

Forest Service Idaho Panhandle National Forests

**Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District** 2502 East Sherman Avenue Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

United States Department of Agriculture

File Code: 1950 Date: March 26, 2020

Dear Interested Party,

The Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District is seeking public comments on the Honey Badger Project. The 52,600-acre project area is located on Forest Service administered lands east of the Highway 95 corridor, through Kootenai County, from northeast of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho to just southeast of Bayview, Idaho on the Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District (T53N R2W, T52N R2W, T52N R3W, T51N R2W, T51N R3W, T50N R2W, T50N R3W, Boise Meridian).

Objectives of the Honey Badger Project are to establish and maintain resilient forest stand structure and species composition; reduce the potential for high-intensity wildfire while promoting desirable fire behavior; improve water quality and aquatic habitats, and provide sustainable recreational opportunities. Detailed information and maps regarding conditions in the project area and the proposed activities are available online at the project website: https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56220.

Public comments are very important in helping us determine a more informed course of action for the area, one that balances the public interests and multiple use objectives of the agency. Public input, in the form of substantive comments that are factual and solution based, are the most useful for us. Comments are considered substantive when they are within the scope of the proposal, are specific to the proposal, have a direct relationship to the proposal, and include supporting reasons for the responsible official to consider (36 CFR § 219.62).

Because our program of work requires scheduling and developing timelines for our projects, your input will be most useful in developing proposed action if received by April 30, 2020.

Electronic comments can be submitted on the project website provided above. In the "Get Connected" box on the right hand side, click "Comment on Project" to submit your comments. Electronic comments may be submitted in a format such as an e-mail message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or Word documents (.doc). If submitting electronic comments please put the project name in the subject line.

Written comments can be hand delivered or mailed to Honey Badger Project, Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District, 2502 East Sherman Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Comments may also be faxed to (208) 769-3062.

Any comments received, including names and addresses of those who comment are considered part of the public record for this project, available for public inspection, and released if requested under the Freedom of Information Act.

If you would like to receive future mailings about this project, please subscribe to electronic mailings under the "Get Involved" section on the Idaho Panhandle National Forests website: https://www.fs.usda.gov/ipnf.



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If you prefer to receive mailings by postal mail only, please contact us at (208) 664-2318, or by emailing the project leader, Kerry Arneson (kerry.arneson@usda.gov).

Sincerely,

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District Ranger

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