

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/1/2024 8:00:00 AM
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Organization: Board of Idaho County Commissioners
Title: Chairman
Comments: SKIP BRANDT, FIRST DISTRICT

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BOARD OF IDAH COUNTY COMMISSI NERS

February 27, 2024

Cheryl Probert, Supervisor

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest

903 3rd Street

Kamiah, ID 83536

RE: Dixie-Comstock Community Protection Project

Dear Cheryl;

Idaho County has reviewed the Draft Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact dated February 1,2024. We are quite supportive of the purpose of the project to reduce hazardous fuels as shown in

Alt. B near the community of Dixie, Idaho and the adjacent Comstock Area.

Idaho County has participated in the CBC and concurs that the following be considered in the finalization of this project.

1. We appreciate the strategy to keep the project streamlined in order to move forward expeditiously.

a. It appears that unburned areas exist in the Comstock area and east of Road #222 that may benefit the communities through fuels treatment. Idaho County would support additional treatments in these areas.

b. We are concerned about existing burned areas within the CPZ that will add fuels for potential reburn as dead trees fall. We would request that this project include treatments in burned areas within the CPZ to reduce these fuels and further satisfy the purpose of the project.

2. Road #222 is an important ingress/egress route for the entire area. Fire mitigation work must keep the road surface intact and drainages free of debris as project work progresses.

3. We understand that the Forest Plan requirements for old growth cannot be met with implementation of this project due to existing vegetation conditions in the area. Idaho County supports an exemption to the old growth Plan in order to move forward with this project.

We strongly support this project. Please keep us informed as it moves forward and let us know if our assistance is needed.

Sincerely,

R. Skipper Brandt, Chairman

Ted Lindsley

Denis B. Duman