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Route To: 5100

Subject: Approval of Cooperator Saw Program

To: Back Country Horseman of Washington

In accordance with Forest Service Manual 2358 (FSM 2358), Forest Service Saw Policy; Cooperators, volunteer groups and individuals under agreement and operating chainsaws and/or crosscut saws on National Forest System lands will be trained, evaluated and certified in accordance with FSM 2358. Cooperators organizations have three options to meet this requirement, your organization has elected to pursue option 2:

- (Option 2) Forest Service Saw Program – The Forest Service Saw program can be implemented by Forest service volunteers, cooperators, consultants and/or contractors who are certified as C Sawyers or C Sawyer Evaluators who in turn can train, evaluate and certify their own organization's members, other cooperating organizations, and/or Forest Service employees.

Back Country Horseman of Washington saw training program proposal was submitted and reviewed by Aaron Pedersen, Region 6 Saw Program Manager and Pete Duncan, National Saw Program Manager. Your proposal submitted under option 2 adheres to the same rigors requirements set forth in the Forest Service National Saw Policy and was found to meet all other regulatory requirements.

This letter acknowledges the Back Country Horseman of Washington Saw Program as a nationally recognized and approved sawyer training and certification program which will remain in effect until such time it is determined thru monitoring that the Program is either ineffective or has fallen out of compliance with FSM 2358.

The role of the Sawyer Instructor and Sawyer Evaluator is critical to maintaining a high level of saw skill and expertise with sawyers trained under the Back Country Horseman of Washington saw program. It is critical that these individuals be designated within your organization through formally issued designation letters and that the Forest Service be provided with these designation letters and an official notification made when individuals in these roles change.

/s/ Pete Duncan

National Saw Program Manager

U.S. Forest Service

CC/ Aaron Pedersen Region 6 Saw Program Manager