

Dear Interested Party,

The Huckleberry Landscape Restoration Project Final Record of Decision has been signed by Payette National Forest, Forest Supervisor, Linda Jackson on August 11th, 2020. Implementation may begin immediately pursuant to 36 CFR 218.12.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Record of Decision were made available on February 28th, 2020. Six objections were received during the 45-day predecisional objection period. As a result of instructions given by the Objection Review Officer, the Forest made changes to the Final Record of Decision in response to objections. The Final Environmental Impact Statement, Record of Decision, objection letters, Biological Assessment, Biological Opinion from US Fish and Wildlife Service, and all other pertinent project documents are posted on the Project webpage. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=41687>.

The Huckleberry Project area encompasses approximately 67,000 acres within the Brownlee Reservoir Subbasin, and the Indian, Lick, and Bear Creek subwatersheds. Proposed restoration activities include timber harvest, biomass harvest, road reconstruction, road realignment, temporary road construction, road storage, road decommissioning, culvert removal, culvert replacement, thinning of submerchantable trees, prescribed fire, and other actions. Specific vegetation treatments are proposed to enhance northern Idaho Ground squirrel (NIDGS) habitat, a threatened species as listed by the Endangered Species Act. Proposed recreation improvements include developed and dispersed recreation site improvements, motorized and non-motorized trail development and realignment, trailhead improvements, and the conversion of Smith Mountain Lookout to a public rental cabin. Hard copies or CDs of the FEIS and Final ROD and additional information regarding this project can be obtained from: Mark Fox (project lead), 2092 Highway 95, Council, Idaho, 83612, (208)253-0164, mrfox@fs.fed.us.