



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Region One

200 East Broadway  
P.O. Box 7669  
Missoula, MT 59807

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**File Code:** 1570-1 (215)  
#02-01-00-0010  
**Date:** January 7, 2002

Sara Jane Johnson  
Native Ecosystems Council  
P.O. Box 125  
Willow Creek, MT 59760

Dear Ms. Johnson:

I have received your appeal of the Lewis and Clark National Forest Supervisor's Record of Decision and Environmental Impact Statement for the Dry Fork Vegetation and Restoration Project (Belt Creek Ranger District).

Regretfully, I must dismiss your appeal without review in accordance with 36 CFR 215.15. The record for this project indicates that you did not provide comments or express interest regarding the Dry Fork Vegetation Restoration Project prior to or during the comment period. A decision may only be appealed by persons who... "provided comment or otherwise expressed interest in a particular proposed action by the close of the comment period..."(emphasis added, 36 CFR 215.11(a)(2). Therefore, pursuant to 36 CFR 215.15(a)(5), I am dismissing your appeal because you did not express an interest in the specific proposal at any time prior to the close of the comment period.

This decision is the final administrative determination of the Department of Agriculture and is not subject to higher-level review [36 CFR 215.18(c)].

Sincerely,

/s/ Claire Huking (For)  
KATHLEEN A. MCALLISTER  
Appeal Deciding Officer  
Deputy Regional Forester

cc:  
L&C NF

