

Dear Interested Party:

Attached is a description of the proposed action for the Red Cliff Wildland Urban Interface Addition Vegetation Treatment on the Pinedale Ranger District. This letter serves two purposes. The first is to request your input regarding the scope of the analysis that we will conduct in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act. The second purpose is to provide you with a description of the proposed action so you may submit formal comments pursuant to the Notice, Comment, and Appeal Procedures at 36 CFR 215. Please provide your comments on this action as described below.

This project was first analyzed in the Moose Gypsum Environmental Impact Statement and its project record and then in the Red Cliff Wildland Urban Interface Vegetation Categorical Exclusion. Portions of the project have been successfully treated under the CE decision. The remaining untreated areas were not under contract when the court placed the injunction on using category 10. The necessity for a third environmental analysis is to notify the public of our intent to treat the remaining acres as well as document the analysis of effects for these treatments.

The Bridger-Teton National Forest has made a preliminary assessment that this action will be analyzed within an Environmental Assessment.

This comment period provides those interested in or affected by this project an opportunity to make their concerns known. Those who provide timely comments will be eligible to appeal the decision pursuant to 36 CFR part 215 regulations. A copy of this description of the proposed action is also available at www.fs.fed.us/r4/btnf/projects.

Additional information regarding this project can be obtained from Paul Hutta, Zone Fire Management Officer, Pinedale R.D., 307-367-5735.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Parts 215 or 217. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requester of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within 15 days.

Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, oral, and electronic comments will be accepted for 30 calendar days following publication of the legal notice of the opportunity to comment in the Casper Star-Tribune. The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive

means for calculating the comment period for this proposal. You should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source. Please address any form of comments as attention: Red Cliff WUI Addition Comments.

Comments must be submitted to the Responsible Official: Thomas Peters, Pinedale District Ranger, P.O. Box 220, 29 E. Fremont Lake Road, Pinedale, WY 82941, 307-367-4326, fax 307-367-5750.

The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Oral comments must be provided at the Responsible Official's office during normal business hours via telephone or in person. Electronic comments must be submitted in rich text format (.rtf), or Word (.doc) to comments-intermtn-bridger-teton-pinedale@fs.fed.us. Comments must meet the information requirements of 36 CFR 215.6. Only those who submit timely comments will be eligible to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR 215.