

Timchak, Ben -FS

From: Jim Hollingsworth [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, February 09, 2018 8:46 AM
To: Timchak, Ben -FS
Subject: Avery Timber Sale

Jim Hollingsworth
[REDACTED]

February 9, 2018

Matthew Davis, District Ranger
U.S. Forest Service
Avery District, Idaho

RE: Avery Timber Sale

Dear Mr. Davis:

It has been brought to my attention that there is going to be a timber sale in the Avery area. My first concern is that I note it will not be effective until 2019. This is something that must take place immediately. There can be no good reason for delay. All over Idaho there are forests filled with dead and dying trees and abundant ladder fuel that must be harvested. If we learned anything from the fires last summer it is this: Our forests are at great risk because the Federal Government has not taken steps to maintain them in good order. The longer they stand without logging the worse conditions will get. Plus, I do not see how a timber company can bid on a job that will not take place for over a year and a half from now. This needs to be taken care of right now.

I have it on good authority that most fires take place on Federal lands. That is a real shame. If you need ideas I am sure those who maintain Idaho forests in Idaho, or private companies can give you some ideas as to how to prevent these drastic fires by logging what needs to be logged.

Please do not do anything that opens the door to environmental groups who have no risk at filing lawsuits to prevent this action. The courts have to see that this is important, and charge those who file the lawsuit for the court costs etc. It is time that the people of Idaho had some control over forest management in Idaho. I know you have a difficult job, but people need to see the demonstrated need and take drastic and immediate action.

Thank you so much for your consideration. If I can do more please let me know.

Jim Hollingsworth