

NOTICE OF DECISION  
USDA Forest Service - Sam Houston National Forest  
Walker and San Jacinto Counties, Texas  
Boswell Creek Watershed Healthy Forests Initiative Project

On December 9, 2003, District Ranger Timothy R. Bigler signed a Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) approving the Boswell Creek Watershed Healthy Forest Initiative Project. This project provides for fuel reduction treatments and thinning on about 7,420 acres of upland pine forests within and adjacent to the Boswell Creek Watershed to reduce the future risk of large destructive wildfires, reduce the potential for damage to property and natural resources, improve firefighter and public safety, reduce southern pine beetle hazard, improve red-cockaded woodpecker habitat, and improve forest health. Copies of the Environmental Assessment (EA), Decision Notice, FONSI and Specialist Reports for the Boswell Creek Watershed Healthy Forests Initiative Project are available on our website at: [http://www.southernregion.fs.fed.us/texas/healthy\\_for\\_ini/index.shtml](http://www.southernregion.fs.fed.us/texas/healthy_for_ini/index.shtml), or at the Sam Houston Ranger District Office.

This decision is subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 215.11. Individuals or organizations that submitted substantive comments during the comment period may appeal. Appeals must meet content requirements of 36 CFR 215.14.

Written appeals, including attachments, shall be sent to: National Forests and Grasslands in Texas, ATTN: Appeals Deciding Officer, 701 North First Street; Lufkin, Texas, 75901, within 45 days of the date of this legal notice in the Conroe Courier. Appeals may be faxed to (936) 639-8588. Hand-delivered appeals must be received within normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., **Monday through Friday (exclusive of Federal Holidays)**. Appeals may be mailed electronically to [appeals-southern-texas@fs.fed.us](mailto:appeals-southern-texas@fs.fed.us). Email appeals must be submitted in Word (.doc), rich text (.rft) or plain text (.txt) formats with Subject: Boswell Creek Watershed Healthy Forests Initiative Project. The publication date of this legal notice is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an appeal. Those wishing to appeal should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

If no appeal is received, implementation of this decision may occur on, but not before, five business days from the close of the appeal filing period. If an appeal is received, implementation may not occur for 15 business days following the date of appeal disposition.

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