



File Code: 1950

Date: 12 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 has shown interest in the planning process for the Billy Bob Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project. The Environmental Assessment (EA) 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 Jennie O'Connor at 541-352-6002 or project coordinator Scott MacDonald at 541-467-5110, if you would like us to send you a compact disc or a hard copy of the EA.

Camp Baldwin Boy Scout Camp, located within Mt. Hood National Forest, was identified in the Wasco County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) as a high risk area. Based on requests from Camp Baldwin and recommendations of the CWPP, the District initiated a collaborative group made up of individuals and agencies to identify specific projects within the planning area. After receiving the collaborative group's recommendations, District personnel began the process of developing a detailed fuels reduction proposal that would meet the objectives of the area and respond to the recommendations of the collaborative group. The Interdisciplinary Team has analyzed the proposed hazardous fuels reduction project under the authorities of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA).

The Responsible Official has determined that the Billy Bob Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project fits the following HFRA criteria: 1) it is within an urban-wildland interface, and 2) the treatments are proposed within Fire Regime Condition Classes 2 and 3. There are some special requirements and exemptions in an EA prepared under the HFRA that are different from traditional National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) procedures. These include limitations to the number of alternatives that are analyzed, and a predecisional administrative review (objection) process prior to the decision.

**Predecisional Review (Objection) Process:** Participation in the predecisional review (objection) process is limited to individuals and organizations who have submitted specific written comments related to the proposed authorized hazardous-fuel-reduction project during the opportunity for public comment provided when the EA was being prepared for this project (Section 105(a)(3), 36 CFR 218.6).

**How to file an objection:** Objections (including attachments), may be mailed, hand delivered, faxed, emailed, express delivered, or delivered by messenger to the Reviewing Officer at the address below. They must be received within *thirty days* following publication of the legal notice in *The Oregonian*. The legal notice will be published on approximately September 12, 2007. *Please be advised that it is the responsibility of objectors to ensure that their objection is received in a timely manner.*



Objections to this project must be filed with the Reviewing Officer at the following address:

REVIEWING OFFICER  
Linda Goodman, Regional Forester,  
USDA Forest Service, Region Six  
ATTN: 1570 Appeals/Objections  
P.O. Box 3623  
333 SW First Avenue  
Portland, OR 97208-3623  
Fax: 1-503-808-2255

Objections must comply with the requirements in 36 CFR 218.6 and 36 CFR 218.7.

Hand delivered objections must be presented to the above address between 7:45AM and 4:30PM Monday through Friday except legal holidays. Objections can be filed electronically at: [appeals-pacificnorthwest-regional-office@fs.fed.us](mailto:appeals-pacificnorthwest-regional-office@fs.fed.us). Electronic objections 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 objections submitted by electronic mail.***

**Timeline:** A Decision Notice will be issued on this authorized hazardous-fuel-reduction project after the reviewing officer has responded to all pending objections and a Biological Opinion has been received from the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Thank you for your continuing interest and participation in this process. For further information, please contact Jennie O'Connor at 541-352-6002 or [jmoconnor@fs.fed.us](mailto:jmoconnor@fs.fed.us) or Scott MacDonald at 541-467-5110 or [wmacdonald@fs.fed.us](mailto:wmacdonald@fs.fed.us).

Sincerely,

*/s/ Gary Larsen*  
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GARY LARSEN  
Forest Supervisor