

From: sherylschultz@yahoo.com
To: [Shuler, Tanner - FS, WY](#)
Subject: [External Email]Re: PUBLIC NOTICE: GREEN UNION PROJECT
Date: Thursday, October 12, 2023 9:39:26 AM
Attachments: [20231005 Green Union Scoping Letter signed.pdf](#)

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[External Email]

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Hello Tanner,

Have the local indigenous people been included in this process of decisionmaking?

Sincerely,

Sheryl Schultz

On Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 11:31:58 AM EDT, USDA Forest Service <forestservice@public.govdelivery.com> wrote:

PUBLIC NOTICE

GREEN UNION PROJECT USDA Forest Service, Shoshone National Forest Wind River Ranger District Fremont, Sublette, and Teton Counties, Wyoming

Dear Interested Party:

You are receiving this letter to inform you that the Wind River Ranger District is in the early stages of planning the Green Union project. The Shoshone National Forest is proposing to conduct vegetation management activities in the western portion of the Wind River Ranger District to increase the resistance of forest landscapes and communities to wildfire, decrease the impacts of wildfires within the wildland urban interface, and provide an opportunity for an effective and safe response to wildfires should they occur.

Over the past 20 years, forested lands in the upper Wind River valley in northwest Wyoming have been significantly impacted by insects and diseases. Mountain pine beetles and spruce beetles have been the most destructive. This has created significant fuel loading and high fire risk to the community of Dubois. The Green Union Project would be implemented to 1) reduce the accumulation of hazardous fuels and decrease the potential for crown fire within the wildland urban interface, 2) increase the amount of forested areas restored to or maintained in a condition that is less susceptible to damage from insects and diseases, and 3) treat forested lands to maintain or restore appropriate forest cover, degree of stocking, and rates of growth. Secondary goals of the project include maintaining or improving wildlife habitat; protecting, maintaining, and restoring whitebark pine; improving or restoring watershed condition and function; and providing forest products that help maintain or create processing capacity and infrastructure in local communities.

The proposed action includes approximately 9,683 acres (see project map) of manual and mechanical vegetation thinning as well as the application of prescribed fire. In addition to the vegetative treatments, this project would improve or restore watershed condition and function by installing beaver dam analogues where appropriate, decommission and

rehabilitate unauthorized user created routes, and improve stream crossing functionality on existing roads and trails.

The Green Union project has been approved as an authorized emergency action under Section 40807 of the 2022 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (also known as the Bipartisan infrastructure Law). Section 40807 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to determine that an emergency exists where implementation of emergency actions is necessary to achieve reliefs from hazards threatening human health and safety or mitigation of threats to natural resources on National Forest System land or adjacent land. Based on the risks outlined in the Forest Service's January 2022 Wildfire Crisis Strategy, Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack determined that an emergency exists on 250 high-risk firesheds in the western United States. This project falls within these designated firesheds. The Dunoir Fireshed, to be specific.

Projects authorized under this emergency authority adhere to specific requirements and follow several processes as compared to non-emergency Forest Service projects. Specifically, projects authorized under this emergency authority are not subject to the pre-decisional objection process under part 218 of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations. If it is determined that the authorized emergency action requires an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement, those documents are only required to include a proposed agency action and a no action alternative and public notice shall be provided for each authorized emergency action that is determined to require an environmental assessment or environmental impact. The public will be provided an opportunity to comment during the preparation of the environmental assessment or environmental impact statement; however, the duration and format of the public comment period is not prescribed. The Responsible Official anticipates having an official public comment period in addition to this scoping period.

The purpose and need, proposed action, and map of the project area are available on the project website (<https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=64775>) for your review. If you have information you feel the Forest Service may not be aware of, or you feel you have issues regarding potential effects of the proposed action, please submit those comments using the CARA website: <https://cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public/CommentInput?Project=64775>. Alternatively, if you choose to submit comments orally or in writing (phone, letter, FAX, or e-mail), please do so by November 9, 2023. Please indicate in your response that your comments are in reference to the proposed **Green Union Project**. Comments should be addressed to Tanner Shuler, Silviculturist, in one of the following ways:

By Mail – Wind River Ranger District, 1403 West Ramshorn, PO Box 186, Dubois, WY 82513-0186 ATTN: Green Union Project/ Tanner Shuler

By FAX – (307) 455-3866 ATTN: Green Union Project/Tanner Shuler

By Phone – (307) 335-2169

By Email – tanner.shuler@usda.gov

Please note that comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for this project and will be available for public inspection.

If you are interested in having your name placed on the project mailing list to receive future information and documents, I ask that you contact the Dubois office to let us know.

Thank you for your interest in helping us to manage the Shoshone National Forest.

- [20231005_Green Union_Scoping Letter_signed.pdf](#)

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United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Wind River
Ranger
District

1403 West Ramshorn
PO Box 186
Dubois, WY 82513-0186
Voice: 307-455-2466
Fax: 307-455-3866

File Code: 1950

Date: October 5, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

GREEN UNION PROJECT

**USDA Forest Service, Shoshone National Forest
Wind River Ranger District
Fremont, Sublette, and Teton Counties, Wyoming**

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information and documents, I ask that you contact the Dubois office to let us know.

Thank you for your interest in helping us to manage the Shoshone National Forest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Casey McQuiston". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Casey McQuiston

Acting Forest Supervisor