



**File Code:** 1570  
**Date:** May 10, 2021

Dear Mr. Partin:

This letter is in response to objections filed on the A-BLT Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Decision Notice released by David Wrobleski, District Ranger of the Plains/Thompson Falls Ranger District. 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. The regulations also allow for parties to meet to try to resolve issues. I met with you virtually on May 3, 2021 and really appreciate hearing from you about your concerns.

### 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 objection issues is included as an attachment to this letter and will be posted on the project website.

As a result of the objection review, I am instructing the responsible official to complete the following before signing the decision. More details regarding these instructions are included in the attached response document.

1. Clearly explain how the proposed action complies with the forest plan to support the FONSI's determination that it is compliant with NFMA.
2. Clarify the current and desired conditions, and short-term and long-term management strategies that support regeneration harvests exceeding 40 acres. Disclose the effects of the larger openings.

### CONCLUSION

Upon incorporation of these instructions the District Ranger may sign the Decision Notice for this project. 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,

CAROLYN P UPTON  
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure

cc: David Wrobleski, Cody Hutchinson, Patricia Partyka, Allen Byrd, Olga Troxel

