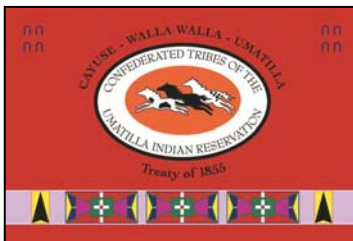


**Confederated Tribes *of the*
Umatilla Indian Reservation**

Department of Natural Resources
Administration



46411 Timíne Way
Pendleton, OR 97801

www.ctuir.org ericquaempts@ctuir.org
Phone 541-276-3165 Fax: 541-276-3095

September 28, 2020

USDA Forest Service
Objection Reviewing Officer
Northern Region
26 Fort Missoula Road
Missoula, MT 59804

Submitted electronically to:

<https://cara.ecosystera-management.org/Public//CommentInput?Project=50185>

Re: CTUIR Participation as Interested Person Concerning Custer Gallatin Forest Plan Revision #50185 Final Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Objection Reviewing Officer:

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), in accordance with 36 C.F.R. § 219.57(a), provides notification of its intent to participate as an "interested person" in resolution discussions with the objector(s), reviewing official, and other interested person(s) concerning the Custer-Gallatin 2020 Land Management Plan, draft Record of Decision, Summary and Final Environmental Impact Statement. The CTUIR provided comments and engaged in Government to Government consultation on this project in 2019 and 2020.

Contact information for this filing is:

1. Eric Quaempts, Director, Department of Natural Resources, CTUIR
2. 46411 Timíne Way, Pendleton Oregon, phone: (541) 276-3165, email: EricQuaempts@ctuir.org.
3. The CTUIR met with the Custer Gallatin NF regarding the Forest Plan revision on May 29, 2019, August 4, 2020 and provided substantive comments during the development process.

The CTUIR has reviewed the Land Management Plan, draft Record of Decision and documents related to the Final Environmental Impact Statement and requests to participate in the objection resolution discussion regarding the following issues:

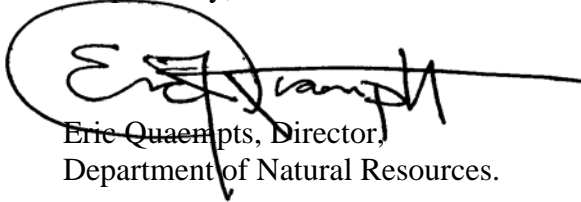
1. Land management plan direction and use of best available scientific information regarding pack goats and livestock grazing.
2. Land management plan direction and use of best available scientific information for wildlife including:
 - a. Bison habitat and management
 - b. Bighorn sheep disease transmission
 - c. Connectivity

CTUIR DNR Letter to Forest Service Objection Review Officer
Subject: Interested Person Status in Custer Gallatin Forest Plan Revision
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- d. Providing for diversity of all native species; recovery and conservation of federally identified species grizzly bear, lynx, and wolverine Identification of species of conservation concern

Please contact Joe Pitt, Tribal Attorney, CTUIR Office of Legal Counsel at 541-429-7404, JoePitt@ctuir.org and Carl Scheeler, DNR Wildlife Program Manager, 541-429-7242, CarlScheeler@ctuir.org regarding this request.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Quaempts", is written over a circular stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Eric Quaempts, Director,
Department of Natural Resources.