



File Code: 3400; 2400
Route To:

Date: MAY 01 2017

Subject: Farm Bill Insect and Disease Treatment Area Designation

To: Regional Forester, Intermountain Region

Thank you for your letter of January 6, 2017, requesting the designation of additional landscape-scale areas on the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest to address insect or disease threats under Section 602 of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6591a), as added by section 8204 of the Agricultural Act of 2014.

I have determined the areas that you requested to be designated under Section 602 meet the following criteria in Section 602:

- The area is experiencing decline of forest health based on annual forest health surveys;
- The area is at risk of substantial tree mortality over the next 15 years based on the National Insect and Disease Risk Map;
- The area is one in which hazard trees pose imminent risk to public infrastructure, health, or safety.

Based on this determination, I hereby designate 234 twelfth level watersheds (1,663,601 acres) requested, excluding Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas, as a landscape-scale insect and disease area under Section 602(d). A map showing the designated areas is enclosed. This letter of designation, the map showing the designated areas, as well as other documents pertaining to your request will be posted at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/farbill/>.

Designation under Section 602 will allow the Forest Service to further evaluate these landscape areas for potential treatments to reduce the risk or extent of, or increase resilience to, insect or disease infestation in accordance with Sections 602(d).

Again, thank you for your request to designate landscape areas that are experiencing declining forest health in your Region. If you have any questions about the designation, please contact Jeanne Higgins, Acting Associate Deputy Chief, at 202-205-0824 or by email at jmhiggins@fs.fed.us.


THOMAS L. TIDWELL
Chief

Enclosures

