
File Code: 1570
Date: January 27, 2021

Dear Objectors:

This letter is in response to objections filed on the Black Ram Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Decision Notice released by Chad Benson, Forest Supervisor of the Kootenai National Forest. I have read your objections and reviewed the project record. My review of your objection was conducted in accordance with the administrative review procedures found at 36 CFR 218, Subparts A and B.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW PROCESS

The regulations at 36 CFR 218.8 provide for a pre-decisional administrative review process in which the objector provides sufficient narrative description of the project, specific issues related to the project, and suggested remedies that would resolve the objections. A resolution meeting was held on January 22, 2021, with several parties to the objection, and no issues were resolved.

RESPONSE TO OBJECTIONS

As specified at 36 CFR 218.11(b), I must provide a written response to your objections; however, this response need not be point by point. The review of your objection issues is included as an attachment to this letter and will be posted on the project website.

CONCLUSION

My review finds the project complies with all applicable laws and the Kootenai National Forest Plan (2015). The Forest Supervisor may sign the Decision Notice for this project as soon as he is in receipt of the Biological Opinion. My review constitutes the final administrative determination of the Department of Agriculture; no further review from any other Forest Service or Department of Agriculture official of my written response to your objection is available [36 CFR 218.11(b)(2)].

Sincerely,

KEITH LANNOM
Deputy Regional Forester

Enclosure

cc: Chad Benson, Janis Bouma, Lisa Osborn, Cody Hutchinson, Kim Smolt

