



United States Forest Service
Department of Service
Agriculture

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National
Forest

420 Barrett Street
Dillon, MT 59725
406-683-3900

File Code: 1570
Date: July 26, 2021

Dear Objectors:

This letter is in response to your objections filed on the Pintler Face Environmental Assessment and draft Decision Notice released by Molly Ryan, Wisdom District Ranger. I have read your objection and reviewed the project record. My review of your objections was conducted in accordance with the administrative review procedures found at 36 CFR 218, Subparts A and B.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW PROCESS

The regulations provide for a pre-decisional administrative review process of issues raised by objectors and suggested remedies that would resolve the objections. I considered issues including National Environmental Policy Act compliance, climate change, range, invasive species, recreation, watershed and soils, and terrestrial wildlife including threatened and endangered species in my review.

OBJECTION RESOLUTION MEETING

I conducted a resolution meeting on July 22, 2021 that was attended by Sean Steinebach of Sun Mountain Lumber and Willy Peck of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge Working Group. Both attendees were largely supportive of the proposed action.

RESPONSE TO OBJECTIONS

As specified at 36 CFR 218.11(b), this letter is my response to your objections to the environmental assessment, draft decision notice and, project record. The responsible official provided adequate analysis of issues raised and provided acceptable documentation of compliance with applicable law, regulation, and policy.

CONCLUSION

The responsible official may sign the decision notice for this project after receiving concurrence from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. My review constitutes the final administrative determination of the United States Department of Agriculture; no further review from any other Forest Service or United States Department of Agriculture official of my written response to your objection is available [36 CFR 218.11(b)(2)].

Sincerely,

CHERI A. FORD
Forest Supervisor

cc: Elizabeth Herrmann, Molly Ryan, Pam Fletcher, Alex Dunn, Cody Hutchinson, Olga Troxel



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