

Sauter, Keith - FS

From: Craig.Nelson@deq.idaho.gov
Sent: Friday, February 8, 2019 9:37 AM
To: Sauter, Keith - FS
Subject: RE: Brebner Flat timber sale

Thank you Keith. I will see you at the meeting next week. You are welcome to bring this up, or the one in Emerald Creek, for awareness in the announcement portion of the agenda. It is up to you. I am not going to put you on the spot. Or, I could make a few copies of the scoping letter and map.

From: Sauter, Keith - FS [mailto:ksauter@fs.fed.us]
Sent: Friday, February 08, 2019 9:25 AM
To: Craig Nelson
Subject: RE: Brebner Flat timber sale

Craig,

The current supporting status doesn't influence the level of protection for resources. The same BMPs are implemented on all proposed projects. In some cases, depending on location specific concerns, I have added design element requirements for road/stream crossings and/or culverts. Concerning project length, the project including pre-sale road construction, harvest, post-sale road decommissioning, burning, and planting could be 6 to 8 years. I would expect the timber harvest to occur over a 1 to 2 year period.

Keith Sauter

From: Craig.Nelson@deq.idaho.gov [mailto:Craig.Nelson@deq.idaho.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, February 6, 2019 5:32 PM
To: Sauter, Keith - FS <ksauter@fs.fed.us>
Subject: RE: Brebner Flat timber sale

Keith,

I read over the scoping letter and reviewed the map. As you mentioned, the streams are currently supporting their beneficial uses. My hope would be that the level of protection would be just as important as if it were not supporting its beneficial uses. Does the timber harvest occur during one year, or is it spread over multiple years?

Thank you,
Craig Nelson
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
(208) 666-4610
craig.nelson@deq.idaho.gov

From: Sauter, Keith - FS [mailto:ksauter@fs.fed.us]
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 11:58 AM
To: Craig Nelson
Subject: Brebner Flat timber sale

Good morning Craig,

We are currently finalizing the Brebner Flat timber sale EA. Originally, the hydrology efforts were contracted with an outside resource but due to delays and me recently being hired on the St. Joe District, I picked up the project last fall. As a result of this disconnect, the question was posed yesterday concerning potential IDEQ concerns with the proposed timber harvest which I didn't have an answer. As such, I wanted to contact you to see if you have been contacted and/or have any concerns associated with this pending EA.

Briefly, the project boundary encompasses 11,779 acres within the St. Joe – Siwash watershed. The potentially impacted subwatersheds include Kelly Creek (2,331 acres), Siwash Creek (5,848 acres), St. Joe Face (2,432 acres), Theriault Creek (252 acres), and Williams Creek (918 acres). Based on review of the IDEQ 2014 final and 2016 draft integrated reports, all the streams within these watersheds were fully supporting the beneficial use designations. However, the segment of the St. Joe starting upstream from Williams Creek at the confluence of the North Fork of the St. Joe is listed as not supporting cold water aquatic life due to water temperature exceedance. Kelley, Theriault, and Williams creeks discharge into this segment of the St. Joe River.

As such, I wanted to see what concerns, if any, IDEQ may have with this proposed project. Please give me a call or email with your thoughts, questions, and/or concerns concerning the Brebner Flat project. I look forward to meeting you at the WAG meeting.

Best regards,
Keith



Keith Sauter
Hydrologist

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