



File Code: 1570
Date: May 27, 2021

Dear Objector:

This letter is in response to objections filed on the Redd Bull Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Decision Notice released by Carolyn Upton, Forest Supervisor of the Lolo 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. The regulations also allow for parties to meet to try to resolve issues. I met with objectors virtually on April 30, 2021. Although we did not reach any resolutions, I appreciate the dialog and hearing directly from objectors.

RESPONSE TO OBJECTIONS

As specified at 36 CFR 218.11(b), this is my response to your issues raised in objection. 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 detail regarding these instructions are included in the attached response document.

1. In the final decision notice, address how the Redd Bull proposed action is in compliance with forest plan standards for Management Area 18.
2. Clarify how maintenance costs disclosed in the project record reflect a consideration of the long-term funding obligation for roads proposed for addition to the national forest transportation system.
3. Correct the response to comment statement that says the minimum road system was identified in the forest wide travel analysis. The information provided in the remainder of the response and the project record accurately describe how the travel analysis report provided recommendations for road management actions in the proposed action.



CONCLUSION

Upon incorporation of these instructions the Forest Supervisor 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,

KEITH LANNOM
Deputy Regional Forester

Enclosure

cc: Carolyn Upton, Carole Johnson, Cody Hutchinson, Patricia Partyka, Allen Byrd, Olga Troxel, Rita Bennett