



File Code: 1950

Date: November 7, 2008

Dear Planning Participant:

You are receiving this letter because you have been identified as potentially owning land adjacent to the federal lands proposed for exchange or you are on a National Forest National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) mailing list.

The Clearwater National Forest is beginning the environmental analysis on the proposed Upper Lochsa Land Exchange. In the proposed land exchange the Forest Service would acquire approximately 39,371 acres of land from Western Pacific Timber, LLC located in the upper Lochsa River drainage. In exchange the Forest Service has identified approximately 28,212 acres of National Forest System land located on the Clearwater, Nez Perce and Idaho Panhandle National Forests.

More detailed information regarding the proposed land exchange is provided in the enclosed "Public Scoping Notice". The enclosed map identifies the federal and non-federal lands involved in the exchange. The gold boxes on the map identify additional detailed maps that can be viewed on the Clearwater National Forest website, along with additional exchange information, which can be found at:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/clearwater/Projects/Upper_Lochsa_LEX/Upper_Lochsa_LEX.htm.

We will be holding open house meetings to provide further information and gather public comments on the proposed exchange. The meetings will be held from 6 pm to 8 pm:

- On Monday, **November 17 in Elk River, Idaho** at the Andrew Bloom Community Center on the corner of 2nd Street and Main Street.
- On Tuesday, **November 18 in Moscow, Idaho** at the Job Service conference room, 1350 Troy Road, and
- On Wednesday, **November 19 in Elk City, Idaho** at the Elk City Ranger Station conference room.

Comments are invited on the proposed action, possible alternatives and issues that should be considered. The Forest Service is asking for public comment by **January 5, 2009**. Please address your comments to Tom Reilly, Forest Supervisor, Clearwater National Forest, c/o Teresa Trulock, Project Manager, 903 3rd Street, Kamiah, Idaho 83536. Comments may be submitted by telephone to Teresa Trulock at 208-935-4256. Electronic comments may be sent to comments-northern-clearwater@fs.fed.us. The subject line must contain the name of the project "Upper Lochsa Land Exchange". Acceptable formats are MS Word or RTF.



If you decide to comment on the Upper Lochsa Land Exchange proposal, please include the following: (1) your name, address, and organization represented, if any; (2) title of the project for which comments are being submitted; and (3) specific facts and supporting reasons for the Responsible Official to consider. Those who respond to this public scoping notice will be put on the project mailing list. Those who do not respond will not receive any further documentation on this project.

Should you have questions or need additional information, please contact Teresa Trulock, Project Manager, at 208-935-4256.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "for Les E. Dobson" with a stylized flourish at the end.

THOMAS K. REILLY
Forest Supervisor