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Attorneys for Defendants

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

DENNIS D. MURPHY

Plaintiff.

v.

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE: TOM TIDWELL, in his official capacity as Chief of the United States Forest Service: and NANCY J. GIBSON, in her official capacity as Forest Supervisor of the United States Forest Service,

Defendants

CASE NO. 13-cv-02315-GEB-AC

STIPULATION AND [PROPOSED] ORDER FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO COMPLAINT

The parties seek an order from this Court extending the time for the United States to respond to Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint so that the parties may continue to negotiate and prepare the terms of a draft settlement agreement fully resolving the case.

Plaintiff served its Complaint in this matter on November 13, 2013. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4(i), Defendants' responsive pleading was due on January 13, 2014. The parties stipulated to an extension of 15 days, up to and including January 28, 2014, for Defendants to respond. In submitting the Joint Status Report, Plaintiff indicated that he would amend their Complaint to add claims, and filed a First Amended Complaint on February 6, 2014. (Dkt. No. 13) Defendants' response is presently due on or about February 20, 2014. The Court entered a Scheduling Order in this matter requiring Plaintiff to file a motion for summary judgment on or before September 22, 2014, and Defendants' to file any cross-motion by October 20, 2014. (Dkt. No. 14).

After filing of the Joint Status Report, the parties engaged in settlement talks and exchanged drafts of a written term sheet. This Court then granted a further extension up to and including April 8, STIPULATION AND PROPOSED ORDER TO EXTEND TIME TO RESPOND TO FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT

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2014. (*See* Dkt. No. 21.) On that date, the parties sought, and the Court later approved, a further extension to April 25, 2014. (*See* Dkt. Nos. 22-23.) Although there are still areas where precise language must be agreed-upon, the parties have exchanged "red-line" settlement drafts and are negotiating language on agreed-upon concepts; thus, they continue to anticipate that resolution is probable without further litigation. Resolution without further use of the Court's resources would appear to be good cause to further extend the time for Defendants to respond to Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint.

Wherefore, pursuant to Local Rule 144, the parties hereby stipulate, through undersigned counsel of record, to an extension of seventeen (17) days for Defendants to respond to Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint up to and including May 12, 2014. This should permit the parties sufficient time to finalize a written agreement or to determine that resolution is impractical at this time, and to move forward with litigation. No other dates in the Scheduling Order need be extended or modified to accommodate this extension.

Respectfully submitted,

DATED: April 25, 2014

By <u>/s/ Paul S. Weiland</u> Attorney for Plaintiff

BENJAMIN B. WAGNER United States Attorney

By: /s/ Gregory T. Broderick
GREGORY T. BRODERICK
Assistant United States Attorney

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: April 25, 2014

GARLAND E. BURRELL, JR.

Senior United States District Judge