



White Butte Ranch LLC
c/o Papé Properties, Inc.
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G R O U P

December 9, 2019

VIA ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION AND EMAIL
STURNER@FS.FED.US

Slater Turner
Forest Service District Ranger, Ochoco National Forest
3160 NE 3rd Street
Prineville, OR 97754

RE: Objection on Final EIS for AMPs in
Bear Creek Cluster Area; Project #43759
Our File No.: 116581-203542

Dear Mr. Turner:

As you know, I previously wrote you on August 19, 2019 on behalf of White Butte Ranch LLC (White Butte Ranch) to submit comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for four allotment management plans (AMPs) in the Bear Creek Cluster area. White Butte Ranch is the current permittee for the Elkhorn Allotment within the Bear Creek Cluster Area. On October 24, 2019, you issued a Draft Record of Decision (ROD) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Bear Creek Cluster area, proposing to move forward with Alternative 2, the Preferred Alternative.

I now write to preserve our right to participate in any objection process regarding the ROD and FEIS. The ROD and FEIS are subject to the pre-decisional administrative review process pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 218. In order to be eligible to file an objection, an objector must have previously submitted specific written comments on the proposed project. 36 C.F.R. § 218.8. White Butte Ranch previously submitted comments on August 19, 2019.

As stated in our comments, White Butte Ranch supports the Forest Service moving forward with the Preferred Alternative. White Butte Ranch does not object to any provisions currently contained in the Preferred Alternative as put forth in the ROD and FEIS, however White Butte Ranch anticipates that others may. Accordingly, White Butte Ranch requests to receive notice of and be able to participate in any meetings held as part of the objection process as allowed under 36 C.F.R. § 218.11, and White Butte Ranch further objects and reserves the right to object further to any changes or alterations that the Forest Service considers in response to objections

received from other objectors. Any such changes or alterations would be considered “new information that arose after the opportunities for comment,” 36 C.F.R. § 218.8(c), and are thus objectionable by White Butte Ranch.

White Butte Ranch encourages the Forest Service to move forward with the ROD and FEIS as drafted and looks forward to continuing to partner with the Forest Service to steward public land while improving range ecology across the landscape.

Best,



Mike Pati
General Manager, Papé Properties, Inc.
On behalf of White Butte Ranch LLC

CC: Jacob Young, Forest Service
Tory Kurtz, Forest Service
Elizabeth Howard, Schwabe, Williamson and Wyatt
Thomas Griffin, Schwabe, Williamson and Wyatt
Gordon Tolton, White Butte Ranch LLC