



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest

3040 Biddle Road
Medford, OR 97504
541-618-2200

Received
Josephine County

File Code: 1950

Date: February 16, 2016 FEB 16 2016

**Board of
Commissioners**

Dear Interested Party:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that a draft Decision Memo (DM) has been completed for a forest plan amendment to add aminopyralid to the list of authorized herbicides for the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest. The proposed action would amend the standards and guidelines of the Rogue River and Siskiyou Land and Resource Management Plans by adding aminopyralid to the list of herbicide active ingredients available for treating invasive plants (Standard #16 from the 2005 Region 6 Record of Decision for invasive plant management).

Public comments on the document will be accepted for 30 days. You may obtain a copy of this draft DM on the project website: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=46848>, by contacting the project lead (see below), or by requesting one in person between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

This amendment would entail a minor modification to the invasive plant program; it will not authorize the use of this herbicide, but will authorize its consideration for use in future projects, following site-specific NEPA analysis. As such, it is excluded from documentation in an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS) under categorical exclusion 36 CFR 220.6(e)(16), land management plans, plan amendments, and plan revisions developed in accordance with 36 CFR 219 et seq. that provide broad guidance and information for project and activity decision-making in a National Forest Service unit.

The 30-day comment period for this proposed amendment begins on the day after publication of the legal notice announcing the opportunity to comment in *The Medford Mail Tribune*, the official newspaper of record. This comment period is being provided pursuant to 36 CFR 219.16(a)(2). This proposed Forest Plan amendment is subject to the objection procedures at 36 CFR 219 Subpart B. Those who provide comment or express interest in this proposed amendment during the scoping or comment period will be eligible to object to the proposed decision. Each individual or representative from each organization submitting comments must either sign the comments or verify identity upon request.

Written comments must be submitted in a timely manner to the project lead, Shannon Downey, at 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, OR 97504, e-mail shannondowney@fs.fed.us, or (541) 618-2074. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Oral comments can also be provided to the project lead listed above, only during normal business hours via telephone or in person. Those submitting electronic comments must put the project name in the subject line, and must either submit comments as part of the e-mail message or as an attachment only in one of the following three formats: Microsoft Word, rich text format (rtf) or Adobe Portable Document Format (pdf). In cases where no identifiable name is attached to a comment, a verification of identity will be required for objection eligibility. If using an electronic message, a scanned signature is one way to provide verification. E-mails submitted to e-mail addresses other than the



one listed above, in other formats than those listed, or containing viruses, will be rejected.

If you have any questions regarding the details of this proposal, please contact the project lead. If you wishing to review the project file or obtain additional information on the project, please contact the project lead listed above. No decision is being made at this time. At the end of the 30-day comment period, all comments will be incorporated into the project record. The final decision memo will be circulated to those who have expressed interest in or commented on this proposed amendment for a 45-day objection period.

Thank you for your interest in this proposed amendment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. MacWhorter', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

for ROBERT G. MACWHORTER
Forest Supervisor