



**File Code:** 1950  
**Route To:**

**Date:** January 27, 2021

**Subject:** Implementation of Medicine Bow Landscape Vegetation Analysis Treatments Pending Mullen Fire Assessment

**To:** File

On August 13, 2020, I signed the Record of Decision (ROD) approving implementation of the Medicine Bow Landscape Vegetation Analysis (LaVA) Project. On September 17, 2020, the Mullen Fire started on the Medicine Bow National Forest and burned 176,878 acres, including 152,093 acres within the LaVA project area and 89,815 acres within LaVA Treatment Opportunity Areas.

The Mullen Fire burned portions of 6 of the 14 LaVA accounting units (see LaVA MFEIS at p. 112 for a map and description of LaVA accounting units). The impacted accounting units are Fox Wood, Pelton Plate, French Douglas, West French, Owen Sheep, and North Corner. Eight accounting units were not impacted by the Mullen Fire: Jack Savery, Sandy Battle, Battle Pass, Green Hog, Big Blackhall, Cedar Brush, Bow Kettle, and Rock Morgan.

An interdisciplinary review has determined that there would be no direct or indirect effects to various resources with respect to the Mullen Fire in the Accounting Units that were not impacted. Consequently, project implementation could continue in those accounting units as analyzed under the August 2020 decision.

I have determined that implementation of LaVA treatments may proceed in the Jack Savery, Sandy Battle, Battle Pass, Green Hog, Big Blackhall, Cedar Brush, Bow Kettle, and Rock Morgan, accounting units pursuant to the LaVA ROD and Final Appendix A: Adaptive Implementation and Monitoring Framework, effective immediately. Treatments in these accounting units will be within the scope of the effects analyzed and disclosed in the LaVA MFEIS, and within the scope of the decision documented in the LaVA ROD. I am not making a determination as to implementation of LaVA treatments within the other accounting units until an assessment of the post-fire condition has been conducted.

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RUSSELL M. BACON  
Forest Supervisor

