File Code: Route To:	3400; 2400	Date:	DEC 1 6 2016
Subject:	Farm Bill Insect and Disease Treatment Area Designation		
To:	Regional Forester, Northern Reg	gion	

Thank you for your letters of June 14, 2016 and September 21, 2016, requesting the designation of additional landscape-scale areas on the Nez Perez National Forest, including a portion of the Getta Creek watershed within the proclaimed forest boundary, to address insect or disease threats under Section 602 of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6591a), as added by section 8204 of the Agricultural Act of 2014.

I have determined the areas you requested to be designated meet one or more of the following criteria in Section 602:

- The area is experiencing decline of forest health based on annual forest health surveys;
- The area is at risk of substantial tree mortality over the next 15 years based on the National Insect and Disease Risk Map; or
- The area is one in which hazard trees pose imminent risk to public infrastructure, health or safety.

Based on this determination, I hereby designate each of the areas, excluding roadless areas, wilderness and wilderness study areas, as a landscape-scale insect and disease area under Section 602(d). The difference between your request (3,320,677 acres) and the approved designations (1,146,119 acres) results from removal of roadless areas, wilderness and wilderness study areas, previously designated acres, non-forest ownership, and watersheds outside of the proclaimed National Forest boundary. A map showing the designated areas is enclosed. This letter of designation, the map showing designated areas, and other documents pertaining to your request will be posted at http://www.fs.fed.us/farmbill/.

This designation will allow us to further evaluate these landscape areas for potential treatments to reduce the risk or extent of, or increase resilience to, insect or disease infestation in accordance with Section 602(d).

Again, thank you for your request to designate for insect and disease treatment landscape areas that are experiencing declining forest health in your region. If you have any questions about the designation, please contact Jeanne Higgins, Acting Associate Deputy Chief, at (202) 205-0824 or <u>jmhiggins@fs.fed.us.</u>

TYD WELL Chief

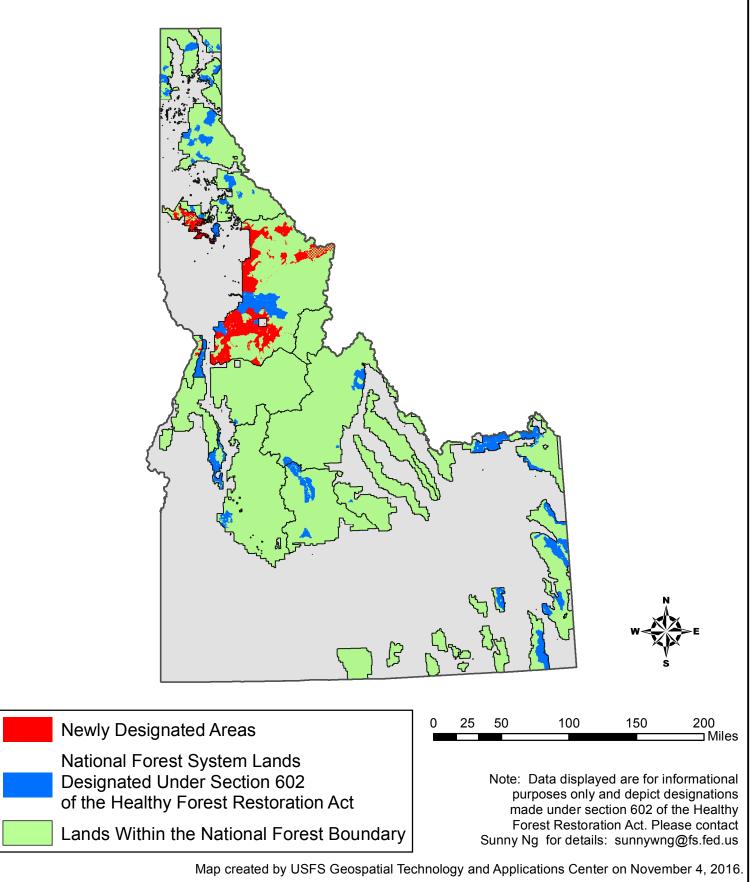




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National Forest System Lands Designated Under Section 602 of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act in Idaho





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