



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Mt. Hood National Forest

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Date: September 21, 2009

This notice is to update you on the status of the Lake Branch Thinning on the Hood River Ranger District. The proposed action includes the thinning of plantations and the decommissioning, closing and repairing of roads. The legal notice for the 30-day comment period on the proposed action was published in the Oregonian on July 2, 2009. I have considered the comments received and an Environmental Assessment and a Decision Notice have been prepared. I have decided to implement the Proposed Action (Alternative B) which includes 2,163 acres of restoration thinning and decommissioning 7.37 miles of roads.

The Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice can be downloaded from the Forest web site at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood/> in the Projects & Plans section. The Responsible Official is Gary L. Larsen, Forest Supervisor.

This decision is subject to appeal pursuant to Forest Service regulations at 36 CFR 215. Any individual or organization that submitted comments during the comment period may appeal. Any appeal of this decision must be in writing and fully consistent with the content requirements described in 36 CFR 215.14. The Appeal Deciding Officer is the Regional Forester. An appeal should be addressed to the Regional Forester at any of the following addresses. Postal: Regional Forester, Appeal Deciding Officer, USDA Forest Service, 333 SW 1st Avenue, Portland, OR 97204; For hand delivery, office hours are 8-4:30 M-F; fax: 503-808-2255. Appeals can also be filed electronically at: appeals-pacificnorthwest-regional-office@fs.fed.us. Electronic appeals must be submitted as part of the actual e-mail message, or as an attachment in Microsoft Word (.doc), rich text format (.rtf), or portable document format (.pdf) only. E-mails submitted to email addresses other than the one listed above, or in formats other than those listed, or containing viruses, will be rejected. It is the responsibility of the appellant to confirm receipt of appeals submitted by electronic mail. The Appeal, including attachments, must be postmarked or received by the Appeal Deciding Officer within 45 days of the date legal notice of this decision was published in the Oregonian. The Appeal is due by November 5, 2009.

For further information regarding appeal procedures, contact the Forest Environmental Coordinator Mike Redmond at 503-668-1700.

