DECISION MEMO
for the
K and N Salvage Project
St. Joe Ranger District
Idaho Panhandle National Forests
Northern Region
USDA Forest Service
June 2010

DECISION
I have decided to salvage burned timber and plant seedlings on approximately eight acres that were burned in October 2009 in the Nugget Creek Fire. The fire burned approximately 200 acres of National Forest System lands and 1,300 acres of private land. The proposed salvage is located in the Nugget Creek drainage which is tributary to the Periwinkle Creek drainage (T. 44 N., R. 7 E., section 4). See attached maps.

Dead trees and burned trees with more than 50 percent of the bole circumference scorched will be removed. Some trees with less than 50 percent bole scorch will be removed near the top of the unit to facilitate logging of other trees. The area will be logged with a skyline yarding system using existing roads. No new roads will be constructed.

All tree tops will be left on site to provide microsites for planting, to provide soil nutrient recycling, and to help prevent erosion. Landing slash will be piled and burned. Following harvest activities western larch and western white pine will be planted.

Design Features
1. Water and Soils
   a. Tops will be left on site for nutrient recycling.
   b. Coarse woody debris will be moved into corridors that have bare mineral soil after yarding operations are complete to protect soil stability.
   c. The following standard best management practices (BMPs) will be implemented.
      Watershed Management:
      11.07 Oil and Hazardous Substance Spill Contingency Planning
      11.11 Petroleum Storage and Delivery Facilities and Management
      Vegetation Manipulation:
      13.04 Revegetation of Surface Disturbed Areas
      Timber:
      14.09 Suspended Log Yarding in Timber Harvesting (Lead End Suspension)
      14.10 Log Landing Location and Design
      14.11 Log Landing Erosion Prevention and Control
      14.12 Erosion Prevention and Control Measures During Timber Sale Operations
      14.14 Revegetation of Areas Disturbed by Harvest Activities
      14.19 Acceptance of Timber Sale Erosion Control Measures Before Sale Closure
      Roads:
      15.21 Maintenance of Roads
2. TES Plants

If Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive (TES) plant species are discovered during project implementation, an agency Botanist will be notified so that measures could be taken to maintain population viability. Measures to protect population viability and habitat for all known and newly discovered occurrences would include altering or dropping proposed units from activity, modifying the proposed activity, or implementing buffers around plant occurrences.

3. Weeds

The following preventative measures will be taken to reduce the risk of noxious weed introduction and spread in accordance with the St. Joe Weed Control EIS (ROD 10/12/99).

a. After implementation, project areas will be reviewed for new populations of noxious weeds. If new populations are found more intensive surveys would be conducted, sites would be mapped, and treatment would be scheduled.

b. If new populations of noxious weeds are found, treatment would be implemented in accordance with priorities set by the noxious weed program. New invader species will be slated for eradication immediately upon discovery. Other weed infestations will be treated according to the St. Joe Noxious Weed Project EIS and district priorities.

c. All weed treatments will be monitored for effectiveness.

4. Wildlife

a. If TES species and/or important habitat components are discovered before or during project implementation the sale administrator and the district wildlife biologist would be notified so that, if needed, measures could be taken to avoid impacts and meet forest plan standards. Measures could include altering or dropping proposed units, modifying the proposed activity, or implementing buffers.

b. Depending on operational activities, the gate on Road 1478 will either be closed at the passage of each vehicle or at the end of each day; but either way, it will be locked at the end of each day.

5. Air Quality

A. Burning activities will follow procedures outlined by the North Idaho Smoke Management Memorandum of Agreement.

i. Burning by the Forest Service is regulated to prohibit or restrict burning where stagnant weather conditions result in poor smoke dispersion and by conducting prescribed burns when ventilation and air quality conditions are good.

ii. Burning is regulated by the Idaho State Department of Environmental Quality, which issues burning closures when necessary to protect air quality. The Forest Service cooperates with the State by requesting approval to burn through the Montana/Idaho Airshed Management System in compliance with the Idaho State Implementation Plan.

iii. Particulate matter projections will be sent to the North Idaho Smoke Management Group one day prior to ignition.

B. Measures used to reduce effects of prescribed burning on air quality will include:

i. Scheduling ignitions when air quality is least likely to be threatened.

ii. Slash piles will be constructed as clean as practical and will be burned as dry as practical to enhance efficient combustion.
PURPOSE AND NEED FOR PROJECT

The purpose of the project is to recover some economic value of the burned timber, contribute to local employment, and to improve the area by getting it on a trajectory for the long-term growth and production of commercially valuable wood products.

