



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Tally Lake
Ranger District

650 Wolfpack Way
Kalispell, MT 59901
(406) 758-5200
Fax (406) 758-5363

File Code: 1950-3-1

Date: May 15, 2008

Dear Citizen:

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed Sheppard Creek Post-Fire Project on the Tally Lake Ranger District is now available. We invite you to comment on this draft document by 11:59 PM on **July 1, 2008** to help us formulate a Final Environmental Impact Statement. We anticipate the FEIS and the Record of Decision will be completed later this summer.

To expedite the removal of merchantable wood products, the Responsible Official for this project may submit an emergency situation determination request. If this determination is made, certain timber salvage activities could commence immediately following approval of the Record of Decision.

Comments may be submitted in writing through the Postal Service or through electronic means. In accordance with 36 CFR 215.5, as published in the Federal Register, Volume 68 no. 107, June 4, 2003; in order to retain your administrative appeal rights, you must provide timely comments during this 45-day comment period. Comments must be specific to the proposed activities and area being analyzed. They should include: (1) name, address, telephone number, and organization represented, if any; (2) title of the document on which the comment is being submitted; (3) specific facts and supporting reasons for the Responsible Official to consider; and (4) signatures. Send or drop off written comments to project leader Bryan Donner at the above address. Business hours are 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

Electronic comments may be submitted to: comments-northern-flathead-tally-lake@fs.fed.us. The subject line must contain the name of the project for which you are submitting comments. Acceptable formats are PDF, MSWord, Word Perfect, or RTF. For electronically mailed comments, the sender should normally receive an automated electronic acknowledgement from the agency as confirmation of receipt. If the sender does not receive an automated acknowledgement of the receipt of comments, it is the sender's responsibility to ensure timely receipt by other means.

You may also contact Bryan if you have any questions regarding the DEIS or the NEPA process. Bryan can be reached at (406) 758-3508, bdonner@fs.fed.us, or at the above address.

The ranger district will host a field trip to the project area on Friday, June 13. Resource specialists will be available to explain the alternatives and discuss your questions about post-fire resource management. Please contact Bryan to sign-up.



Thank you for your interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Lisa A. Timchak". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lisa" being particularly prominent and stylized.

LISA A. TIMCHAK
District Ranger