



File Code: 2450
Date: July 14, 2016

Brenda Barton
Timber Contracting Officer
Siuslaw National Forest Supervisors Office

Dear Brenda,

After reviewing and considering extensive comments and input from our four stewardship groups and other interested parties, I believe there is a need to revise the current delineation of local economic area used in stewardship contracting on the Siuslaw National Forest. Revising the four currently defined 'local areas' would clarify and simplify our stewardship contracting process for our partners, contractors and staff, as well as encourage additional interest and competition among contractors submitting proposals for our stewardship project work. I have decided to reduce the number of defined areas from four to two, a north and south zone.

The north zone is composed of all the area within the counties that intersect on the Hebo Ranger District (Lincoln, Polk, Yamhill and Tillamook). The south zone includes all of the former local economic areas identified for the other three stewardship groups (Siuslaw, Alsea and Marys Peak), incorporating all of Polk, Benton, Lincoln, Lane, Douglas and Coos Counties plus portions of Tillamook, Yamhill, Marion and Linn Counties. Refer to attached maps for precise boundary location. Please implement this change immediately in developing and implementing new stewardship contracts.

This is a change to previously tightly-defined local economic areas for some of the stewardship groups. Some individuals expressed concern that this change reduces the incentive to seek out and utilize local subcontractors and workers. To address this, I would like to review and evaluate the effects of this change in our stewardship process following a year of implementation. The evaluation should include factors like the number/diversity of contractors submitting proposals, changes in costs for and receipts from stewardship activities, changes in utilization of local workers and/or subcontractors, and/or other socioeconomic factors.

Please work with our staff and partners to agree on a set of indicators and then track this information to facilitate regular review and evaluation in the future.

Sincerely

/s/Jeremiah C. Ingersoll,

JEREMIAH C. INGERSOLL
Forest Supervisor

cc: Michele Jones, Deborah Wilkins, Casey Hawes, Jonathon Poirier, Jeff Uebel, Kirk Shimeall, Ross Mickey, Michael Daugherty