The need for this action is based on the following Forest Plan direction:

- Forest Plan Timber Objective: Management activities will promote programs that provide a sustained yield of forest products (Forest Plan p. II-8).
- Forest Plan Community Stability Objective: Management activities will continue to contribute to local employment, income, and lifestyles (Forest Plan p. II-11).

The K and N Salvage Project falls within Management Area (MA) 1. MA 1 consists of lands designated for timber production. Applicable management goals for the area include managing those lands suitable for timber production for the long-term growth and production of commercially valuable wood products and:

- Providing cost effective timber production
- Projecting soil productivity
- Meeting or exceeding state water quality standards
- Meeting visual quality objectives

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

On February 12, 2010 I sent a letter and maps (PI-2) to the public (PI-3, PI-4) describing the K and N Salvage Project. The notice of proposed action described the proposed action, the purpose and need for action, forest plan direction, and the comment process. That information was posted on the IPNF website on February 12, 2010 (PI-5). The legal notice of the proposed action and 30-day comment period was published in the newspaper of record, The Coeur d'Alene Press, on February 17, 2010 (PI-6). The K and N Salvage project was first listed on the IPNF’s Quarterly Schedule of Proposed Actions in April 2010 (PI-7). Acting District Ranger Kimberly Johnson met with representatives of the Coeur d’Alene Tribe on June 2, 2010 (PI-11) and discussed the project. They had no concerns about it.

Benewah County Commissioners, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Conservation League, and The Lands Council (on behalf of The Lands Council, Alliance for the Wild Rockies, and Friends of the Clearwater) commented during the 30-day comment period. Their comments are summarized below followed by my response to those comments.

Benewah County Commissioners: Benewah County is supportive of the project, and the commissioners state the project would be beneficial to Benewah County citizens.

Idaho Fish and Game: Idaho Fish and Game has no objection to the projects as long as Inland Native Fish Strategy standards and guidelines and other BMPs are followed. The project complies with the Inland Native Fish Strategy, and BMPs will be implemented.

The Lands Council (on behalf of The Lands Council, Alliance for the Wild Rockies, and Friends of the Clearwater): The Lands Council asked me to explain the conditions that allowed the fire to burn where there is previous logging and natural fuel breaks. The Forest Service does not claim that fuel breaks will always prevent fires from spreading. This fire started on private land over a mile south of the proposed salvage area. It was fanned by down-canyon winds on a dry, hot, windy day. The Lands Council asked for a post-burn image of the area. We do not have an aerial image taken since the fire burned, but Figure 1 shows the proposed salvage area (red trees); the natural, open, burned area below the proposed salvage (gray ash on the ground); and the previously logged area on private land to the west.

The Lands Council asks that the Forest Service incorporate ecological sustainability as its guiding principle. The Idaho Panhandle National Forests are managed according to direction in the Forest Plan, which incorporates ecological sustainability principles, like those described in Noss (2001); and it addresses socioeconomic needs of people. This 8-acre salvage and planting project is consistent with Forest Plan direction.

The Lands Council says that it is critical that the Forest Service analyze the cumulative effects on resources and...
provide a detailed narrative of past human activities in the project area to understand how past management has resulted in the existing conditions. The Forest Service has not implemented previous management activities in the project area, and the analysis recognizes the previously harvested areas surrounding the project area (ACT-1, ACT-2). The project will have minimal or no direct and indirect effects, therefore it will have minimal or no cumulative effects. See discussions of extraordinary circumstances and regulatory consistency.

Figure 1. Proposed salvage area near center of photo with red trees.

Idaho Conservation League (ICL): ICL said the analysis should consider the cumulative impacts of the project based on the surrounding private lands which have been intensively managed. The Forest Service has not implemented previous management activities in the project area, and the analysis recognizes the previously harvested areas near the project area (ACT-1, ACT-2). The project will have minimal or no direct and indirect effects; therefore, it will have minimal or no cumulative effects. See discussions of extraordinary circumstances and regulatory consistency.

ICL would like all larger diameter trees and snags left and said the project should insure that regional snag standards are maintained. The project complies with the Northern Region Snag Management Protocol (WL-3).

