Forest Service Mt. Hood National Forest

Barlow Ranger District 780 NE Court Street Dufur, OR 97021 541-467-2291 FAX 541-467-2271

File Code: 1950

Date: 21 September 2007

Dear Interested Party,

The Barlow 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 to continue authorization of livestock grazing on the Badger Grazing Allotment. 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 team leader, Linda Cartwright at 541-467-5113, if you would like us to send you a compact disc or a hard copy of the document.

The current livestock management plan identifies 80 cow/calf pair under a five pasture deferred rotation grazing system from May 15th to September 30th each year. The allotment is approximately 20,340 acres. The proposed action is to maintain current management, which is meeting or satisfactorily moving existing management toward goals and objectives outlined in the Mt. Hood Land and Resource Management Plan.

As the Responsible Official, I have determined that the Badger Grazing Allotment is consistent with the 2005 Consolidated Appropriations Bill (Public Law 108-447), Section 339. I have concluded that this decision is appropriately categorically excluded from documentation in an environmental impact statement or environmental assessment for the following reasons: 1) the decision implements current livestock grazing management; 2) the management of the allotment is shown by monitoring to be meeting or satisfactorily moving towards the Mt. Hood Land and Resource Management Plan objectives; and 3) there are no extraordinary circumstances. My rationale is explained further in the Decision Memo.

This decision is not subject to administrative appeal under 36 CFR 215. The Badger Grazing Allotment permittee may appeal the Decision under 36 CFR 251. A Notice of Appeal must be consistent with 36 CFR 251.90 and filed simultaneously with the Gary L. Larsen, Forest Supervisor (Appeal Deciding Officer) and with Michael J. Hernandez, Barlow District Ranger within 45-days from the date of decision. Pursuant to 36 CFR 251, Subpart C, if no appeal is filed, implementation of this decision may occur on, but not before, 5 business days from the close of the appeal filing period. If an appeal is received, implementation may occur during the appeal period, unless the Reviewing Officer grants a stay (251.91).

Thank you for your continuing interest and participation in this process. For further information, please contact Linda Cartwright at the Barlow Ranger Station, 780 NE Court Street, Dufur OR 97021; Phone: 541-467-5113; Fax: 541-467-2271; or Email: lcartwright@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,

/s/ Michael J. Hernandez MICHAEL J. HERNANDEZ District Ranger



