LEGAL NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION
Opportunity to Comment
John Wood Forest Management Project

The Forest Service, Caribou-Targhee National Forest, Soda Springs Ranger District, intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the John Wood Forest Management Project to analyze and disclose the environmental effects for the John Wood Forest Management Project. The project area is located within the Wood Canyon and Johnson Creek drainages and located approximately 6 miles east of Soda Springs, Idaho. The legal land description for this proposal is: Township 8 South, Range 43 East, Sections 29, 31, 32, 33 and 34; and Township 9 South, Range 43 East, Sections 3, 4, 5, 8, and 9 of the Boise Meridian, Caribou County, Idaho.

The proposed action description and other information regarding the proposal are available for review at the Soda Springs Ranger District Office and the forest website (http://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/ctnf/landmanagement/projects). Additional information regarding this action can be obtained from: Wayne Beck, Project Leader, at (208) 847-8941.

How to Comment and Timeframe

The Environmental Protection Agency is publishing a Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register for the John Wood Forest Management Project. The NOI initiates the scoping process, which guides the development of the Draft EIS.

Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, and electronic comments concerning the scope of the analysis will be accepted for 30 calendar days following the publication of the NOI in the Federal Register. The expected NOI publication date is March 31, 2017. However, the actual publication date in the Federal Register is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for this analysis. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

Written comments must be submitted to: Bryan K. Fuell, District Ranger, Soda Springs Ranger District, via mail: 410 East Hooper Avenue, Soda Springs, ID 83276; fax: (208) 547-2235; or by hand-delivery. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

Electronic comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or Word (.doc) to comments-intermtn-caribou-targhee-soda-springs@fs.fed.us with Subject identified as John Wood Forest Management Project. In cases where no identifiable name is attached to a comment, a verification of identity will be required for objection eligibility. If using an electronic message, a scanned signature is one way to provide verification.

Comments submitted in response to this solicitation must meet the definition of "specific written comments" as defined at 36 CFR 218.2 - *"...[s]pecific written comments should be within the scope of the proposed action, have a direct relationship to the proposed action, and must include supporting reasons for the responsible official to consider."*

The purpose of this comment period is to provide an opportunity for the public to provide early and meaningful participation on a proposed action prior to a decision being made by the Responsible Official. Per 36 CFR 218 Subparts A and