ICL said sufficient coarse woody debris should be maintained in compliance with the recommendations from Graham and others (1994). The project will retain sufficient coarse woody debris as recommended by Graham and others (1994) (SW-1). ICL says that consideration should be given to protection and maintenance of riparian management objectives, landslide-prone areas should be appropriately buffered, and soil protections should be a component of these projects. Riparian management objectives would not be impacted because the project area does not contain streams (F-1, SW-1) and BMPs would be implemented. No landslide-prone areas are located in the project area (SW-1). Soils protection measures as described in the design features will be incorporated in this project.
CATEGORICAL AND FINDING OF NO EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES

This project falls within a category of activities excluded from documentation in an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement as outlined in Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, Environmental Policy and Procedures Handbook, Chapter 30, Section 31.2 Categories of Action for Which a Project or Case File and Decision Memo are required, Categories 11 and 13. Category 11 (36 CFR 220.6(e)(11)) is for post-fire rehabilitation activities, not to exceed 4,200 acres, to repair or improve lands unlikely to recover to a management approved condition from wildland fire damage. Category 13 (36 CFR 220.6(e)(13)) is for salvage of dead and/or dying trees not to exceed 250 acres, requiring no more than 1/2 mile of temporary road construction.

I have determined this project fits within Categories 11 and 13. Planting seedlings is a post-fire rehabilitation activity that will get the area on a trajectory for the long-term growth and production of commercially valuable wood products and will be done on less than 4,200 acres. The project will harvest dead and dying trees on less than 250 acres and does not require road construction. Dead trees and burned trees with more than 50 percent of the bole circumference scorched will be removed. Some trees with less than 50 percent bole scorch will be removed near the top of the unit if needed to facilitate logging of other trees.

I considered the following resource conditions and determined, after review of the analysis, that the potential effects are minor or non-existent. There are no extraordinary circumstances that may result in significant individual or cumulative effects as documented below (see project file for further details):

1. **Federally listed threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat, species proposed for Federal listing or proposed critical habitat, or Forest Service sensitive species:** District Wildlife and Fisheries Biologists and Botanist evaluated the proposed action with regard to sensitive, threatened and endangered species and completed biological evaluations and biological assessments.

   **Sensitive Species**

   Biological evaluations for sensitive species include determinations that the project will have no impact to the following sensitive plant, fish, and wildlife species:
   - Plants in any of the sensitive plant guilds (Moist Forest, Wet Forest, Dry Forest, Deciduous Riparian, Subalpine, Cold Forest, Peatland, Aquatic).
   - Westslope cutthroat trout
   - American peregrine falcon, bald eagle, gray wolf, black swift, Coeur d'Alene salamander, common loon, fisher, flammulated owl, fringed myotis, harlequin duck, North American wolverine, northern bog lemming, pygmy nuthatch, Townsend's big-eared bat, and western toad (WL-3).

   Biological evaluations for sensitive species include determinations that the project may impact individuals or habitat, but will not likely contribute to a trend towards federal listing or cause a loss of viability to the population or species for black-backed woodpecker (WL-3).

   **Threatened and Endangered Species**

   Biological assessments completed for this project include the following determinations for threatened or endangered plant, fish, and wildlife species (B-1, F-1, WL-3):
   - The project will have no effect on endangered plant species because no federally listed endangered plant species are known or suspected to occur in the Idaho Panhandle National Forests (B-1).
   - The project will have no effect on bull trout because the nearest stream is a perennial non-fish-bearing stream approximately 500 feet away from the unit at its closest. There is a waterfall migration barrier and extensive debris jams on Nugget Creek downstream of the project area. Bull trout are not known to utilize Nugget Creek or Periwinkle Creek.
   - The project will have no effect on woodland caribou because the project is not in the Southern Selkirk Mountains Recovery area and there is no identified caribou habitat (MA 7) on the district (WL-3).
   - The project will have no effect on grizzly bear because the project is not in a Grizzly Bear Recovery Area, and there is no identified grizzly bear habitat (MA 2) on the district (WL-3).
   - The project will have no effect on Canada lynx because the project is not within an lynx analysis unit (WL-3).
2. **Flood Plains, Wetlands, or Municipal Watersheds:** Project activities will not occur in flood plains, wetlands, or municipal watersheds, so there will be no effect on these resources. No intermittent or perennial streams exist within or in the close proximity to the project area (SW-1). The nearest stream is approximately 500 feet from the unit (F-1).

3. **Congressionally designated areas such as wilderness, wilderness study areas, or national recreation areas:** Project activities are not proposed in any Congressionally designated areas such as wilderness, wilderness study areas, or national recreation areas; so there will be no effect on these resources.

