



File Code: 1950-2/5190

Date: January 12, 2003

Dear Interested Party:

Enclosed is a copy of the Bridger-Teton National Forest Fire Amendment Environmental Assessment (EA). The Forest is proposing to amend the fire management standards and guidelines in the Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan). The enclosed Environmental Assessment analyzes the effects of the Proposed Action along with a No-Action Alternative. The Preferred Alternative in this analysis is the Proposed Action. The EA is also posted on the internet at <http://www.fs.fed.us/btnf/>.

A 30-day opportunity for the public to comment on the proposal and analysis is being provided. The comment period begins the day after the legal notice for availability is printed in the Casper Star Tribune. It is anticipated that the notice will be printed on January 16, 2004. To ensure consideration in the decision, comments must be postmarked by the end of the 30-day period, which should be February 17, 2004.

Comments should include:

1. Your name, address, telephone number, and the name of the organization you represent (if any).
2. Title of the document on which the comment is being submitted.
3. Specific facts and rationale supporting your comments.

These comments should be mailed to:

Forest Supervisor
Bridger-Teton National Forest
P.O. Box 1888
Jackson, WY 83001
Attention: Andy Norman, Fire
Amendment Team Leader

or emailed to:

comments-intermtn-bridger-teton@fs.fed.us

Only those who submit timely and substantive comments will be accepted as appellants. Substantive comments are those within the scope of, are specific to, and have a direct relationship to the proposed action, and include supporting reasons that the Responsible Officials should consider in reaching a decision. Each individual or organizational representative submitting substantive comments must either sign the comments or otherwise verify identity in order to attain appeal eligibility. Comments should include the information required pursuant to 36 CFR 215.6(a)(3), as published in the Federal Register on June 4, 2003.



Please note that comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Parts 215 or 217. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27 (d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requester of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within 15 days.

The final decision regarding the chosen alternative or combination of alternatives will not be made until after a review of comments. If you have any questions, please contact Andy Norman the Interdisciplinary Team Leader, at 307-739-5571 or anorman@fs.fed.us.

I look forward to receiving your comments.

Sincerely,

/s/ Kniffy Hamilton

CAROLE 'KNIFFY' HAMILTON
Forest Supervisor