



File Code: 1950
Date: April 9, 2020

Dear Interested Party,

As District Ranger of the Darby/Sula Ranger District of the Bitterroot National Forest, I have signed the decision memo for the Buckhorn GNA Project under authorities granted through the 2014 Farm Bill Insect and Disease categorical exclusion. This project is located approximately 10 miles southeast of Hamilton, MT in Township 5 North, Range 19 West, Sections 13, 14, 15, 21, 22, 23, and 24. This decision authorizes vegetation management activities on 1,165 acres of U.S. Forest Service (USFS) lands to improve forest health and resilience to insects, diseases and fire. The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (MT DNRC) is planning similar vegetation treatments on State section 16 adjacent to USFS lands. The Bitterroot National Forest and MT DNRC will collaborate to implement this project through a Good Neighbor Authority agreement. Implementation of this project would likely start in summer 2020.

In authorizing the Buckhorn GNA project through a categorical exclusion, I have determined that the proposed activities do not present extraordinary circumstances that would require further analysis under an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement. Documents related to resource analysis, project development, and the signed decision memo can be found on the project webpage: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56927>

If you have further questions, you may contact me at 406-821-3913 at the Darby Ranger Station.

Sincerely,

ERIC WINTHERS
District Ranger

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Ravalli County Commissioners

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the information provided in this document is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I understand that any false or misleading information provided may result in legal action.

I have read and understand the contents of this document and agree to the terms and conditions stated herein.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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