



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Mt. Hood National Forest

Hood River Ranger District
6780 Highway 35
Mt. Hood-Parkdale, OR 97041
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File Code: 1950

Date: April 11, 2008

Dear Interested Party,

The Hood River Ranger District on the Mt. Hood National Forest has identified you as an individual, agency, or organization that might be interested in the planning process for DB Cooper Fuel Reduction Demonstration Project. The Decision Memo for this project is now complete. It is available on the Mt. Hood National Forest website, <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood/projects/>. If you do not have access to the internet, please notify Steve Jones at 541-687-5103, if you would like us to send you a compact disc or a hard copy of the document.

A need to reduce the hazardous fuel loading as well as overstocked trees on National Forest land was identified and considered by a collaborative working group composed of local landowners, special interest groups, residents, state and local firefighting agencies, along with the US Forest Service on lands in close proximity to private lands in the Cooper Spur area. Although a need for fuels reduction on National Forest System lands adjacent to private land exists on a much wider scale in this area, the collaborative group preferred to start with a demonstration project at a smaller scale. The project involves removing smaller diameter trees and reducing the overlap of overstory trees to 45 percent canopy cover; reducing ladder fuels to lower the probability of torching and crowning; and either piling and burning or mechanically treating fuels with methods such as slash busting or grinding. A second entry of pile burning would reduce the fuel loadings to approximately 10 tons per acre and reduce the fire hazard to a moderate/low category.

Administrative Appeal: This decision is subject to appeal pursuant to Forest Service regulations at 36 CFR 215. Any individual or organization that submitted substantive comments during the comment period may appeal. Any appeal of this decision must be in writing and fully consistent with the content requirements described in 36 CFR 215.14. The Appeal Deciding Officer is Gary Larsen, Forest Supervisor. An appeal should be addressed to the Forest Supervisor at any of the following addresses. Postal: ATTN.: 16400 Champion Way, Sandy, OR 97055-7248; Street location for hand delivery: 16400 Champion Way, Sandy, OR (office hours: 8-4:30 M-F); fax: 503-668-1423. Appeals can also be filed electronically at: appeals-pacificnorthwest-mthood@fs.fed.us. Electronic appeals must be submitted as part of the actual e-mail message, or as an attachment in Microsoft Word (.doc), rich text format (.rtf), or portable document format (.pdf) only. E-mails submitted to email addresses other than the one listed above, or in formats other than those listed or containing viruses, will be rejected. It is the responsibility of the appellant to confirm receipt of appeals submitted by electronic mail.

The appeal, including attachments, must be postmarked or received by the Appeal Deciding Officer within 45 days of the date legal notice of this decision was published in *The Oregonian*. For further information regarding these appeal procedures, contact the Forest Environmental Coordinator Mike Redmond at 503-668-1776.

Thank you for your continuing interest and participation in this process.

Sincerely,

/s/ DAINA L. BAMBE
DAINA L. BAMBE
District Ranger

