

4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect those documents are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the reading room.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Robert Flanders, Entomologist, Biological Assessment and Taxonomic Support, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236, (301) 734-8896. For copies of any of the environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact, write to Ms. Deborah Knott at the same address. Please refer to the title of the environmental assessment when ordering copies.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Federal Plant Pest Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 150aa *et seq.*) and the Plant Quarantine Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 151 *et seq.*) (the Acts), the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has broad authority to regulate the importation, interstate movement, and release into the environment of organisms it has reason to believe are plant pests in order to prevent the dissemination of plant pests into the

United States or interstate. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) regulates plant pests under regulations promulgated pursuant to the Acts and contained in 7 CFR part 330 (referred to below as the regulations). The regulations require, among other things, that a permit be obtained for the movement of a plant pest into or through the United States or interstate. The regulations and Acts also allow the Department to include in the permit conditions to prevent the dissemination of plant pests.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), APHIS typically prepares an environmental assessment before issuing a permit for the release in the United States of nonindigenous organisms.

In accordance with applicable regulations, APHIS has received applications for permits for the release into the environment of nonindigenous biological control agents. In the course of reviewing each permit application, APHIS assessed the plant pest risk posed by each organism and the impact

on the environment of releasing each organism under the conditions described in the permit application. APHIS has issued permits for the release into the environment of the organisms listed below after concluding that their release in accordance with conditions on the permits will not present a risk of the introduction or dissemination of plant pests within the United States and will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. The environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact, which are based on data submitted by the applicant and on a review of other relevant literature, provide the public with documentation of APHIS' review and analysis of the environmental impact and plant pest risk associated with releasing the biological control agents into the environment.

Environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact have been prepared by APHIS relative to the issuance of permits for the release into the environment of the following biological control agents with plant pest potential:

Organism	Title of environmental assessment	Date of finding of no significant impact
<i>Eteobalea intermediella</i> and <i>Eteobalea serratella</i> .	"Field Release of the Exotic Moths, (<i>Eteobalea intermediella</i> and <i>E. serratella</i> (Lepidoptera: Cosmopterigidae), for Biological Control of Dalmatian Toadflax, <i>Linaria dalmatica</i> , and Yellow Toadflax, <i>L. vulgaris</i> (Scrophulariaceae)" (April 1996).	4/26/96
<i>Mecinus janthinus</i>	"Field Release of the Exotic Weevil, <i>Mecinus janthinus</i> (Coleoptera: Curculionidae), for Biological Control of Dalmatian Toadflax, <i>Linaria dalmatica</i> , and Yellow Toadflax, <i>L. vulgaris</i> (Scrophulariaceae)" (April 1996).	4/26/96
<i>Septoria passiflorae</i>	"Release of the Phytopathogenic Fungus <i>Septoria passiflorae</i> for Biological Control of Banana Poka, <i>Passiflora tripartita</i> var. <i>Tripartita</i> (Passifloraceae), in Hawaii" (February 1996).	2/23/96

The environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact have been prepared in accordance with : (1) NEPA, (2) Regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1b), and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

Done in Washington, DC, this 4th day of October 1996.

A. Strating,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 96-25932 Filed 10-8-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

Forest Service

National Forest System Timber Sale Program Meeting

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service will host a meeting at the Kimball Conference Center, October 30-31, 1996, to generate ideas for a new project to identify and evaluate innovative ways of improving how national forest timber is sold. At the meeting, agency personnel will outline issues relevant to the project and encourage an open dialogue among attendees concerning their individual views on enhancing the efficiency and administrative flexibility of the agency's timber sale program.

DATES: The meeting will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. October 30-31, 1996. Written comments from those not

in attendance must be received by December 20, 1996.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Kimball Conference Center, 1400 16th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20036. Comments or questions concerning this meeting and requests for a summary of the meeting should be directed to Cliff Hickman, Meeting Coordinator, Timber Management Staff, USDA Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090; via Internet at Hickman_Cliff/wo@fs.fed.us; via the Forest Service home page at www.fs.fed.us; or by calling (202) 205-1162.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cliff Hickman, Meeting Coordinator, Timber Management Staff, (202) 205-1162.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The sale of timber on National Forest System land helps meet the nation's demand for wood; achieves important stewardship

objectives requiring vegetative manipulation; and provides posts, poles, and other forest products to individuals for their own use. The Forest Service manages timber and other vegetation on 191.6 million acres in the National Forest System. The changing nature of the timber program under ecosystem management, the persistent rise in timber program unit costs, and changing national and regional priorities have given rise to the need to explore new and innovative ways to achieve national forest timber-related vegetative management goals.

