

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/29/2016 6:00:00 AM
First name: Joshua
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: From: Switzer, Joshua M -FS
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2016 10:50 AM
To: Thomas, Julie A -FS <jathomas@fs.fed.us>
Subject: RE: Comments sought for EIS - News Release

Hi Julie,

I feel that we need to educate with the terminology when it comes to these outreaches as well. I believe we need to start using the terms exotic or native invasive. For example, lodgepole pine is very invasive, however, we are not going to do any of these measures to that species, because it is native. We are only looking to eradicate exotic invasives, as I can presume from my back-breaking work with the US Forest Service.

Josh

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Caring for the land and serving people

From: Thomas, Julie A -FS
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2016 8:24 AM
To: news@mtexpress.com; newstips@kmtv.com; news@minicassiovoice.com; news@kboi2.com; news@postregister.com; bnickel@co.blaine.id.us; info@challismessenger.com; kbossick@cox-internet.com; kbsxnewsroom@boisestate.edu; pete@getoutdoorsnorthwest.com; outdoors@idahostatesman.com; outdoors@idahopress.com; ktvbnews@ktvb.com; apboise@ap.org; topstory@gapbroadcasting.com; 'mike.demick@idfg.idaho.gov' <mike.demick@idfg.idaho.gov>; 'mike.keckler@idfg.idaho.gov' <mike.keckler@idfg.idaho.gov>; michaelwells645@gmail.com; 'cwilcox@blm.gov' <cwilcox@blm.gov>; 'camascourier@gmx.com' <camascourier@gmx.com>; Terry Lee (camascreek1@rtci.net) <camascreek1@rtci.net>; cgeraci@hjnews.com; pressrelease@journalnet.com; Baumer, Amy E -FS <abaumer@fs.fed.us>
Cc: FS-pdl r4 sawtooth <pdl_r4_sawtooth@ms.fs.fed.us>
Subject: Comments sought for EIS - News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Julie Thomas, Public Affairs Officer

DATE: September 29, 2016 PHONE: 208-737-3262

SAWTOOTH AND BOISE NATIONAL FOREST - 45 DAY COMMENT PERIOD ON DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR TREATMENT OF INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES

TWIN FALLS, ID - The Boise National Forest and Sawtooth National Forest (Forests) are seeking public comment on the Sawtooth and Boise National Forests Invasive Species Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The proposal is to implement treatment of invasive plants on current and potential invasive plant infested areas. Management activities would include control methods, implementation and effectiveness monitoring, and rehabilitation. Activities would be implemented with partners at the federal, state, and local levels where opportunities exist.

Proposed control methods would be based on integrated pest management principles and methods known to be effective for each target species. Control methods include biological control, such as pathogens and insects; chemical control using herbicides that target invasive plant species; and manual and mechanical techniques, such as cutting and pulling. Control methods would be employed alone or in combination to achieve the most effective control. Treatment methods would be based on the extent, location, type, and character of an infestation and would use design criteria to minimize impacts to non-target species and ensure safe implementation. A maximum of 20,000 acres would be proposed for routine treatment annually; 2,000 acres each for biocontrol and manual/mechanical treatment and 16,000 for chemical treatment.

Five alternatives were considered. The No Action alternative describes the consequences of no invasive plant treatments. Four action alternatives include the Current Management Alternative which identifies the use of biological controls; ground-based herbicide treatment; and mechanical/manual treatment methods; the Proposed Action (which is also the Preferred Alternative), which would utilize biological controls; aerial, aquatic, and ground-based herbicide treatment; and mechanical/manual treatment methods; the No Aerial Herbicide Application Alternative; and the No Aquatic Herbicide Application Alternative.

The Draft EIS is available for review at the Sawtooth Forest Supervisor's Office in Twin Falls, Idaho, the Boise Forest Supervisor's Office in Boise, Idaho, and on the project webpage at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=47151>. Additional information can be obtained from Carol Brown, Project Leader, at (208) 622-5371.

The proposed project is subject to 36 CFR 218, Subparts A and B. Only individuals or organizations who submit timely and specific written comments (as defined in 36 CFR 218.2) regarding the proposed project during a public comment period established by the responsible official are eligible to file an objection. Opportunity for public comment on a draft EIS includes request for comments during scoping, the 40 CFR 1506.10 comment period, or other public involvement opportunities where written comments are requested by the responsible official (36 CFR 218.5(a)). Please note that comments received will be available for public inspection at <https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/ReadingRoom?Project=47151>.

How to Comment and Timeframe: The Environmental Protection Agency will publish a Notice of Availability (NOA) for the DEIS in the Federal Register on September 30, 2016. Written, facsimile, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted for 45 days following that date. The publication date of the NOA in the Federal Register is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for the proposed action documented in a DEIS. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by another source.

Written comments must be submitted to: Sawtooth National Forest, Attn: Invasive Plants Project; 2647 Kimberly Road East, Twin Falls, ID 83301 (postal) or (208) 737-3236 (facsimile). For those submitting hand-delivered

comments, business hours for the Sawtooth National Forest Supervisor's Office are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Electronic comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), and Word (.doc or .docx) to comments-intermtn-sawtooth@fs.fed.us. Please type "Invasive Plant Treatment" in the subject line for email messages and facsimiles. Additionally for facsimiles, include your mailing address and phone number.

Provide a signature or other verification of identity upon request and identification of the individual or entity that authored the comments. For comments listing multiple entities or individuals, a signature or other means of verification must be provided for the individual authorized to represent each entity and for each individual, in the case of multiple names. A scanned signature or other means of verifying the identity of the individual or entity representative may be used for electronically submitted comments.

Comments submitted by individuals or organizations must have the evidence of timely submission as defined by 36 CFR 218.25(a)(4), and meet the following requirements outlined in 36 CFR 218.25(a)(3): name and postal address (email address recommended, but not required); title of the proposed project or activity; and specific written comments as defined in 36 CFR 218.2 regarding the proposed project of activity, along with supporting reasons.

Individual members of an entity must submit their own comments to establish personal eligibility; comments received on behalf of an entity are considered as those of the entity only.

Please provide your comments as early as possible to help facilitate finalization of the Final EIS.

Julie Thomas
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