4. **Inventoried roadless areas or potential wilderness areas:** The project is not within an inventoried roadless area (R-2), so there will be no effect on inventoried roadless areas or potential wilderness areas.

5. **Research natural areas:** Project activities will not occur in a research natural area; therefore, there will be no effect on this resource.

6. **American Indians and Alaska Native religious or cultural sites:** District Ranger Chuck Mark sent a letter describing the proposed action and the comment process (project file PI-1, PI-2, PI-3) to five representatives of the Coeur d’Alene Tribe on February 12, 2010. Acting District Ranger Kimberly Johnson, met with the Coeur d’Alene Tribe to discuss projects on the St. Joe Ranger District, including K and N Salvage, on June 2, 2010 (PI-11). The representatives of the tribe did not express concerns about the project. The Forest Cultural Resource Specialist determined that the project has little likelihood to adversely affect cultural properties (CR-1). The area of potential effects is located on a steep side hill with a 45% slope and has low potential for containing cultural resources. All high-probability areas near the unit have been surveyed through prior projects. There are no known sites in or within one mile of the project area.

7. **Archaeological sites, or historic properties or areas:** The Forest Cultural Resource Specialist determined that the project has little likelihood to adversely affect cultural properties (CR-1). The area of potential effects is located on a steep side hill with a 45% slope and has low potential for containing cultural resources. All high-probability areas near the unit have been surveyed through prior projects. There are no known sites in or within one mile of the project area.

**REGULATORY CONSISTENCY**

**National Forest Management Act and the Idaho Panhandle National Forests Forest Plan**

The project does not require any Forest Plan amendments. Project activities are consistent with the NFMA and the Idaho Panhandle National Forests Forest Plan and will provide for diversity of plant and animal communities based on the suitability and capability of the specific land area in order to meet overall multiple-use objectives (project file B-1, F-1, WL-3). The activity associated with this decision is consistent with management area direction for Management Area 1.

The project activities are consistent with Forest Plan direction for specific resources:

- **Air Quality**
  - Prescribed burning will be monitored and controlled to avoid violation of air quality standards, in compliance with the North Idaho Smoke Management Plan, as directed in the Forest Plan.

- **Fish**
  - Fish Standards 1 and 2 (fry emergence) do not apply. Standard 3 does not apply to this project because the streams identified in that standard are not located in this project area. The project complies with Standard 4 because no new road construction is proposed. Standard 5 doesn’t apply because the project is outside of riparian habitat conservation areas (RHCAs) and is not near streams. The project complies with Standard 6 because proposed activities would occur outside of RHCAs and activities comply with INFS standards.

- **Noxious Weeds**
  - The project activities will meet the intent of the Forest Plan for moderate control of noxious weeds by treating and monitoring noxious weeds in accordance with the St. Joe Noxious Weeds EIS and ROD.
**Old Growth**

No old growth will be affected. The treatment stands do not meet minimum criteria for old growth and are not allocated for old growth management. See OGMU 18 information (project file OG-1).

**Soils**

The proposed activity will comply with Forest Plan Standards for maintaining soil productivity. Approximately five percent of the soils were detrimentally disturbed in the fire, and the proposed activity will result in another approximate two percent of detrimental disturbance, maintaining approximately 93 percent of the soils in a condition of acceptable productivity potential (SW-1). Recommendations for coarse woody debris for this habitat type (leaving 17-33 tons/acre) will be ensured by maintaining existing levels of coarse woody debris, leaving tops and logging slash, and leaving residual trees standing.

**Visual Quality**

Forest Plan visual quality objectives of "Modification" will be met (project file VQ-2).

**Water**

Water quality will not be affected by this project, and forest plan standards will be met (SW-1).

**Wildlife**

The proposed action is consistent with applicable forest plan wildlife goals, direction, standards, and guidelines. See Wildlife BA/BE (project file WL-3).

The project will have no impact on the following management indicator species (WL-3):

- American marten and northern goshawk because there is no suitable habitat (large, closed canopy timber) in the project area.
- Moose because there is no suitable habitat (riparian areas and shrubfields).
- Northern Goshawk because there is no suitable habitat in the project area.
- Pileated woodpecker because there are low amounts of live tree cover and the large snags are not high-quality habitat.
- Rocky Mountain elk because the burned areas with no forage is not currently high quality habitat for elk.

The project will meet the Northern Region Snag Management Protocol (WL-3), and therefore it would meet or exceed forest plan standards for snags.

**Other findings required by NFMA:**

Suitability for Timber Production (16 USC 1604(k)): The project is on Management Area 1 lands which are suitable for timber harvest.

