

PROTECT THE PUTT-PUTT

A COMMUNITY ACTION ORGANIZATION

970 W BROADWAY #378
JACKSON, WY 83001

WWW.PROTECTTHEPUTTPUTT.COM

March 6, 2010

Thomas J. Vilsack, Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Rm. 200-A WHITTENBG
Jamie L. Whitten Federal Bldg.
12th & Jefferson Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20250

Re: North Cache Conveyance Project by the Bridger-Teton National Forest

Dear Secretary Vilsack:

This project continues to generate bad press—and very bad public relations.

Most recently, the *Jackson Hole News & Guide* reported that Regional Forester Harv Forsgren refused to offer any assurances to the community about how our public land in downtown Jackson will be developed after he sells it to the highest bidder (copy enclosed). According to the *News & Guide*, he snubbed suggestions from our community leaders for an encumbrance to prevent a WalMart, for example, from replacing our current Forest Supervisor's Office.

Instead, Mr. Forsgren seems determined to barge ahead with this very unpopular project. He has ignored the “public interest” requirement in the enabling legislation¹ and trampled the environmental analysis for this project by precluding any consideration for the “no-action” alternative.² Moreover, he has ignored USDA policy that these auctions of Forest Service land must have “support from the community.”³

¹ Forest Service Facility Realignment and Enhancement Act of 2005 (FSFREA) at §503(d)(3)(C), *codified at* 16 U.S.C. 508(d) note.

² National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. §4332(2); *see also* FSFREA at §505(d)(4).

³ *See e.g.* USDA Asset Management Plan FY 2007, pp.5-11.

Please do not stand by and let this travesty occur.

Sincerely yours,

Charles L. Payne, Jr.

cc: Harv Forsgren, R-4 Regional Forester
Carole "Kniffy" Hamilton, BTNF Supervisor

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March 6, 2010

Harris Sherman, USDA Under-Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment
Rm. 240-E WHITTENBG
Jamie L. Whitten Federal Bldg.
12th & Jefferson Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20250

Re: North Cache Conveyance Project by the Bridger-Teton National Forest

Dear Mr. Sherman:

This project continues to generate bad press—and very bad public relations.

Most recently, the *Jackson Hole News & Guide* reported that Regional Forester Harv Forsgren refused to offer any assurances to the community about how our public land in downtown Jackson will be developed after he sells it to the highest bidder (copy enclosed). According to the *News & Guide*, he snubbed suggestions from our community leaders for an encumbrance to prevent a WalMart, for example, from replacing our current Forest Supervisor's Office.

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March 6, 2010

Jay Jensen, USDA Deputy Under-Secretary for Forestry
Rm. 217-E WHITTENBG
Jamie L. Whitten Federal Bldg.
12th & Jefferson Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20250

Re: North Cache Conveyance Project by the Bridger-Teton National Forest

Dear Mr. Jensen:

This project continues to generate bad press—and very bad public relations.

Most recently, the *Jackson Hole News & Guide* reported that Regional Forester Harv Forsgren refused to offer any assurances to the community about how our public land in downtown Jackson will be developed after he sells it to the highest bidder (copy enclosed). According to the *News & Guide*, he snubbed suggestions from our community leaders for an encumbrance to prevent a WalMart, for example, from replacing our current Forest Supervisor's Office.

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March 6, 2010

Tom Tidwell, Chief
US Forest Service
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-0003

Re: North Cache Conveyance Project by the Bridger-Teton National Forest

Dear Mr. Tidwell:

This project continues to generate bad press—and very bad public relations.

Most recently, the *Jackson Hole News & Guide* reported that Regional Forester Harv Forsgren refused to offer any assurances to the community about how our public land in downtown Jackson will be developed after he sells it to the highest bidder (copy enclosed). According to the *News & Guide*, he snubbed suggestions from our community leaders for an encumbrance to prevent a WalMart, for example, from replacing our current Forest Supervisor's Office.

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March 6, 2010

Doug Crandall, Director of Legislative Affairs for the U.S. Forest Service
Rm. 5NW YATESBG
Sidney R. Yates Federal Building
201 14th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

Re: North Cache Conveyance Project by the Bridger-Teton National Forest

Dear Mr. Crandall:

This project continues to generate bad press—and very bad public relations.

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March 6, 2010

Senator Mike Enzi
379A Senate Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: North Cache Conveyance Project by the Bridger-Teton National Forest

Dear Senator Enzi:

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Senator John Barrasso
307 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20510

Re: North Cache Conveyance Project by the Bridger-Teton National Forest

Dear Senator Barrasso:

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March 6, 2010

Congresswoman Cynthia Lummis
1004 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: North Cache Conveyance Project by the Bridger-Teton National Forest

Dear Congresswoman Lummis:

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