

**File Code:** 3400; 2400**Date:** MAR 22 2017**Route To:****Subject:** Farm Bill Insect & Disease Treatment Area Designation**To:** Regional Forester, Rocky Mountain Region

Thank you for your letter of January 13, 2017, requesting the designation of additional landscape-scale areas on the Medicine Bow National Forest 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 the 84 watersheds (751,283 acres) you requested, excluding Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas, as landscape-scale insect and disease areas under Section 602(d). Maps showing the designated areas are enclosed. This letter of designation, the map showing the designated areas as well as other documents pertaining to your request will be posted <http://www.fs.fed.us/farmbill/>.

Designation under Section 602 will allow further evaluation of 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 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 jmhiggins@fs.fed.us.

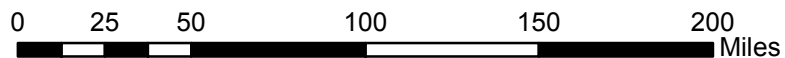
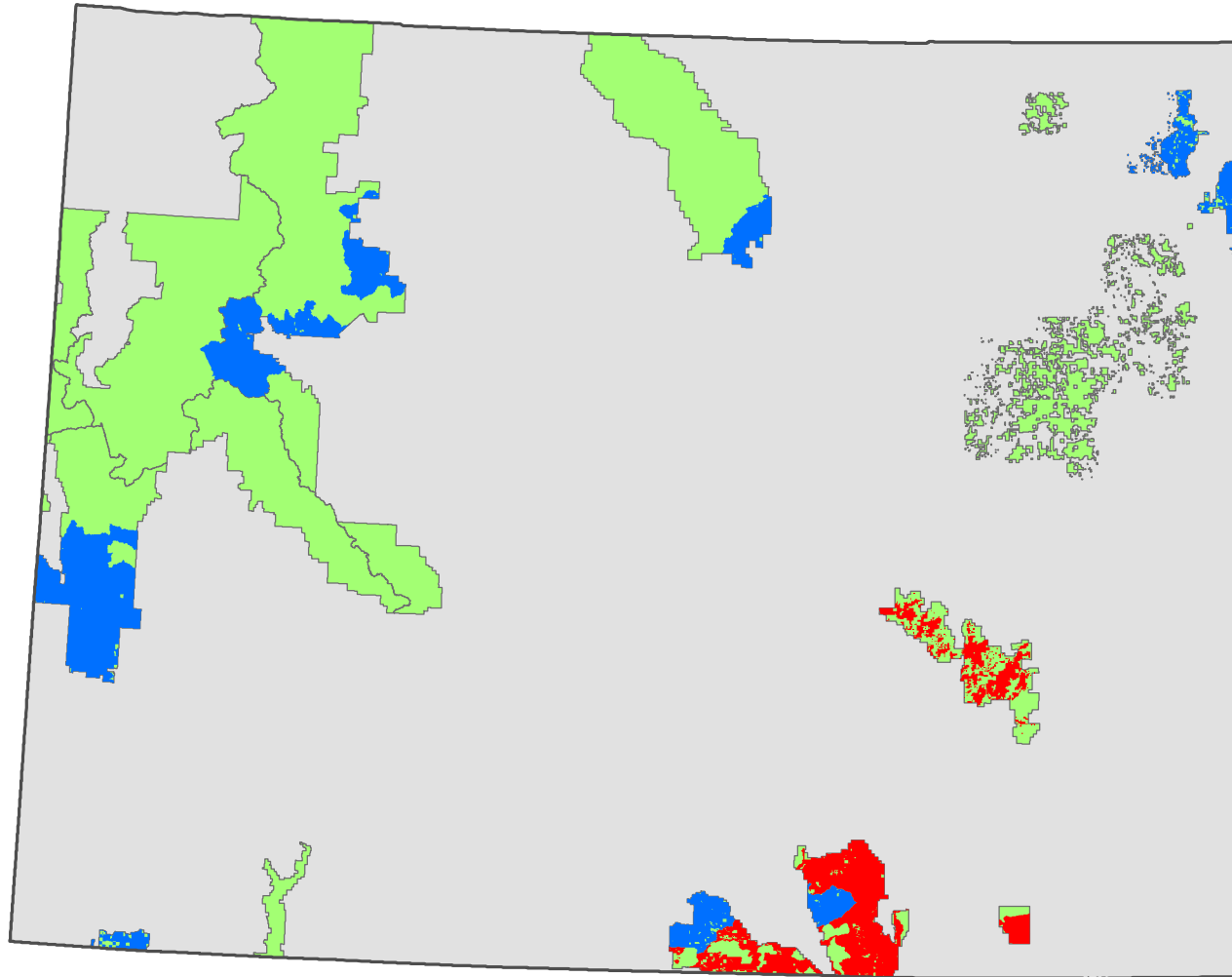
for THOMAS L. TIDWELL
Chief

Enclosures (2)



