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**File Code:** 2430  
**Route To:**

**Date:** December 1, 2025

**Subject:** Pre-decisional Notice for 5 Year Recomputation

**To:** Bitterroot National Forest Timber Purchasers and Interested Parties

Under provisions of the Small Business Timber Sale Program, Forest Service and Small Business Administration policy provides for recomputation of the small business share of National Forest timber sale offerings every five years.

We have, after consultation with the Small Business Administration, summarized sawtimber purchase on the Bitterroot Market Area for the five-year period October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2030. Based on the data and guidance provided in Forest Service Handbook 2409.18, Chapter 90, we have recomputed a small business share.

The current market share is 72 percent. The proposed share for the Bitterroot Market Area of the Bitterroot National Forest has been determined to be 79 percent. In addition, zero ccf volume will be carried forward. This new share becomes effective for the period beginning October 1, 2025.

With this notice, I am requesting your review and comments on the proposed small business share. Comments may address the information used by the Forest Service for the recomputation or any information you believe should have been considered. The information used in the recomputation analysis is available for review and can be obtained by contacting Jarret Winningham (contact information below.)

Written comments should be sent to the Contracting Officer at the email or address given below and must be postmarked by **December 31, 2025**, which is 30 days from date of this letter. Following consideration of written comments, a final decision will be made by the Forest Supervisor and sent to those receiving this pre-decisional notice within 15 days after the end of the comment period.

Small business share decisions may be appealed under 36 CFR 223.118 which governs the appeal process for small business timber sale program share recomputations. Only those timber sale purchasers, or their representatives, who are affected by the recomputation of the small business share of timber sales and who submit written comments to this notice may appeal the final decision made by the Forest Supervisor. To preserve your right to appeal in the event the final decision differs from this proposal, you must comment on this pre-decisional notice, even if you are in agreement with both it and the information provided. If your comments are only submitted through an association to which you belong but not individually, you may be ineligible to appeal the decision or file comments on an appeal.



The Forest Service administers the Small Business Timber Sale Program under provisions outlined in Forest Service Manual FSM 2439 and the Timber Sale Preparation Handbook, FSH 2409.18, Chapter 90. You may obtain information on the recomputation from Jarret Winningham or the Small Business Administration:

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| Contracting Officer, Bitterroot National Forest<br>Attn: Jarret Winningham<br>1801 North First Street<br>Hamilton, MT 59840<br>william.winningham@usda.gov<br>v<br>406.303.1802 | SBA Timber Program<br>timber@sba.gov |
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MATTHEW D. ANDERSON  
Forest Supervisor

cc: Jarret Winningham