



File Code: 1950-3

Date: March 2, 2009

Dear Interested Reviewer:

The Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Invasive Plant Treatment Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) is now available for public review and comment. During the 45-day comment period, you are invited to read and comment on the draft EIS in order to suggest changes, provide new information, offer other alternatives, or otherwise assist in completing the analysis for invasive plant treatment. Following review and analysis of the comments received, a final EIS will be issued with a Record of Decision summarizing the decision points.

The preferred alternative is Alternative B, the Proposed Action.

Notice of the availability of this draft EIS is being published in the Federal Register on March 6, 2009.

Comments on the project must be postmarked no later than 45 days after the date of publication of the notice of availability published in the Federal Register, and should be addressed to the Invasive Plants, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, 1550 Dewey Avenue, Baker City, Oregon, 97814. E-mail comments may be sent to the following address: comments-pacificnorthwest-wallowa-whitman@fs.fed.us. Those submitting hand-delivered comments may do so during regular office hours, 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays. Those submitting electronic copies must do so only to the e-mail address listed above, must put the project name in the subject line, and must either submit comments as part of the e-mail message or as an attachment only in one of the following three formats: Microsoft Word, rich text format (rtf) or Adobe Portable Document Format (pdf). E-mails submitted to e-mail addresses other than the one listed above or in other formats than those listed or containing viruses will be rejected. It is the responsibility of all individuals and organizations to ensure that their comments are received in a timely manner.

Only those who submit timely comments will be accepted as appellants. For appeal eligibility, each individual or representative from each organization submitting comments must either sign the comments or verify their identity upon request. All comments must be fully consistent with the requirements of the June 4, 2003 regulations at 36 CFR 215.6(3).



I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven A. Ellis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Steven" being more prominent than the last name "Ellis".

STEVEN A. ELLIS
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this draft environmental impact statement and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Part 215. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requester of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within 10 days.