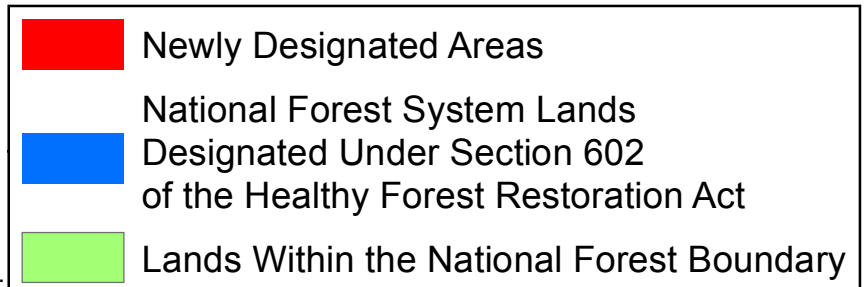


National Forest System Lands Designated Under Section 602 of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act in Wyoming



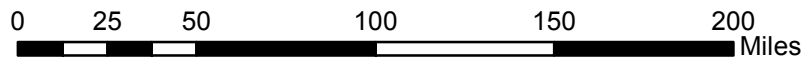
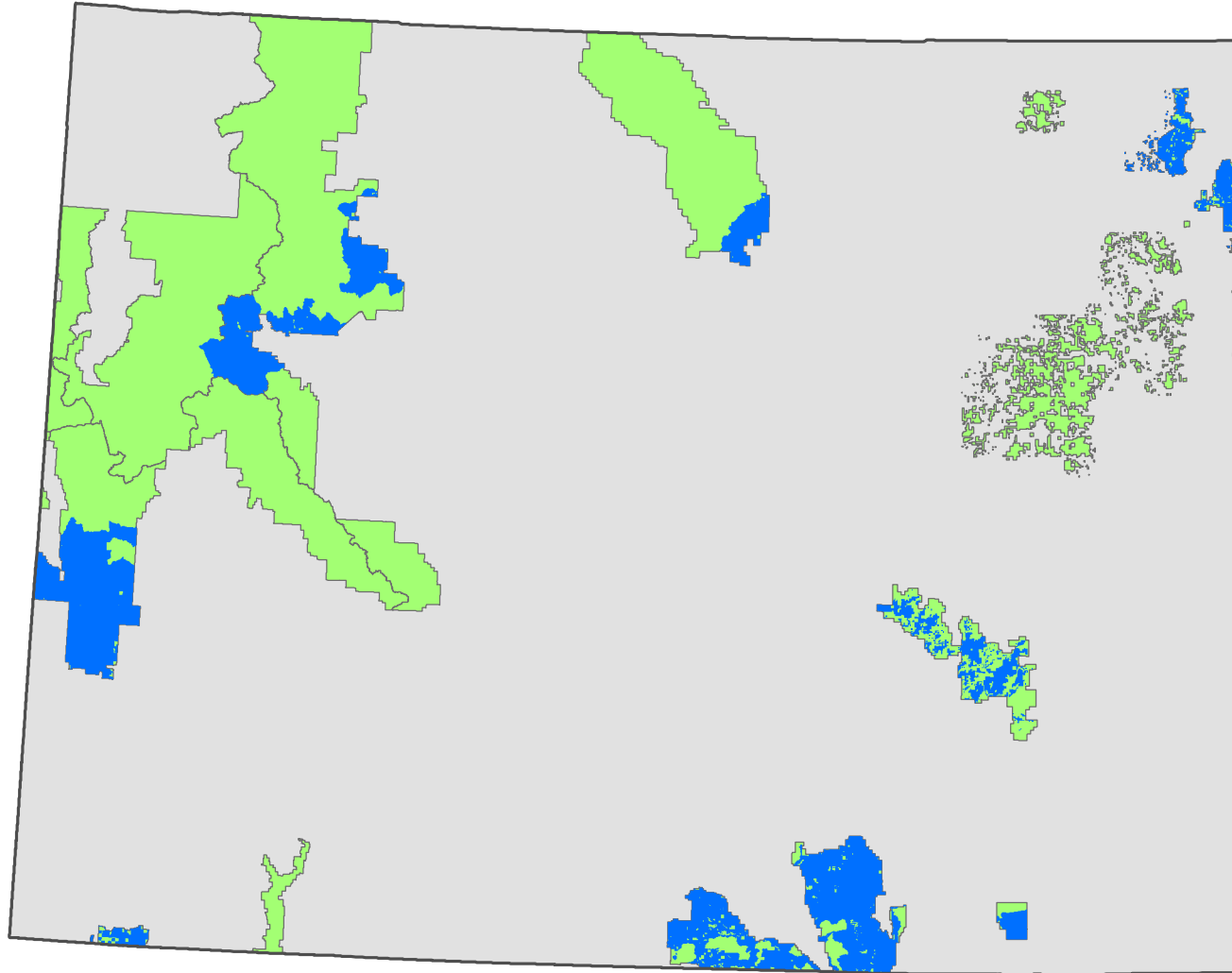
Note: Data displayed are for informational purposes only and depict designations made under section 602 of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act. Please contact Sunny Ng for details: sunnywng@fs.fed.u

Map created by USFS Geospatial Technology and Applications Center on February 23, 2017.





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



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