

NEWS RELEASE

PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION



Colville National Forest

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Walker Project Out for Public Review

Colville, WA – The Colville National Forest has released the Walker Fuels Reduction Environmental Assessment for public review. The project area is located approximately 10 miles east of the town of Republic, WA. The project's southern boundary is State Highway 20, the eastern boundary is the Kettle Crest, and the western boundary is the Colville National Forest Boundary. The northern boundary is roughly on the watershed divide between the North Fork Sanpoil and Herron Creek.

The project includes treatments that will reduce the risk of a wildfire along critical infrastructure identified in the Ferry County Community Wildfire Protection Plan and provide for safer evacuation in the event of a wildfire. These areas include the Bonneville Power Administration transmission line, State Route 20 along the west side of Sherman Pass, along Forest Service Roads in the project area and along the private property boundary. The Walker Fuels Reduction Project compliments and extends the treatments accomplished in the Malo Eastlake project and would consolidate treatments from State Route 20 north to Long Alec Creek.

"We are pleased to continue the close collaboration with Ferry County and members of the public in support of the Community Wildlife Protection Plan," said Colville National Forest Supervisor Laura Jo West. "In addition to providing material for our local mills, the project will have a contracting component that will help sustain or create jobs in the community," West added.

The Environmental Assessment for the Walker Fuels Reduction Project is available on the Colville National Forest Web site www.fs.usda.gov/colville. If you have questions about this project or on how to provide comment on the project, contact Jean Lavell, project team leader at (509) 738-7700 or at jlavell@fs.fed.us.

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