



Region 2 Headquarters
3201 Spurgin Road
Missoula, MT 59804
Phone 406-542-5500

January 4, 2023

Dear Interested Citizen:

Enclosed you will find for your review the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Doney Lake Forest Habitat Improvement Project on the Blackfoot-Clearwater Wildlife Management Area (BCWMA). FWP is proposing to conduct forested habitat improvement treatments on approximately 1,500 acres on the Ovando Mountain Unit of the BCWMA for the purpose of: improving forage production for big game, nongame wildlife that are dependent on old-growth ponderosa pine and western larch, promoting a stand structure that would allow fire to burn at low-severity, promoting aspen growth and regeneration, and reducing stand susceptibility to bark beetle infestation and armillaria root disease.

The EA may be obtained by mail from Region 2 FWP, 3201 Spurgin Rd., Missoula 59804; by phoning 406-542-5542; by emailing fwprg22@mt.gov or by viewing FWP's website <http://fwp.mt.gov> ("News and Public Notices," then "Public Notices").

Comments may be made online on the EA's webpage or may be directed to Mike Ebinger at the mail or email addresses above. Comments must be received by FWP no later than February 4th, 2023.

As part of the decision-making process under MEPA, I expect to issue the Decision Notice for this EA very soon after the end of the comment period. The Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission has the final decision-making authority for FWP conservation easement proposals, and the Commission will be asked to render its decision on this proposal at its meeting in June 2023. (Please check the "Commission" link on FWP's webpage for the June 2023 meeting date and location; an agenda will be posted online 1-2 weeks prior to the meeting.)

Sincerely,
/s/ Randy Arnold
Randy Arnold
Regional Super