



File Code: 1570-1 (215)
#07-01-00-0137
Date: June 11, 2007

Mike Mihelich
Forest Watch Coordinator
Kootenai Environmental Alliance
P.O. Box 1598
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816-1598

Dear Mr. Mihelich:

This is my decision on disposition of the appeal you filed, on behalf of the Kootenai Environmental Alliance, The Lands Council, the WildWest Institute, and the Friends of the Clearwater regarding the Hidden Cedar Project Record of Decision (ROD) on the Idaho Panhandle National Forests (St. Joe Ranger District).

My review of your appeal was conducted pursuant to, and in accordance with, 36 CFR 215.18 to ensure the analysis and decision are in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, policy, and orders. I have reviewed the appeal record, including your arguments, the information referenced in the Forest Supervisor's May 10, 2007, transmittal letter, and the Appeal Reviewing Officer's analysis and recommendation (copy enclosed). The transmittal letter provides the specific page references to discussions in the ROD and project file, which bear upon your objections. I specifically incorporate in this decision the appeal record, the references and citations contained in the transmittal letter, and the Appeal Reviewing Officer's analysis and recommendation.

The Appeal Reviewing Officer has considered your arguments, the appeal record, and the transmittal letter and recommends the Forest Supervisor's decision be affirmed and your requested relief be denied.

Based upon a review of the references and citations provided by the Forest Supervisor, I find the objections were adequately considered in the ROD. I agree with the Appeal Reviewing Officer's analysis and conclusions in regard to your appeal objections. I find the Forest Supervisor has made a reasoned decision and has complied with all laws, regulations, and policy.

After careful consideration of the above factors, I affirm the Forest Supervisor's decision to implement the Hidden Cedar project. Your requested relief is denied.



My decision constitutes the final administrative determination of the Department of Agriculture [36 CFR 215.18(c)].

Sincerely,

/s/ Kathy A. McAllister
KATHLEEN A MCALLISTER
Appeal Deciding Officer

Enclosure

cc:
Appeal Reviewing Officer
Responsible Official
Forest Coordinator