



File Code: 1930/1950

Date **MAY 08 2009**

Ms. Nancy Sutley
Chair
Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Ms. Sutley:

Pursuant to the Office of Management and Budget's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Implementation Guidance, Appendix 7 the Forest Service's Section 1609 report for April 30, 2009 is enclosed.

This report updates and clarifies the April 9, 2009, report and represents approximately 10 percent of the funds available.

Project updates:

- Project #6, WFM-0312-1, Hazardous Fuels Reduction, Christopher/Hunter WUI (wildland urban interface) Project. The environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact has been completed; however, the appeal period is open until May 14, 2009.
- Project #12, WFM-0521-1, Region-wide Fuels Reduction Project. Subproject, 0520-1HF, SBA Sawmill Infrastructure Assistance Grant has been incorporated into the list. Originally it was identified as a block grant and not applicable to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Upon further review, it was determined that the successful implementation of the grant is dependent on hazardous fuels projects on National Forest System lands; therefore, for transparency purposes, the associated NEPA documents are being reported.
- Projects #49 and #50 were moved from not applicable to NEPA to the Agency's categorical exclusion on administrative building maintenance (36 CFR 220.6(d)(3)).

Report clarification:

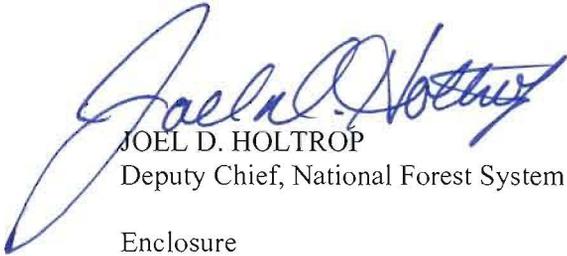
The report identifies eight projects not applicable to NEPA. One project is under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act authority. The remaining seven are grants issued to state and local governments and one non-governmental organization under the following authorities; four projects under the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (P.L. 95-313); one project under Division F, Title III, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008 (P.L. 110-161); and two projects under the Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Act (P.L. 105-277, Section 323 as amended by P.L. 109-54 Section 434).

- Of the seven grants, six are for hazardous fuels reduction. It is possible the grantees may choose to conduct operations on National Forest System lands. Should this be the case, appropriate NEPA will be conducted and reflected in future reports.
- Acronyms: CIM stands for Capital Improvement and Maintenance and WFM stands for Wildland Fire Management.



Please contact NEPA Specialist Ken Karkula at (202) 205-2869 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



JOEL D. HOLTROP
Deputy Chief, National Forest System

Enclosure

cc: Ken Karkula

