



File Code: 1950
Date: August 15, 2016

Greetings from the Black Hills National Forest!

I have initiated planning of the Black Hills Resilient Landscapes Project and invite your comments on the proposal. The purpose of the proposed project is to move landscape-level vegetation conditions in the project area toward objectives set by the Black Hills National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, as amended, in order to increase ecosystem resilience to insect infestation and other natural disturbances, contribute to public safety and the local economy, and reduce risk of wildfire to landscapes and communities.

Proposed activities include reduction of hazardous fuels, prescribed burning, enhancement of hardwoods and grasslands, timber harvest, non-commercial thinning, and associated actions. The project area, which includes most of the Black Hills National Forest, consists of the areas designated under Healthy Forests Restoration Act authority at the request of the Governors of South Dakota and Wyoming. The Black Hills National Forest Advisory Board is serving as a formal collaborator on the project.

Further information on the project is available at <http://tinyurl.com/BHRLProject>. Paper copies of this information are available on request and at all Black Hills National Forest offices.

I invite your comments on this proposal. Comments may be submitted online by going to <http://tinyurl.com/BHRLProjectComment>. Send written comments to: BHRL Project, Black Hills National Forest, 1019 North 5th Street, Custer, SD 57730, or via facsimile to 605-673-9350, c/o BHRL Project. Written comments also may be hand-delivered to the above address between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Mountain time, Monday through Friday except federal holidays. Comments will be accepted through Sept. 23, 2016.

For further information, contact Rhonda O'Byrne, Project Manager, at 605-642-4622.

Sincerely,

JIM ZORNES
Acting Forest Supervisor