The Forest Service has scheduled an October meeting to gather ideas for improving the efficiency and administrative flexibility of the national forest timber sale program. To ensure that a broad array of interested parties are represented in the deliberations, there will be a number of invited participants. Other individuals interested in the meeting will be accommodated up to the limitations of the available space.

Anyone unable to attend the meeting may submit written comment to the agency's meeting coordinator named in this notice. To facilitate this process, a meeting summary will be available by November 20, 1996, and may be obtained by contacting the meeting coordinator.

Dated: October 3, 1996.

David G. Unger,
Associate Chief.

[FR Doc. 96-25946 Filed 10-8-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

Rural Utilities Service

Notice of Intent To Conduct Public Meetings and Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to conduct public scoping workshops and prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) intends to hold public scoping workshops and prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in connection with a project in Alaska proposed by the seven electric utilities that are collectively known as the Intertie Participants Group (IPG). The IPG consists of Chugach Electric Association, Inc. (Chugach), Municipality of Anchorage—Municipal Light and Power, City of Seward—Seward Electric System, Matanuska Electric Association, Inc., and the Municipality of Fairbanks—Fairbanks Municipal Utilities System, Golden

Valley Electric Association, Inc. (GVEA), and Homer Electric Association, Inc. (HEA). GVEA and HEA intend to apply for RUS financing assistance for the proposed project. Chugach will act as the construction manager for the proposed project. The proposal, which is referred to as the Southern Intertie Project, consists of the construction and operation of a 230 kV transmission line to be operated initially at 138 kV between Anchorage and a location on the Kenai Peninsula in Alaska.

DATES: RUS will conduct three public scoping workshops as follows:

November 12, 1996, 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Spenard Community Recreation Center, 2020 West 48th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska, Tel: (907) 343-4160

November 13, 1996, 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Cooper Landing Community Hall, Bean Creek Road, Cooper Landing, Alaska, Tel: (907) 595-1257

November 14, 1996, 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Kenai Peninsula Borough Chambers, 144 N. Binkley Street, Soldotna, Alaska, Tel: (907) 262-4441.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nurul Islam, Environmental Protection Specialist, RUS, Engineering and Environmental Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone (202) 720-1784, or Dora Gropp, Chugach Electric Association, Inc., 5601 Minnesota Drive, P.O. Box 196300, Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6300, telephone, (800) 478-7494/(907) 762-4626.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: GVEA and HEA, along with the other five IPG members, are proposing to construct a 230 kV transmission line between Anchorage and a location on the Kenai Peninsula. Alternatives to be considered by RUS include no action, energy conservation, local generation, system alternatives, transmission alternatives, and alternative routes. Comments regarding the proposed project may be submitted orally or in writing within 30 days after the November 14, 1996, workshop to RUS at the address provided in this notice.

The IPG and their consultants have prepared a report entitled, "Southern Intertie Route Selection Study" (Study) for the project. The Environmental Section Report and the Executive Summary Section Report from that Study are available for public review at RUS or Chugach, at the addresses provided in this notice. These reports are also available at the other participants' offices and local libraries.

Please consult local notices for locations.

Based on the study mentioned above and input from interested local, state, and Federal agencies and the public, the IPG and their consultants will prepare an Environmental Analysis to be submitted to RUS for review. RUS will prepare a Draft EIS based on the Environmental Analysis and any other information available to RUS. The Draft EIS will be available for public review for 45 days. The Final EIS will then be prepared considering all the comments received, and made available for public review and comment at least for 30 days. At the end of 30-day comment period a Record of Decision will be issued on the project.

This proposal will require compliance with Title 11 of Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act if lands under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are crossed.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant Federal environmental laws and regulations and completion of environmental review procedures as prescribed by the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations and RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures.

Dated: October 4, 1996.

Adam M. Golodner,
Deputy Administrator, Program Operations.
[FR Doc. 96-26012 Filed 10-8-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

ASSASSINATION RECORDS REVIEW BOARD

Sunshine Act Meeting

DATE: October 15-16, 1996.

PLACE: ARRB, 600 E Street, NW., Washington, DC.

STATUS: Open (Room 206) and Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

October 15, 9:00 a.m.—Closed Meeting

1. Review and Accept Minutes of Closed Meeting
2. Review of Assassination Records
3. Other Business

October 16, 9:00 a.m.—Continuation of Closed Meeting

October 16, 2:00 p.m.—Open Meeting

1. Procedures for handling records whose relevance to the assassination cannot be determined
2. Other issues

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Eileen Sullivan, Assistant Press and Public Affairs Officer, 600 E Street, NW., Second Floor, Washington, DC