



September 19, 2023

Dear Objector:

This letter is in response to objections filed on the Selway-Saginaw Vegetation Management Project Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Decision Notice released by the responsible officials on the Wisdom and Dillon Ranger Districts. 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.

I considered issues related to the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Forest Management Act, climate change, vegetation management, roads, and wildlife in my review.

OBJECTION RESOLUTION MEETING

I hosted an objection resolution meeting on Thursday, September 7, 2023, to permit objectors to discuss the issues they raised in objection and propose potential remedies. The meeting was attended by the following objectors:

- Tom Partin, American Forest Resource Council
- Sean Steinebach, Sun Mountain Lumber

Ranger Kristen Thompson, Ranger Brian Thompson, and I appreciated the time and engagement from those who were able to attend.

RESPONSE TO OBJECTIONS AS REQUIRED BY 36 CFR 218.11(b)

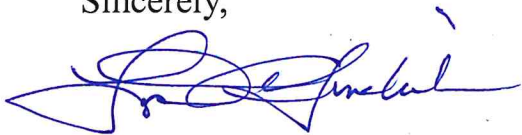
After my review of the EA, draft Decision Notice, and project record, I find the responsible official provided an adequate analysis of issues raised and provided acceptable documentation showing compliance with applicable law, regulation,

and policy. Even so, your objections identified some areas within the project record, EA, or draft Decision Notice that could be clarified or updated with clear connections and references to existing data and completed analyses. I have asked the responsible officials to ensure that those clarifications and updates are made prior to finalizing and signing the decision notice for this project.

CONCLUSION

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,



Lisa Timchak
Forest Supervisor

cc: Brian Thompson, Kristen Thompson, Allison Landro, Carly Gibson,
Kristopher Cahoon, Katherine Cueno