

§218.7

must submit comments independently in order to be eligible to file an objection in an individual capacity.

(c) When an objection lists multiple individuals or organizations, each individual or organization shall meet the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section. Individuals or organizations listed on an objection that do not meet eligibility requirements shall not be considered objectors. Objections from individuals or organizations that do not meet the requirements of paragraph (a) shall not be accepted. This shall be documented in the objection record.

(d) Federal agencies may not file objections.

(e) Federal employees who otherwise meet the requirements of this subpart for filing objections in a non-official capacity, shall comply with Federal conflict of interest statutes at 18 U.S.C. 202-209 and with employee ethics requirements at 5 CFR part 2635. Specifically, employees shall not be on official duty nor use Government property or equipment in the preparation or filing of an objection. Further, employees shall not incorporate information unavailable to the public, such as Federal agency documents that are exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552 (b)).

§218.7 Filing an objection.

(a) Objections must be filed with the Reviewing Officer in writing. All objections shall be open to public inspection during the objection process.

(b) It is the objector's responsibility to provide sufficient narrative description of those aspects of the proposed authorized hazardous fuel reduction project addressed by the objection, specific issues related to the proposed authorized hazardous fuel reduction project, and suggested remedies which would resolve the objection.

(c) Incorporation of documents by reference shall not be allowed.

(d) At a minimum, an objection must include the following:

(1) Objector's name and address (§218.2), with a telephone number, if available;

(2) Signature or other verification of authorship upon request (a scanned sig-

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nature for electronic mail may be filed with the objection);

(3) When multiple names are listed on an objection, identification of the lead objector (§218.2). Verification of the identity of the lead objector shall be provided upon request;

(4) The name of the proposed authorized hazardous fuel reduction project, the name and title of the Responsible Official, and the name(s) of the National Forest(s) and/or Ranger District(s) on which the proposed authorized hazardous fuel reduction project will be implemented.

§218.8 Objections set aside from review.

(a) The Reviewing Officer shall set aside and not review an objection when one or more of the following applies:

(1) Objections are not filed in a timely manner (§218.4(b)(2)(iv), §218.9(c)).

(2) The proposed project is not subject to the objection procedures of this subpart (§218.3).

(3) The individual or organization did not submit written comments during scoping or other opportunity for public comment (§218.6(a)).

(4) The objection does not provide sufficient information as required by §218.7(b) through (d) for the Reviewing Officer to review.

(5) The objector withdraws the objection.

(6) An objector's identity is not provided or cannot be determined from the signature (written or electronically scanned) and a reasonable means of contact is not provided (§218.7(c)(1)).

(7) The objection is illegible for any reason, including submissions in an electronic format different from that specified in the legal notice.

(b) The Reviewing Officer shall give written notice to the objector and the Responsible Official when an objection is set aside from review and shall state the reasons for not reviewing the objection. If the objection is set aside from review for reasons of illegibility or lack of a means of contact, the reasons shall be documented in the project record.