



**File Code:** 1950

**Date:** August 10, 2010

Dear Friend of Land Between The Lakes:

US Forest Service at Land Between The Lakes (LBL) is seeking your participation in the proposed Grace Creek Restoration project. In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) 40 CFR 1500-1508, I am asking for your involvement early in the process of the project.

### **Proposed Action**

The ice storm of January 2009 caused sporadic damage to the forested landscape of LBL. The 250 acre Grace Creek Restoration project area is a section of the forest affected by the ice storm. A salvage treatment is proposed to improve the remaining oak-hickory forest and regenerate shortleaf pine. A salvage treatment is the removal of dead, damaged, or dying trees. The project area includes 215 acres of mixed oak forest and 35 acres of planted pine. This proposed salvage treatment would improve forest health by diversifying wildlife habitat and regenerating shortleaf pine. The proposed Grace Creek Restoration project is located in the Oak Grassland Demonstration Area of LBL in Trigg County, Kentucky. The attached map defines the project area as east of The Trace, split by FS Road 153 and south of FS Road 144. LBL proposes to use a "Categorical Exclusion" for the Proposed Action.

### **Category of Action**

The category of these actions is in the Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, Chapter 30, 31.2 Category Number 13, which states "Salvage of dead and/or dying trees not to exceed 250 acres, requiring no more than ½ mile of temporary road construction. The proposed action may include incidental removal of live or dead trees for landings, skid trails, and road clearing."

### **Public Involvement**

At this time no decisions have been made in regards to the proposed action. In order to improve this proposed action, I encourage you to share comments and suggestions. If there are any issues or concerns you feel the Forest Service may not be aware of regarding potential effects of the Proposed Action, please email those to LaToya Smith at [latoyasmith@fs.fed.us](mailto:latoyasmith@fs.fed.us) or mail to Land Between The Lakes, Attn: LaToya Smith, 100 Van Morgan Drive, Golden Pond, KY 42211. With your help, we will identify any significant issues to develop alternatives to the Proposed Action. To be most useful, your comments should be received by September 16, 2010.

Sincerely,

/s/ William P. Lisowsky  
WILLIAM P. LISOWSKY  
Area Supervisor

Enclosure

