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The Dry Beard Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) is now available for comment. The Dry Beard project is proposing commercial thinning, road decommissioning and storage, and repair or replacement of the Idanha Bridge. The Dry Beard project area is approximately 10,697 acres, located in the Headwaters North Santiam Watershed and the Upper North Santiam Watershed, approximately 3 miles south of the town of Detroit Oregon in Linn County. The proposed action covers treatments for 1339 acres and consist of: 649 acres of thinning outside of riparian reserves, 430 acres of thinning within riparian reserves and 260 acres of no harvest skips. This harvest would produce 24 million board feet of timber from stands aged 35-78 years old. Post-harvest fuels treatments would include approximately 419 acres of underburning and 503 acres of pile and burn. The project proposes 2.6 miles of road decommissioning and 1.8 miles of road storage. The legal description of the area is T10S, R5E, Sections 11 - 15, 21, 22 - 27, 35, 36, T10S, R6E, Sections 7, 17 - 21 - 33. Willamette Meridian, Linn County, The Detroit Oregon.

The Draft EA and other related documents are available on the Forest Service Website at:

http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=53556

Electronic, written, and oral comments will be accepted. Electronic comments will only be accepted through the Forest Service online comment system available at:

<https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?Project=53556>

Written comments must be submitted to the Responsible Official David Halemeier, Detroit Ranger District, at HC 73 Box 320, Mill City, Oregon, 97360. Comments hand delivered to the Detroit District Office will be accepted during normal business hours from 8:00am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays.

Comments (including attachments) must be postmarked or delivered within 30 days of the legal notice being published in the Statesman Journal, Salem, OR, Detroit Ranger District's official newspaper of record. It is the responsibility of persons providing comments to submit them by the close of the comment period and insure that their comments have been received. Only those who submit specific written comments that meet the requirements under Forest Service regulations 36 CFR 218 during the comment period designated by the responsible official will be eligible to participate in the administrative review (objection) process. Specific 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. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered, but do not meet the requirements under 36 CFR 218 and will not be eligible for administrative review. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for this project, available for public inspection, and released if requested under the Freedom of Information Act.

If you have any questions concerning this project, please contact Lyn Medley, District Planner at (503) 854-4228 or visit the above EA project website.