



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Chattahoochee Oconee  
National Forest

Oconee Ranger District  
1199 Madison Road  
Eatonton, GA 31024  
706-485-7110  
Fax 706-485-7141

File Code: 2400

Date: 02/13/2003

Dear Forest user,

I am inviting you to comment on the following proposed action. The Oconee Ranger District of the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest is proposing a Hazard Tree Removal Project in the vicinity of Lake Sinclair Recreation Area. The project area also includes Twin Bridges Hunt Camp and Twin Bridges Hiking Trail. The purpose of the project is to remove trees with severe rot, deformities that weaken the tops and stems, abnormally leaning trees, broken trees, insect damaged, and/or diseased trees that present a threat to the safety of users of the Lake Sinclair Recreation Area, Hunt Camp, and Hiking Trail. The anticipated implementation date for the project is August, 2003.

The proposed project area is more specifically located in southern Putnam County, north of Highway 212, adjacent to Lake Sinclair and consists of a total of 160 acres (see attached vicinity map). The project area includes a buffer zone of 150 feet from the edges of the campsites, facilities, picnic areas, roads, and trails (see attached project area map). Pine trees that are a hazard to the Recreation Area and Hunt Camp would be removed on 89 acres of the project area by means of a commercial timber sale. Georgia's Best Management Practices for Forestry, Planning for Water Quality, and Streamside Management Zones (SMZ's) would be implemented in all timber removal operations. Hazardous hardwood trees throughout the project area and hazardous pine trees not included in the proposed Timber Sale would be cut by Forest Service personnel and/or by contract labor and will not be removed except for firewood use for the campsites located within the project area.

Forest Service personnel will be present at the entrance of the Lake Sinclair Recreation Area at 9:00 AM on April 15, 2003. Interested persons are welcome to view the project area and ask questions.

You can help us complete our analysis by providing comments on this proposal. Your comments should be mailed to me at the following address:

Bill Nightingale  
Oconee Ranger District  
1199 Madison Highway  
Eatonton, Georgia 31024



Comments must be received by April 30, 2003. Your comments need to be as specific as possible and include the following information:

1. Name, address, and (if possible) telephone number.
2. Title of the project (Lake Sinclair Recreation Area Hazard Tree Removal Project).
3. Specific facts or comments along with supporting reasons that the person believes the responsible official should consider in reaching a decision.

If you have any questions regarding this proposal. Contact Tim Walker at 706/485-7110

Sincerely,

WILLIAM B. NIGHTINGALE  
District Ranger  
Oconee Ranger District  
Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest