



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Mt. Hood National Forest

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File Code: 1950-1

Date: September 5, 2005

Interested Party:

This letter is to update you on the status of the Collawash Thinning Project on the Clackamas River Ranger District. The proposal involves thinning timber harvest. The legal notice for the 30-day comment period on the proposed action was published in the Oregonian on June 27, 2005. I have considered the substantive comments received and an Environmental Assessment has been prepared along with two Decision Notices. Decision Notice #1 covers the plantations and Decision Notice #2 covers the natural second-growth stands. I have decided to select Alternative B with modifications. Alternative B would thin 292 acres. I have received comments from the public expressing concern over the construction of the roads in units 9a, 9b and 10. While the roads would have been located on gentle terrain and would not have crossed any streams or unstable areas, I have decided to not build these roads at this time and to use helicopters where needed to access the timber instead. This modification is addressed in Decision Notice #2. The modified proposal would build 0.25 mile of temporary roads instead of the originally planned 0.8 mile. The Environmental Assessment and Decision Notices 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.

These decisions are subject to appeal pursuant to Forest Service regulations at 36 CFR 215. Any individual or organization that submitted substantive comments during the comment period may appeal. Any appeal of these decisions must be in writing and fully consistent with the content requirements described in 36 CFR 215.14. The Appeal Deciding Officer is Linda Goodman, Regional Forester. An appeal should be addressed to the Regional Forester at any of the following addresses. Postal: ATTN.: 1570 APPEALS, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208-3623; Street location for hand delivery: 333 SW 1st Ave, Portland, OR (office hours: 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 these decisions was published in the Oregonian. The Appeal is due by October 20, 2005.

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

Sincerely,

Gary L Larsen
GARY L. LARSEN
Forest Supervisor

