

Opportunity to Object
Kootenai National Forest
Libby Ranger District
East Reservoir Project

A final environmental impact statement (FEIS) and a draft Record of Decision (DROD) has been completed for the East Reservoir Project. The initial notice of opportunity to object was published by means of a legal ad in this paper, the Daily Inter Lake on March 21, 2014. However, due to incorrect information in the original advertisement, this subsequent legal ad starts the beginning of the new objection period for the East Reservoir Project.

Alternative 2 with Modifications is the preferred alternative. This alternative includes commercial timber harvest, precommercial thinning, natural fuel reduction, road improvements, road storage, construction of new permanent roads and temporary road construction. This alternative would require four Forest Plan amendments for exceeding visual quality objectives in management areas 12, 15 and 16; and exceeding movement corridor distances in management area 12.

The proposed project is an activity implementing a land management plan and not authorized under the HFRA; therefore it is subject to 36 CFR 218, Subparts A and B. The East Reservoir Project was originally scoped under the provisions of 36 CFR 215. For this project, individuals or organizations who submitted specific, written comments in response to scoping conducted under 36 CFR 215 or provided comments to the draft environmental impact statement will be considered to have standing to object under 36 CFR 218, Subparts A and B.

The opportunity to object on the FEIS/draft ROD ends 45 calendar days following the publication of this notice in the Daily Inter Lake (newspaper of record). The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an objection. Those wishing to object should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source. The regulations prohibit extending the time to file an objection.

Issues raised in objections must be based on previously submitted specific written comments regarding the proposed project or activity and attributed to the objector, unless the issue is based on new information that arose after the opportunities for comment (218.8(c)).

Objections submitted by individuals or organizations must meet the following requirements outlined in 36 CFR 218.8(d): At a minimum, an objection must include the following: (1)

LEGALS

Objector's name and address with a telephone number; (2) Identification of the lead objector; (3) The name of the proposed project, the name and title of the responsible official, and the name(s) of the national forest(s) and/or ranger district(s) on which the proposed project will be implemented; (4) A description of those aspects of the proposed project addressed by the objection, including specific issues related to the proposed project; if applicable, how the objector believes the environmental analysis or draft decision specifically violates law, regulation, or policy; suggested remedies that would resolve the objection; supporting reasons for the reviewing officer to consider; and (5) A statement that demonstrates the connection between prior specific written comments on the particular proposed project or activity and the content of the objection.

Copies of the FEIS and draft ROD will be mailed to people who have submitted comments either during the scoping period and to those who request a copy. Written comments should be sent to:

USDA Forest Service Northern Region
ATTN: Reviewing Officer, Faye Krueger
P. O. Box 7669
Missoula, Montana 59807-7669
FAX (406) 329-3411
Email:
appeals-northern-regional-office@fs.fed.us.

Objections received in response to this solicitation, including names, addresses, email addresses and phone numbers are a part of the public record and will be available for public inspection. Responses that do not adhere to the five listed requirements make review of an objection difficult and are conditions under which the reviewing officer may set aside an objection pursuant to 36 CFR 218.10. For more information, please contact Denise Beck at the Libby Ranger District, (406) 293-7773. The FEIS and draft ROD can be found at the Kootenai National Forest website at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/kootenai/landmanagement/projects>. Notice of document availability will be sent to those who submitted comments on the DEIS. Hard copies of these documents are available upon request.

Apr. 18, 2014
MNAXLP