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May 3, 2010

To: Stakeholders

Re: Idaho Statewide Forest Resource Strategy- Draft Document Review

Attached for your review is the Draft Statewide Forest Resource Strategy for Idaho. This is a response plan that follows the previously-released State Assessment of Forest Resources.

The Strategy identifies areas in Idaho that have the greatest potential to benefit from: 1) cooperative State and Private Forestry programs; and 2) funds available from individual agencies, landowners, and partners that can be aligned and leveraged. It also lists measures that would reduce threats and enhance benefits from these lands and throughout the State in the next five years.

The Strategy was developed by a Core Team representing state and federal agencies and partners. A much larger Stakeholders group provided guidance and input to the Core Team. The members of the Core Team and Stakeholders are listed in the opening chapter and are good contacts for more information on the process and content of the draft Strategy.

To facilitate comments on the Strategy we've developed comment forms that allow reviewers to "weigh-in" on the strategies they feel are most important. These are attached in a second document entitled "Comment Forms." The Core Team will use comments received to develop the final Strategy document which must be completed in June, 2010. **Please send Comment Forms to Dave Stephenson via email or fax by May 14, 2010. Send to dstephenson@idl.idaho.gov; or fax to Dave at 208-769-1524.**

Thank you for taking the time to review and comment on the Statewide Forest Resource Strategy. This will be an important tool in Idaho's "all lands" approach to managing and addressing key forested areas in the State.

GEORGE B. BACON
DIRECTOR, IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF LANDS
IDAHO STATE FORESTER