



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Idaho Panhandle
National Forests

Coeur d'Alene River
Ranger District

Silver Valley Office
P.O. Box 159
Smelterville, ID 83868

Fernan Office
2502 East Sherman Avenue
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

File Code: 1950

Date: April 10, 2009

Hello,

Enclosed is your copy of the Short Riley Watershed Restoration Decision Notice (DN), identifying the Proposed Action as the Selected Alternative. For the convenience of our interested public and in an effort to conserve paper and reduce publication costs, documents related to this proposal are also available to the public on our Forest's internet web page: <http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/eco/manage/nepa>.

This decision authorizes the implementation of the project (T51N, R1E, sections 1, 5-9, 12-13, and 17-18, Boise Meridian) to decommission approximately 12-miles of brushed in closed roads and place approximately 2.5-miles of road in storage to be used at a future date for vegetative management. A reduction in sediment risk within Short and Riley Creek watersheds by removing 20-undersized and non-functioning culverts on the above mentioned road miles. Install habitat improvement structures in approximately 1-mile of the Short Creek watershed to improve low quality habitat and the removal and upgrade of a fish migration barrier on road #812.

There are no resource conditions present that have led to the finding of extraordinary circumstances that might cause the action to have significant effects nor were there any objectional comments identified during scoping. Consequently, this decision is not subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 215(4). The legal notice of this decision will post in the *Coeur d'Alene Press* (Coeur d'Alene, ID). After 30-days of the issuance of the decision notice, implementation of the decision may occur, but it is not anticipated that this project will be implemented until summer 2009.

I am the Responsible Official for this project. For more information regarding the project, please contact Project Team Leader Matthew Davis (208-769-3049) or District Aquatics Staff Officer Edward Linder (208-769-3030). Sincerely,

KIMBERLY JOHNSON
Deputy District Ranger

enclosure



Public Involvement

The April 10, 2006 issue of the **Forests' Quarterly Schedule of Proposed Actions** provided the first notice to the public that a watershed restoration proposal was being considered in the Short Riley Resource Area and that the proposal would be addressed in an Environmental Assessment as required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This project has been identified in each subsequent issue of the Quarterly Schedule to date (PF Doc. 02, 03, 04, 05, 06 and 07).

A **public scoping letter** was mailed to other agencies, adjacent landowners, and those who have indicated an interest in commenting on small scale management proposals. The letter described the purpose and need for management in the area and provided a detailed description of the proposed action along with general issues in the area. The scoping letter was mailed out on February 20, 2007.

On February 21, 2007, a **legal ad** was published in the *Coeur d'Alene Press* newspaper to inform the public of the formal scoping period for the proposed activities in the Short Riley Restoration Area, briefly describing the project and to request their input.

During scoping, letters were received from the following organizations and agencies:

Reid Ahlf (Stimson Lumber Company, February 23, 2007)

Jonathan Oppenheimer (Idaho Conservation League March 20, 2007)

Jeff Cook (Idaho Parks and Recreation, March 12, 2007)

Mike Mihelich (Kootenai Environmental Alliance March 8, 2008)

Also during scoping, information was gathered or discussed using telephone conversations and email correspondence, which is captured in Table 3 above

Gary Sylte (Adjacent Land owner, Guide.) Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Del Kerr (Adjacent Land Owner) Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Troy Sylte (Adjacent Land owner, Guide.) Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

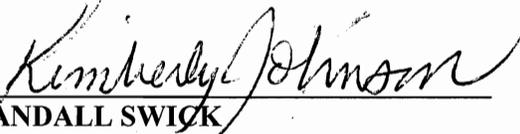
Fran Hughes (Farmer).

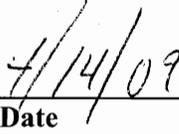
Implementation Date

This decision is not subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 215 (4), since no objectional comments were received during the 30 day scoping period that ended March 19, 2007. Implementation of this decision may occur immediately. This project is planned to begin until summer of 2009.

Contact Person

I am the Responsible Official for this decision. For more information regarding this project, please contact Project Team Leader Matthew Davis or Edward Lider at the Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District, Fernan Office, 2502 East Sherman Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814-5899, by telephone (208-664-2318), or by email (madavis01@fs.fed.us).


/s/ RANDALL SWICK
District Ranger


Date