

NOTICE FOR COMMENT USDA

Forest Service, Northern Region Idaho Panhandle National Forests St Joe Ranger District Benewah and Shoshone Counties, Brebner Flat- Environmental Assessment The Idaho Panhandle National Forests is proposing to conduct a variety vegetation management activities on National Forest System lands Theriault Creek, Kelly Creek, Williams Creek, and Siwash Creek drainages within the St Joe River watershed in the St Joe Ranger District. The 11,779 acre project area is located within all or portions of Federal lands in: T45N, R5E, Sections 13,14,16, 22, 24, 26, 28, 34, 35, 36 T44N, R5E, Sections 1, 2,11,12 and T17N, R32W, Sections 30, 31 Boise Meridian. The proposed action for the Brebner Flat Project includes about 1,719 acres of vegetation management on National Forest System lands. Proposed vegetation treatments include 618 acres of clearcut harvest with reserves, 828 acres of shelterwood harvest with reserves, and 273 acres of seedtree harvest with reserves. A combination of prescribed burning and machine piling would be used to treat fuels in the commercial harvest units. Road treatments to reduce sediment and provide for safe public travel include improving about 47miles of roads. About 4 miles of temporary roads would be constructed to provide access to treatment locations and they would be obliterated following the completion of project-related activities. The Brebner Flat - Environmental Assessment (EA) analyzes one action alternative to meet the purpose and need of the project. For more details, please refer to the complete EA, along with supporting documentation, which is available for viewing and downloading on the Idaho Panhandle National Forest website at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53048>

Pursuant to 36 CFR 218.25, written, facsimile, hand- delivered, oral, or electronic comments will be accepted for 30 calendar days following publication of this notice in the Coeur d'Alene Press. The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for this proposal. You should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source. If the comment period ends on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, comments will be accepted until the end of the next Federal working day. A timely submission will be determined as outlined in 36 CFR 218.25(a) (4). It is the responsibility of the sender to ensure timely receipt of any comments submitted. 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 (36 CFR 218.2). Submit your comments by one of the following methods. 1) Written comments must be addressed to the Responsible Official, Jeannie Higgins, Forest Supervisor, and submitted to: Brebner Flat Project Leader, St Joe Ranger District, 222 7th Ave, St Maries, ID, ID 83861. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. 2) Oral comments must be provided at the St Joe Ranger District office during normal business hours via telephone (208) 245-2531 or in person. 3) Fax your comments to (208) 245-6052. Direct your fax to the attention of Project Leader, and include Brebner Flat on the subject line. 4) Acceptable formats for electronic comments are text or html e-mail, Adobe portable document format (pdf), and formats viewable in Microsoft Office applications. Email your comments to: comments-northern-idpanhandle-stjoe@fs.fed.us The subject line must contain the name of the project for which you are submitting comments. For electronically mailed comments, the sender should normally receive an automated electronic acknowledgement from the agency as confirmation of receipt. If the sender does not receive an automated acknowledgement of the receipt of comments; it is the sender's responsibility to ensure timely receipt by other means. Specific comments should include: (1) the commenter's name, address, telephone number, and organization represented, if any; (2) title of the document on which the comments are being submitted; (3) specific written comments regarding the proposed activity, along with supporting reasons for the Responsible Official to consider; and (4) signature(s). Only those who submit timely and specific written comments as defined in 36 CFR 218 regarding the proposed project during a public comment period established by the responsible official will be eligible to file an objection. For objection eligibility each individual or representative from each entity must provide a name and mailing address and either sign the comments, or verify their identity upon request. Individual members of an organization must submit their own comments in order to have eligibility to object as an individual. Information received in response to this solicitation, including names, addresses, email addresses, and phone numbers of those who provide input, will be considered part of the public record and will be available for public inspection. Comments may also be submitted anonymously; however anonymous comments will not provide objection eligibility to the submitter. Additional information is available from Brebner Flat Project Leader, (208) 245-6034 at the St Joe Ranger District office.