



File Code: 1950

Date: JUN 17 2019

Dear Interested Party

A new draft Record of Decision (ROD) with an errata to the Lost Creek Boulder Creek Landscape Restoration Project Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) from 2014 are being released. This FEIS was previously issued with a final ROD in September 2014 and suit was filed alleging violations of the Endangered Species Act, National Environmental Policy Act, National Forest Management Act (NFMA), and Travel Management regulations. The District Court of Idaho ruled in favor of the Forest Service on all issues. However, on appeal to the Ninth Circuit Court, the ROD was vacated in October 2018 for violations of NFMA. Subsequently the Forest Service re-examined the 2014 FEIS and determined that the effects analysis and alternatives were sound but additional clarification was warranted in the form of an errata to the FEIS. The errata is found in Appendix K of the FEIS and serves to clarify interpretation of Forest Plan. A new draft Record of Decision has also been prepared. Based on review of the environmental analysis disclosed in the Lost Creek-Boulder Creek Landscape Restoration Project FEIS with errata, the project record, and consideration of public comments received on the draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), the Forest Supervisor has decided to implement Alternative B-modified, further referred to as the Selected Alternative. The Selected Alternative includes vegetation management activities, watershed restoration treatments, road management activities and recreation management activities. The flexibility found in the Forest Plan was used to incorporate the input from the collaborative work the Forest has done to design a project that will enhance forest stand variability to promote wildlife habitat diversity while moving toward the long term desired conditions for vegetation described in the Forest Plan.

The project is located on the New Meadows Ranger District of the Payette National Forest. The Responsible Official is Keith Lannom, Forest Supervisor for the Payette National Forest. The reissued FEIS with errata and new draft Record of Decision and other project information are posted on the following website: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=33830>. Hardcopies can be obtained by request from the New Meadows District Office at 208-347-0300.

The project webpage provides you tools to engage this process as you wish. From "Get Connected" on the right hand side of the page, click on "Subscribe to Email Updates" if you wish to receive electronic communication about this project. Use the "Comment/Object on Project" link to access a simple webform to submit your objections on this project. The "Public Comment/Objection Reading Room" are the published comments received on this project.

This project is subject to the objection process pursuant to 36 CFR 218 Subpart B. Objections will be accepted only from those who have previously submitted specific written comments regarding the proposed project either during scoping or other designated opportunity for public comment in accordance with § 218.5(a). Issues raised in objections must be based on previously submitted timely, specific, written comments regarding the proposed project unless based on new information arising after designated opportunities. Individual members of organizations must have submitted their own comments to meet the requirements of eligibility as an individual.



Objections received on behalf of an organization are considered as those of the organization only. If an objection is submitted on behalf of a number of individuals or organizations, each individual or organization listed must meet the eligibility requirement of having previously submitted comments on the project (§ 218.7). Names and addresses of objectors will become part of the public record.

Incorporation of documents by reference in the objection is permitted only as provided for at § 218.8(b). Minimum content requirements of an objection are identified in § 218.8(d) include: Objector's name and address with a telephone number if available; with signature or other verification of authorship supplied upon request; identification of the lead objector when multiple names are listed, along with verification upon request; name of project, name and title of the responsible official, national forest/ranger district where project is located, and sufficient narrative description of those aspects of the proposed project objected to, specific issues related to the project, how environmental law, regulation, or policy would be violated, and suggested remedies which would resolve the objection. The objection must include a statement demonstrating the connection between prior specific written comments on this project and the content of the objection, unless the objection issue arose after the designated opportunities for comment.

Written objections, including any attachments, must be submitted within 45 days following the publication date of the legal notice in the newspaper of record. It is the responsibility of Objectors to ensure their objection is received in a timely manner (§ 218.9). The publication date in the Idaho Statesman, newspaper of record, is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an objection to this project. Those wishing to object to this proposed project should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

The Reviewing Officer is the Regional Forester. Send objections to the project website using the link in the right corner to "comment/object to project" or send to Objection Reviewing Officer, Intermountain Region USFS, 324 25th Street, Ogden, Utah 84401; or fax to 801-625-5277; or by email to: [objections-intermtn-regional-office@fs.fed.us](mailto:objections-intermtn-regional-office@fs.fed.us).

We appreciate your interest in the Payette National Forest and this project. If you have any questions regarding this project or objection process, please contact New Meadows District Ranger Erin Phelps at 208-347-0301.

Sincerely,



KEITH B. LANNOM

Forest Supervisor