Region USFS 324 25th Street
Ogden, UT 84401 Or
Fax: (801) 625-5277
Email: objections-interim-regional-office@fs.fed.us

Electronically filed objections may be submitted by email in Word (.doc), rich text format (.rtf), text (.txt), and hypertext markup language (.html).

Objections must be submitted within 60 calendar days following the publication of the legal notice in the *Idaho State Journal*, the newspaper of record. The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an objection. Those wishing to object should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source. The regulations prohibit extending the time to file an objection.

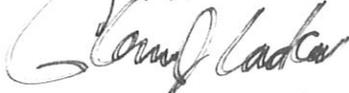
Incorporation of documents by reference is permitted only as provided in 36 CFR 218.8(b) and 219.54(b). It is the objector's responsibility to ensure timely filing of a written objection with the



reviewing officer pursuant to 36 CFR 218.9, 219.16, 219.52. All objections are available for public inspection during and after the objection process.

Thank you taking the time to participate in this process.

Sincerely,



JACK ISAACS
District Ranger

for

