



File Code: 1950 - NEPA

Date: December 5, 2008

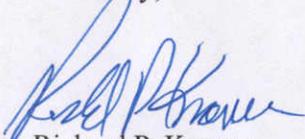
Dear Interested Party,

A decision was made to implement the Tumbledown Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project using a Categorical Exclusion #10 on May 7, 2007. This decision authorized fuel reduction treatments on approximately 700 acres of National Forest System lands. Due to recent litigation regarding Categorical Exclusion #10 authority, we have produced an Environmental Assessment (EA) to determine whether or not the activities proposed in the Tumbledown Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project would result in significant effects and thus warrant preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.

While the level of analysis and documentation associated with this project has increased, the proposed action has not changed. Modifications to the proposal resulting from previous public involvement and interdisciplinary team process remain incorporated. I have also included a Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (DFONSI) with the EA for your review. For the convenience of our interested public and in an effort to conserve paper and reduce publication costs, documents related to this proposal (including specialists' reports and appendices) are available upon request from the Sandpoint Ranger District or on the IPNF web page at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/eco/manage/nepa>

The legal notice should be published in the *Coeur D'Alene Press* newspaper on or around December 7, 2008. This will start a 30-day period in which you can review and provide comments on the EA and DFONSI. The subsequent decision document will consider all comments, and we will make changes to the EA if these comments warrant changing our analysis or consideration of other alternatives. In order to have standing to appeal the decision you must provide comments or express interest during the 30 day comment period. To ensure consideration of your comments, they must be postmarked or received by the 30th day of the comment period. Please address comments to A.J. Helgenberg, 1500 Highway 2 Suite 110, Sandpoint, ID 83864 or ajhelgenberg@fs.fed.us. Comments received, including names and addresses of those who comment will be considered part of the public record and will be available for public inspection. For further information on the proposal please contact A.J. Helgenberg at (208) 263-5111. **Your name will be removed from the mailing list for the project if we do not get a response from you in reply to this mailing.**

Sincerely,



Richard P. Kramer

District Ranger

