

## PUBLIC NOTICE AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

The Forest Resources Conservation and Shortage Relief Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-382, 104 Stat. 1714-726; 16 U.S.C. Sec. 620, et seq.), as amended by the Forest Resources Conservation and Shortage Relief Act of 1997 (P.L. 105-83, Title VI, Nov. 14, 1997, 111 Stat. 1617), prohibits direct and indirect substitution of federal timber for timber exported from certain private lands. The Act further provides that the restrictions on substitution do not apply to a person who: (1) acquires unprocessed federal timber within an approved sourcing area; (2) within the previous twenty-four months, has not exported unprocessed timber originating from private lands within the approved sourcing area; and (3) during the period for which the sourcing area is in effect, does not export unprocessed timber originating from private lands within the approved sourcing area.

Stimson Lumber Company has applied to the U.S. Department of Agriculture for a Sourcing Area for its Priest River, Plummer and St. Marie's, Idaho sawmills. A description of the proposed Sourcing Area is:

**Beginning at a point on the Continental Divide that adjoins the border between the United States of America and Canada, proceeding south on the crest of the Continental Divide to the point where it is crossed by Interstate 90 east of Butte, Montana. From this point, south and west on Interstate 90 to its junction with Interstate 15, west of Butte, Montana. From this point, south on Interstate 15 to its junction with State Highway 26 near Blackfoot, Idaho. From this point, east on State Highway 26 to Arco, Idaho where State Highway 26 joins with State Highway 20. From this point, west on State Highway 20 to its intersection with Interstate 84 at Mountain Home, Idaho. From this point, west and north on Interstate 84 to where this roadway hits the border between the states of Idaho and Oregon. From this point, north on the border between Idaho and Oregon to where Idaho, Oregon and Washington meet. From this point, continuing north on the border between Idaho and Washington to the border between the United States of America and Canada. From this point, east to the point of Beginning.**

Public comment is invited and will be considered in deciding whether to approve the application. The public is invited to inspect the application in the office of the Director of Renewable Resource Management located in the Regional Forester's Office of the Federal Building, 200 East Broadway, Missoula, Montana, between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 3:30 P.M. **Comments must be received in writing no later than June 18, 2012, and must include the assigned docket number: 12-0338.** In addition, the application is available for viewing on the U.S. Forest Service Region 1 website at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/r1/sourcingarea>

Send written comments to:

The Honorable Judge Peter M. Davenport  
Office of Administrative Law Judges  
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.  
Room 1031 South Building  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9200

with a copy to:

Regional Forester  
ATTN: Director, RRM  
200 East Broadway  
P.O. Box 7669  
Missoula, MT 59807

The applicant and other parties who submit written comments will have 10 working days, from the date the comment period closes, to review the comments at the office of the Director of Renewable Resource Management, or online at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/r1/sourcingarea> and may submit a recommendation to the Judge, including analysis of the facts and law as to why the Judge should approve or disapprove the application. Such recommendation, and any request for a hearing, if applicable, must be postmarked no later than the 10<sup>th</sup> working day of the comment review period.