



Intermountain Forest Association

886 S. Charlo Drive Pueblo West, CO 81007

928-521-9476

August 4, 2021

Objection Review Officer
Forest Supervisor Kara Chadwick
San Juan National Forest
ATTN: 1570 Objections
15 Burnett Court
Durango, CO 81301

SUBMITTED VIA ONLINE:

http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=57671

SUBJECT: Salter Vegetation Management Project

Dear Ms. Chadwick:

Intermountain Forest Association (IFA) is a member-based organization that advocates for healthy forests and healthy communities, including actively promoting sound forest management that provides a stable and sustainable supply of timber from public and private forestlands. Given that several of IFA's members heavily rely on timber output from the San Juan National Forest, we are very supportive of the Salter Vegetation Management Project on the Dolores District. Recognizing the importance of being involved with the process, IFA submitted comments on the scoping and Draft Environmental Analysis. Therefore, having standing as outlined in 36 CFR Part 218, subparts A and B, we submit the following objections to the Draft Record of Decision and the final Environmental Assessment:

Environmental Assessment

Project Design Features

- Fuels
 - #6 - We object to this feature as written as we feel it is too restrictive and will be economically infeasible to implement. We request an average depth of 2 feet for lop and scatter.

- Rare Plants and Invasive Species
 - #6 - We object to this feature as written as it is not clear how it will be implemented on the ground or how it will affect sales once they have been sold. We request additional clarification be discussed and potentially added to ensure this design feature is feasible on the ground.
- Recreation and Public Safety
 - #3 – we object to this feature as written and request language be added that details, if needed, this will be responsibility of the Forest Service.
 - #6 – we object to this feature as written and request additional language be added that details, if needed, this will be the responsibility of the Forest Service.
- Scenery
 - #5 – we object to this feature as written and request language be added that states seeding will only be required “if needed.”
- Transportation
 - #7 – we object to this feature as written and request language be added that details, if needed, this will be the responsibility of the Forest Service.

Draft Decision Notice

We fully support the decision to implement Alternative 2 with modifications (modified proposed action). We feel it is critical to be able to utilize the full silviculture system designated by the Land and Resource Management Plan to achieve the objectives of the project. We do not support a diameter cap or having areas exempted from treatment as case studies (similar to the Lone Pine project).

We forward to working with you to resolve the issues discussed above as you move forward with the Salter Vegetation Management Project.

Sincerely,

Molly Pitts

Molly Pitts
Intermountain Forest Association
Colorado Programs Manger