

collection techniques or other forms of information technology, or any other aspect of this collection of information. Comments on issues covered by the Paperwork Reduction Act are most useful to OMB if received within 30 days of publication of the Notice and Request for Comments, but must be submitted no later than 60 days from the date of publication to be assured consideration. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also be a matter of public record.

Signed at Washington, DC, on June 22, 1999.

**Timothy J. Galvin,**

*Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[UT-050-1430-01-24-1A]

#### **Quitcupah Creek Road, UTU-57907, Fishlake National Forest and Bureau of Land Management, Richfield District, Sevier and Emery Counties, Utah**

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare a third-party environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** The Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management will jointly direct preparation of a Third-Party Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to document the analysis and disclose the environmental and human effects of proposed actions to upgrade and realign an existing road/trail through Quitcupah Canyon, Sevier and Emery Counties, Utah. The road crosses public land parcels administered by the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the State of Utah, as well as land that is privately owned.

The 9.2-mile Quitcupah Creek Road would connect State Road 10 in T 22 S, R 6 E, Section 30 of Emery County, with an existing Sevier County road in T 22 S, R 4 E, Section 11. This Sevier County road in Convulsion Canyon is utilized predominantly for hauling coal from the SUFCO Mine.

Currently, the Quitcupah Creek Road is unpaved, and is only maintained over the lower 3 to 4 miles.

Within the Quitcupah Creek canyon area, steep cut slopes, the incised stream channel, and erodible soils have

recently rendered the road impassable by vehicles. Livestock are trailed through the canyon seasonally; other users are primarily local recreationists and/or hunters.

#### **Agency Decisions**

Separate Records of Decision would be issued by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management on whether or not to grant right-of-way to Sevier County and under what terms and conditions.

**DATES:** Written comments concerning the scope of the analysis described in this Notice should be received on or before July 31, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to JBR Environmental Consultants, Inc., 8160 South Highland Drive, Suite A-4, Sandy, Utah 84093.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kay Erickson, Bureau of Land Management, Richfield District, (435) 896-1500; or Linda Jackson, Fishlake National Forest, Richfield, (435) 896-9233.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Sevier County has proposed to upgrade the Quitcupah Creek Road as an additional, shorter haul road for trucks entering Emery County from Canyon Fuels' SUFCO Mine. The Mine would be the primary user of the upgraded road. The road would also provide access to the Accord Lakes area, and a shorter route for those in the Emery area traveling west toward Salina and I-15.

The proposed project would generally follow the existing Quitcupah Creek Road alignment. However, where needed to avoid archeological sites or other constraints to widening, short reaches of the road are proposed to be realigned. Given the proximity of the existing road with Quitcupah Creek in the narrow canyon bottom, it is anticipated that stream crossings would be required.

When completed, the road would have a 26-foot wide paved surface. The corridor width to be disturbed during construction would be expected to average about 100 feet. In addition, several construction equipment staging areas would be required, and would be located along the road corridor. Borrow sites to obtain fill material would also be needed and they may be located adjacent to the project area. The disturbed area associated with this project is expected to be less than 200 acres.

#### **Preliminary Issues**

Initially identified issues of concern include: archaeological resources, wildlife, livestock, land use, sensitive

species, wetlands and riparian habitat, stream quality, and socioeconomics.

#### **Possible Alternatives**

The EIS will analyze the Proposed Action and No Action Alternatives. Other alternatives may include altering portions of the route, or designing parameters to provide mitigation for resources of concern.

#### **Tentative Project Schedule**

The tentative project schedule is as follows:

- Begin Public Comment Period—July, 1999.
- Hold Public Scoping Meetings—July, 1999.
- File Draft EIS—March, 2000.
- File Final EIS—June, 2000.
- Record of Decision—July, 2000.

#### **Public Scoping Meetings**

Two public scoping meetings will be held in Utah, each an open house type meeting from 7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. The open house will include displays explaining the project and a forum for commenting on the project. The meetings will be held as follows:

- July 21, 1999—Museum of the San Rafael, Castle Dale, Utah.
- July 22, 1999—Quality Inn, Richfield, Utah.

#### **Public Input Requested**

Comments concerning the Proposed Action and EIS should address issues to be considered, feasible alternatives to examine, possible mitigation, and information relevant to or having bearing on the Proposed Action.

Dated: June 23, 1999.

