United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Medford District Office
3040 Biddle Road
Medford, Oregon 97504
email address: Medford_Mail@blm.gov

IN REPLY REFER TO:

1792(OR-115)

DEC 1 6 2008

Dear Neighbor:

The Medford District Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Butte Falls Resource Area has begun the planning process to salvage dead and dying trees burned in the Doubleday Fire. The proposed project is located on BLM-administered lands about 1 mile south of Butte Falls, Oregon in Township 35 South, Range 2 East, Sections 23 and 27. Please see the attached map for the area being considered for this project.

The Doubleday Fire began September 17, 2008, from a lightning strike and was contained at 1,236 acres on September 21, 2008. The fire burned 451 acres of BLM-administered lands; up to 215 acres are proposed for salvage harvest. Of the 215 acres proposed for fire salvage, 160 acres also contain trees blown down in January 2008 windstorms.

The BLM proposes salvage only on lands within the fire perimeter designated in the Medford District Resource Management Plan as matrix and classified as General Forest Management Area. No salvage is proposed in riparian reserves or northern spotted owl activity centers. We will consider salvage using tractor and skyline yarding systems.

We are in the first steps of preparing an Environmental Assessment to evaluate the impacts of this proposal on the resources found in the project area. We are seeking your comments to help us identify any issues or concerns specific to this project; your comments will be considered in the development of this Environmental Assessment. Please send comments to Medford District BLM, Attention: Robyn Wicks, 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, Oregon 97504, telephone 541-618-2458, or e-mail your comments to Medford_Mail@blm.gov (be sure to include "Attention: Robyn Wicks").

Remember, all comments will be made available for public review. If you would like your name or street address withheld from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, please state this clearly at the beginning of your written comment. We will honor your request to the extent allowed by law. All submissions received from organizations or individuals identifying themselves as representatives of organizations, businesses, or government agencies will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Please submit comments on issues you would like to see addressed in the Doubleday Fire Salvage Environmental Assessment by January 9, 2009.

Comments will be most useful if received by January 9, 2009; however, comments will be accepted and reviewed up until the time a decision is made on the project. For more information concerning the Doubleday Fire Salvage project, please contact John Bergin at 541-618-2265, or Robyn Wicks at 541-618-2458.

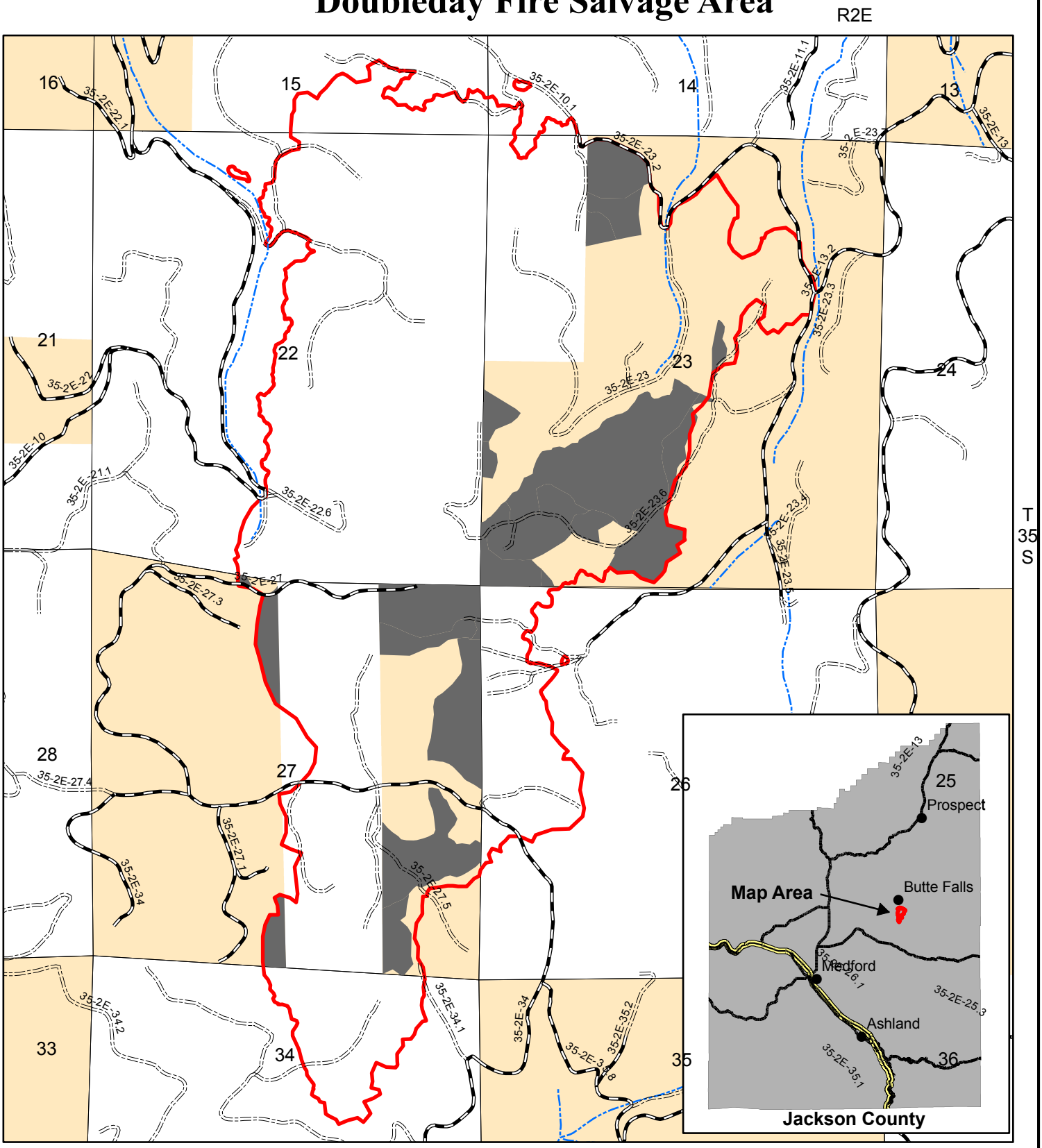
Sincerely,

Heather Bernier
Acting Field Manager
Butte Falls Resource Area

Enclosure

115:Wicks:x2458:tp:12/16/2008:U:tpark/08_Jan_Mar.B8093.Doubleday.Scoping.RW

Doubleday Fire Salvage Area



Fire Salvage Unit

Doubleday Fire Perimeter

Rock or Gravel Road

Natural Road

Perennial Stream

BLM-Administered

Private

N W E S

0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1
Miles

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management
MEDFORD DISTRICT
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