



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Clackamas River  
Ranger District,  
Mt. Hood  
National Forest

595 NW Industrial Way  
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File Code: 1920

Date: December 19, 2007

Dear Interested Party:

The Clackamas River Ranger District is conducting an analysis of plantation thinning opportunities. The Rethin project is located in the Clackamas River watershed in T.4 S., R.5 E.; T.4 S., R.6 E.; T.5 S., R.7 E.; T.6 S., R.6 E.; T.6 S., R.7 E.; T.6 S., R.8 E.; T.7 S., R.6 E.; T.7 S., R.7 E.; Willamette Meridian.

The project involves the thinning of plantations that are between 47 and 73 years old. These stands have already been thinned once but they have grown to the point where thinning is again appropriate. In these stands, the first thinning was done to a uniform spacing and there is the opportunity to introduce variability in this second thinning. It will eventually be split into several timber sales or stewardship projects.

### **Purpose and Need for Action**

The purpose of this initiative is to thin second-growth plantations to achieve multiple objectives:

- Enhance late-successional reserves and riparian reserves
- Enhance diversity
- Increase health and growth that results in larger wind firm trees
- Provide forest products

### **Proposed Action**

The action proposed by the Forest Service to meet the purpose and need is to thin and harvest wood fiber from approximately 2080 acres of plantations. The plantations occur in various land allocations including matrix, late-successional reserves and the dry upland portion of riparian reserves. Variable density thinning would enhance or restore diversity. Late-successional reserves and riparian reserves would be thinned to accelerate the development of mature and late-successional stand conditions.

Further details and Maps are available on the Mt. Hood Forest web site at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood/> in the Projects & Plans section.



Questions or comments may be directed to:

Mail: Jim Roden  
Estacada Ranger Station  
595 NW Industrial Way  
Estacada, OR 97023

Email: jroden@fs.fed.us

Phone: 503.630.8722

I am requesting your comments concerning this project. If you have any site-specific knowledge or concerns about the proposed actions, please bring them to our attention. The more specific you are, the better we will be able to address issues important to you in our environmental analysis process. Please submit your responses by January 23, 2008.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

/s/ *Andrei Rykoff*

Andrei Rykoff  
District Ranger

Note: 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 proposed action and will be available for public inspection.