

LEGAL NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT PERFECTO CREEK TIMBER SALE - FOREST PLAN AMENDMENT

The Forest Service is proposing to amend the Forest Plan (the Plan) for the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests (GMUG), to allow the full implementation of the proposed management alternative (Alternative 2) as analyzed in the Perfecto Creek Timber Sale EA. The affected area is located approximately 32 air miles south of Gunnison, Colorado. It is defined by Perfecto Creek on the north, the La Garitia Wilderness boundary on the west, Nutras Creek and the 1977 RARE II roadless area boundary on the southeast.

The Forest Plan which is to be amended was first published in 1983, and then significantly amended in 1991 and 1993. A significance determination for this proposed amendment has been completed and is available upon request. The proposed change to the Plan will not constitute a significant amendment.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT

The proposal is to amend the Forest Plan to allow habitat capability index levels (HABCAP model) to fall below Plan standards for the Three Toed Woodpecker and the Brown Creeper for Alternative 2 of the Perfecto Creek Timber Sale project. This change would only apply for this harvest entry of

LEGAL NOTICES 7999

the Perfecto Creek Timber Sale. A detailed scoping letter, and the Perfecto Creek Timber Sale EA can be found at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/gmug/policy/> under the Vegetation Management Activities section.

COMMENT PERIOD

The opportunity to comment for this scoping period will extend for 30 days after the publication of this legal notice in the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel.

This opportunity to comment will serve both as scoping, and as the 30 day comment period required in accordance with 36 CFR 215.3. Individuals or organizations wishing to be eligible to appeal must comment during this 30-day period and provide the following information: name and address, title of the proposed action, and specific comments on the proposed action, along with supporting reasons that the Responsible Official should consider in reaching a decision. For appeal eligibility, each individual or representative from each organization submitting comments must either sign the comments or verify their identity upon request.

CONTACT PERSON AND COMMENT ADDRESS

The Forest Supervisor, in Delta, Colorado, will be the responsible official for this amendment. Please provide written comments either by mail or personal delivery to:

USDA Forest Service, GMUG N.F.

Attn: "Perfecto Creek Timber Sale - Forest Plan Amendment"
2250 Highway 50

Delta, Colorado 81416

Office hours 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM (Monday through Friday)

Electronic comments may be submitted in, PDF, Microsoft Word or ASCII text format to metzenhouser@fs.fed.us; Facsimile comments should be sent to: (970) 874-6698.

For additional information concerning this proposal contact Robert Vermillion, 970-874-6600

o r v i s i t
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/gmug/policy/> (see the Vegetation Management Activities section).

Published: May 25, 2007.