

## **Field Trip and Opportunity to Comment on the Haskell Forest Health Project, Beckwourth Ranger District, Plumas National Forest.**

The Beckwourth Ranger District of the Plumas National Forest is initiating public scoping on the proposed Haskell Forest Health Project. The project area is situated within landscape areas designated by the Chief of the Forest Service on November 24, 2015 as part of an insect and disease treatment program in accordance with Title VI, Section 602, of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA), as amended by Section 8204 of the Agriculture Act (Farm Bill) of 2014. The primary objectives of this project are to: enhance forest health, promote tree vigor, improve resistance to bark beetle attacks, and promote resilience to drought, wildfire and the potential effects of climate change. The proposed activities may include: mechanical thinning, hand thinning/hand piling, mastication, grapple piling, pile burning, underburning, decommissioning of non-system roads and road maintenance.

The Project is located approximately 4 to 6 miles south of Graeagle, California, and approximately 10 miles southwest of Portola, California on the Beckwourth Ranger District of the Plumas National Forest, in Plumas and Sierra Counties, California. The project area includes approximately 9,102 acres of National Forest System lands with approximately 3,000 acres proposed for treatment. The project area would encompass all or portions of Township 21 North, Range 12 East, Sections 1 – 3, 10 -15, and 24; Township 21 North, Range 13 East, Sections 7, 8, 13—23, and 26—28, Mount Diablo Base Meridian (MDBM).

The proposed action is under development. A description of the purpose and need and a map of the proposed project area is available online at the Plumas National Forest website at:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=52569>

The public is invited to participate in a field trip to the project area on **Monday, September 27** from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Meet at the Beckwourth District Office, 23 Mohawk Road, at 10:00 AM. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. Note that we will be driving on forest roads and an appropriate vehicle is recommended.

Specific written comments on the proposed project should be received by **October 26, 2018** so that they can be considered early during project development and analysis. The Forest Service will consider your scoping comments to help identify issues associated with the project.

Submit electronic to: [comments-pacificsouthwest-plumas-beckwourth@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-pacificsouthwest-plumas-beckwourth@fs.fed.us)

Comments submitted electronically must be in plain text (.txt), rich format (.rtf), Word (.doc or .docx), portable document format (.pdf), or an email message. Please include **“Haskell Project”** in the subject line.

Written comments may be mailed to: Matthew Jedra, District Ranger, c/o Gretchen Jehle, Project Leader, Beckwourth Ranger District, 23 Mohawk Road, PO Box 7, Blairsden, CA 96103; by fax 530-836-0493, or delivered in person Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding holidays.

Additional information regarding this project and field trip may be obtained by contacting Gretchen Jehle, Project Leader, at [gjehle@fs.fed.us](mailto:gjehle@fs.fed.us) or (530) 836-7187.

Names and contact information submitted with comments will become part of the public record and may be released under the Freedom of Information Act. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is an equal opportunity provider and employer.