**Ron Sanden,**

*Acting Forest Supervisor, Fishlake National Forest.*

**Dave Henderson,**

*Acting Field Manager, Richfield Bureau of Land Management Field Office.*

[FR Doc. 99-16713 Filed 6-30-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### **Revised Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement; Indian River Timber Sale(s), Sitka and Hoonah Ranger Districts, Tongass National Forest, Sitka, AK**

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Revised notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Agriculture, Forest Service will prepare a Final Environmental Impact Statement

for the Indian River Timber Sale(s) Project, located on the Sitka and Hoonah Ranger Districts, Tongass National Forest. This Notice of Intent revises the schedule for decision and designates a responsible official different from the one described in the Notice of Intent published November 1, 1995 (**Federal Register**: Volume 60, Number 211, Pages 55538-55540).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Linn Shipley, Team Leader, Assistant Forest Supervisors' Office, 204 Siginaka Way, Sitka, AK 99835, phone (907) 747-6671, FAX (907) 747-4331, email: lshipley/r10\_chatham@fs.fed.us.

#### Decisions To Be Made

Fred S. Salinas, Assistant Forest Supervisor of the Tongass National Forest, is now the responsible official and will decide whether or not to authorize timber harvest within the Indian River Project Area. In addition, if timber harvest will occur, he will determine the following: (1) Whether the design of the timber sale(s) is consistent with meeting resource protection standards and guidelines in the modified 1997 Tongass Land and Resource Management Plan and the 1999 Record of Decision; (2) how much timber volume will be made available and what are the effects of the planned activities; (3) the location and design of the timber harvest units, log transfer facilities, and road system; (4) mitigation and monitoring required for sound resource management; (5) whether there is a significant possibility of a significant restriction on subsistence uses; and (6) road management objectives, including closures for resource protection and economics.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision is expected to be released by August 1999. The Responsible Official will make a decision regarding this project after considering public comments, the environmental consequences displayed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement, and applicable laws, regulations, and policies. The decision and supporting reasons will be documented in the Record of Decision.

Dated: June 21, 1999.

**Fred S. Salinas,**

*Assistant Forest Supervisor.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Southwest Oregon Province Interagency Executive Committee (PIEC) Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Southwest Oregon PIEC Advisory Committee will meet on July 14, 1999 at Diamond Lake Resort (east of Roseburg, Oregon).

The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue until 4:30 p.m. Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Umpqua River Basin Land Exchange Project; (2) Aquatic Conservation Strategy; (3) Basin watershed restoration technical team development; (4) Diamond Lake rehabilitation; (5) Public comment; and (6) Current issues as perceived by Advisory Committee members.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct questions regarding this meeting to Chuck Anderson, Province Advisory Committee Coordinator, USDA, Forest Service, Rogue River National Forest, 333 W. 8th Street, Medford, Oregon 97501, phone (541) 858-2322.

Dated: June 23, 1999.

**Charles J. Anderson,**

*Acting Designated Federal Official.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

#### Opportunity for Designation in the California, Kankakee (IL), Washington, Alabama, and Springfield (IL) Areas and Request for Comments on the California, Kankakee (IL), Washington, Alabama, and Springfield (IL) Agencies

**AGENCY:** Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The designations of the official agencies listed below will end in January and February 2000. GIPSA is asking persons interested in providing official services in the areas served by these agencies to submit an application for designation. GIPSA is also asking for

comments on the services provided by these currently designated agencies:

California Department of Food and Agriculture (California);

Kankakee Grain Inspection, Inc. (Kankakee);

Washington Department of Agriculture (Washington);

Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries (Alabama); and

Springfield Grain Inspection, Inc. (Springfield).

**DATES:** Applications and comments must be postmarked or sent by telecopier (FAX) on or before July 30, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Applications and comments must be submitted to USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-3604. Applications and comments may be submitted by FAX on 202-690-2755. If an application is submitted by FAX, GIPSA reserves the right to request an original application. All applications and comments will be made available for public inspection at this address located at 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, during regular business hours.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Janet M. Hart, at 202-720-8525.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

This Action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this Action.

Section 7(f)(1) of the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act), authorizes GIPSA's Administrator to designate a qualified applicant to provide official services in a specified area after determining that the applicant is better able than any other applicant to provide such official services.

Section 7(g)(1) of the Act provides that designations of official agencies shall end not later than triennially and may be renewed according to the criteria and procedures prescribed in Section 7(f) of the Act.