

File Code: 1900, 2400

Date: 03/15/2005

Dear Forest User,

The Toccoa Ranger District is proposing a forest health project which will require thinning 43 acres of an overstocked loblolly pine plantation in Stand 2 of Compartment 693 (see attached map). The pine plantation is located in the Weaver Creek area southwest of Blue Ridge. The thinning will increase the vigor of the remaining trees and reduce the chance of Southern Pine Beetle infestation. This project is expected to be implemented early this summer.

Existing roads are to be used in implementing this project. There will be no new road construction. I expect to issue a Decision Memo based upon category 31.2 # 12, which allows the thinning of up to 70 acres of trees for forest health purposes.

We are currently in the process of determining the significant environmental issues and public concerns. You can help us in completing our analysis by providing comments on this proposal. Your comments should be as specific as possible and contain the following information: your name and address, the project name (Southern Pine Beetle Prevention Project), and specific facts or comments along with the supporting reasons you believe your comments should be considered by the Deciding Official in reaching a decision. You may respond to the Toccoa District office at the address below:

U.S. Forest Service
Toccoa Ranger District
6050 Appalachian Highway
Blue Ridge, GA 30513

You may provide your comments by fax at (706) 632-5552 (Toccoa R.D.) or e-mail your comments to jshenderson@fs.fed.us.

If you have any questions about this project please direct them to Sheldon Henderson on the Brasstown District. To have your comments considered in our planning process we need to receive your reply by April 15, 2005.

Thank you for your time and interest in the management activities on the Toccoa Ranger District of the Chattahoochee National Forest.

Sincerely,

/s/ Tina Tilly

TINA TILLY
Toccoa Deputy District Ranger