Timber Harvest on National Forest Lands (16 USC 1604(g)(3)(E)): A Responsible Official may authorize site-specific projects and activities to harvest timber on National Forest System lands only where:

a. Soil, slope, or other watershed conditions will not be irreversibly damaged (16 USC 1604(g)(3)(E)(i)): Soil, slope, or other watershed conditions will not be irreversibly damaged with this project. Acceptable soil productivity potential will be maintained (SW-1). No intermittent or perennial streams exist within this unit or in the close proximity to the project area; therefore, hydrologic issues are not associated with this project, and water quality will not be affected (SW-1).

b. There is assurance that the lands can be adequately restocked within five years after final regeneration harvest (16 USC 1604(g)(3)(E)(ii)). The project does not involve regeneration harvest because the trees were killed or scorched in a fire. Trees will be planted to improve post-fire conditions.

c. Protection is provided for streams, streambanks, shorelines, lakes, wetlands, and other bodies of water from detrimental changes in water temperatures, blockages of water courses, and deposits of sediment, where harvests are likely to seriously and adversely affect water conditions or fish habitat (16 USC 1604(g)(3)(E)(iii)). The project does not occur near streams other other bodies of water. The nearest stream is approximately 500 feet from the unit; therefore, it would have no effect on bodies of water (F-1).

d. The harvesting system to be used is not selected primarily because it will give the greatest dollar return or the greatest unit output of timber (16 USC 1604(g)(3)(E)(iv)). The treatment area concentrates on eight
acres that were more heavily burned than the surrounding forest. The skyline yarding system is not the least expensive harvesting system, but it is required in order to protect resources on these slopes.

Clearcutting and Even-aged Management (16 USC 1604(g)(3)(F)): Although the post-harvest conditions will resemble conditions after a clearcut because most of the trees will be harvested, the project will salvage trees that were killed or scorched (greater than 50 percent of bole circumference scorched) in a fire. Other trees will only be harvested to facilitate logging operations.

Stands of trees are harvested according to requirements for culmination of mean annual increment of growth (16 USC 1604(m)): Only trees that were killed or scorched (greater than 50 percent of the bole circumference) in the fire and those needed to be removed to facilitate logging operations would be harvested.

Construction of temporary roadways in connection with timber contracts, and other permits or leases: The project does not include construction of temporary roads.

Standards of roadway construction: The project does not include road construction.

Consideration of best available science: The analysis and decision processes for this project are based on the consideration of the best available science, commensurate with the expected minimal effects of the project. See the project file for details.

Region 1 Soil Quality Standards
The proposed activity will comply with Regional soil quality standards for maintaining soil productivity. Approximately five percent of the soils were detrimentally disturbed in the fire, and the proposed activity will result in another approximate two percent of detrimental disturbance, maintaining approximately 93 percent of the soils in a condition of acceptable productivity potential (SW-1).

Endangered Species Act
The project complies with the Endangered Species Act (ESA). See discussion about threatened and endangered species in Finding of No Extraordinary Circumstances above.

Clean Air Act
Prescribed burning will be monitored and controlled by airshed regulations to avoid violation of air quality standards, in compliance with the North Idaho Smoke Management Plan, as directed in the forest plan. Requirements of the North Idaho/Montana State Airshed Group (notification of planned burning one day in advance) allows the Idaho DEQ to place restrictions on or prevent burning if it determines that air quality standards cannot be met, which meets the Clean Air Act.

Clean Water Act and Idaho Water Quality Laws
No effect to water quality is expected (SW-1), therefore, the project will comply with the Clean Water Act and Idaho water quality laws.

The National Historical Preservation Act (NHPA)
The proposed action is consistent with Section 106 of the NHPA. The Forest Cultural Resource Specialist determined that the project has little likelihood to adversely affect cultural properties (CR-1). The area of potential effects is located on a steep side hill with a 45% slope and has low potential for containing cultural resources. All high-probability areas near the unit have been surveyed through prior projects. There are no known sites in or within one mile of the project area. I sent a letter describing the proposed action and the comment process (PI-1, PI-2, PI-3) to the Coeur d'Alene Tribe on February 12, 2010. Acting District Ranger Kimberly Johnson met with the Coeur d'Alene Tribe to discuss projects on the St. Joe Ranger District, including K and N Salvage, on June 2, 2010 (PI-11). The representatives of the tribe did not express concerns about the project.
**DOCUMENTS AND PROJECT FILES**

This decision memo summarizes the analyses that led to this decision. Other reports and documents were referenced or were developed during the course of this project and are part of the project files. All project files are available for review by the public. Please contact Cornie Hudson at the St. Joe Ranger District (208-245-2531) to review files.

