



NEWS RELEASE

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Idaho auctions Good Neighbor Authority timber sale on the Boise National Forest

(Boise) – The State of Idaho auctioned another U.S. Forest Service timber sale Monday as part of a state-federal partnership to increase management activities on federal lands in Idaho.

The **High Forks GNA Ton timber sale** is the first Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) timber sale on the Boise National Forest and Idaho's fifth timber sale sold under GNA. Good Neighbor is a federal law that enables the Forest Service to partner with the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) to achieve restoration and resilient landscape objectives across ownership boundaries in Idaho.

Idaho Forest Group (IFG Timber) submitted the winning bid of \$162.90 per thousand board feet to purchase the High Forks GNA Ton timber sale contract, which will mitigate fuels associated with tree thinning on 916 acres. There was one bidder who purchased the timber at the appraised price. The timber sale revenues will reimburse the state for its expenses, and any remaining funds will be used across the Boise National Forest to increase integrated land management restoration projects.

The project's purpose is to reduce fuels and improve forest health. An estimated 5.392 million board feet of timber will be harvested. New trees will be planted and natural regeneration will occur.

"Utilizing the Good Neighbor Authority, we were able to partner with the Idaho Department of Lands to sell the High Forks GNA Ton timber sale. This partnership has given the Forest additional capacity to do more work on the ground," said Cecilia Seesholtz, Boise National Forest Supervisor. "In addition, the GNA generated income will be reinvested in areas on the Forest to improve forest and watershed health and increase fire resilient landscapes."

"The Good Neighbor Authority is an important tool, allowing us to form an even stronger partnership with the Forest Service to more fully implement forest plans and improve the health of our National Forests," IDL Director Dustin Miller said. "Our experienced IDL foresters and staff and streamlined contracting procedures help our partners achieve harvesting targets and restoration goals in a more efficient and expedited fashion."

GNA PROGRESS IN IDAHO

Agreements are in place on four national forests in Idaho. IDL expects to sell up to four additional GNA timber sales in 2019 that will treat more than 3,700 acres. Revenues generated from GNA sales offset state costs, remaining funds are now being used to accomplish a wide range of management activities such as reforestation, riparian protection, road improvements, forest monitoring and treatment of noxious weeds.

This timber sale auction and other planned GNA projects elsewhere in Idaho are the result of nearly three years of work between the State of Idaho, Forest Service, timber companies, forest collaboratives and the local communities.

Additional information about GNA efforts in Idaho is available on the IDL website [here](#).

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