**APPEAL RIGHTS AND IMPLEMENTATION**

Only those individuals or organizations who submitted comments during the 30-day comment period for this project are eligible to appeal this decision pursuant to 36 CFR part 215 regulations. On February 12, 2010 I sent a letter to individuals and organizations who expressed interest in similar projects on the St. Joe Ranger District in the past (PI-1, PI-2, PI-3). That letter explained the comment process and stated that the comment period would begin following publication of a notice in *The Coeur d’Alene Press*. It stated the expected date of publication was February 17, 2010. The notice of the proposed action and opportunity to comment for this project was published, as expected, in the newspaper of record, *The Coeur d’Alene Press*, on February 17, 2010 (PI-5). I received letters from Benewah County, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Conservation League, and The Lands Council (on behalf of The Lands Council, alliance for the Wild Rockies, and Friends of the Clearwater) during the comment period (see previous discussion on Public Involvement).

This decision is subject to administrative review (appeal) pursuant to 36 CFR Part 215. Appeals, including attachments, must be filed within 45 days from the publication date of this notice in the *Coeur d’Alene Press*, the newspaper of record. Attachments received after the 45-day appeal period will not be considered. I anticipate the notice of this decision will be published in *The Coeur d’Alene Press* on or about June 17, 2010; however, the actual publication date in the *Coeur d’Alene Press* is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an appeal. Those wishing to appeal this decision should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source. Individuals or organizations who submitted comments during the comment period may appeal this decision. Paper appeals must be submitted to:

USDA Forest Service, Northern Region  
ATTN: Appeal Deciding Officer  
P.O. Box 7669  
Missoula, MT 59807  

or  
USDA Forest Service, Northern Region  
ATTN: Appeal Deciding Officer  
200 East Broadway  
Missoula, MT 59802

Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays.

Electronic appeals must be submitted to: appeals-northern-regional-office@fs.fed.us. In electronic appeals, the subject line should contain the name of the project being appealed (in this case, *K and N Salvage*). An automated response will confirm your electronic appeal has been received. Electronic appeals must be submitted in MS Word (.doc), plain text (.txt), or rich text format (RTF). In cases where no identifiable name is attached to an electronic message, a verification of identity will be required. A scanned signature is one way to provide verification.

It is the appellant's responsibility to provide sufficient project- or activity-specific evidence and rationale, focusing on the decision, to show why my decision should be reversed. The appeal must be filed with the Appeal Deciding Officer in writing. At a minimum, the appeal must meet the content requirements of 36 CFR 215, and include the following information:

- The appellant's name and address, with a telephone number, if available;
- A signature, or other verification of authorship upon request (a scanned signature for electronic mail may be filed with the appeal);
- When multiple names are listed on an appeal, identification of the lead appellant and verification of the identity of the lead appellant upon request;
- The name of the project or activity for which the decision was made, the name and title of the Responsible Official, and the date of the decision;
- The regulation under which the appeal is being filed (in this case 36 CFR 215);
- Any specific change(s) in the decision that the appellant seeks and rationale for those changes;
- Any portion(s) of the decision with which the appellant disagrees, and explanation for the disagreement;
• Why the appellant believes the Responsible Official’s decision failed to consider comments; and
• How the appellant believes the decision specifically violates law, regulation, or policy.

If an appeal is received on this project there may be informal resolution meetings and/or conference calls between the Responsible Official and the appellant. These discussions would take place within 15 days after the closing date for filing an appeal. All such meetings are open to the public. If you are interested in attending any informal resolution discussions, please contact the Responsible Official or monitor the following website for postings about current appeals in the Northern Region of the Forest Service: http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/projects/appeal_index.shtml.

If no appeals are filed within the 45-day time period, implementation of the decision may occur on, but not before, five business days from the close of the appeal filing period. When appeals are filed, implementation may occur on, but not before, the 15th business day following the date of the last appeal disposition.

CONTACT PERSON AND RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL

Questions regarding this decision should be sent to Cornie Hudson, St. Joe Ranger District, 222 S 7th Street, Suite 1, St. Maries, Idaho 83861 (208)-245-2531. I am the Responsible Official for this decision.

[Signature]

CHARLES A. MARK
District Ranger
St. Joe Ranger District

Date

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