

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 1621-1627.

**Dated:** November 2, 1999.

**Robert C. Keeney,**

*Deputy Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs.*

[FR Doc. 99-29211 Filed 11-5-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Notice of Intent To Prepare Environmental Impact Statement, South Fourth of July Timber Sale

**SUMMARY:** The Salmon-Challis National Forest will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement to document the analysis and disclose the environmental impacts of a proposed timber sale in the South Fourth of July subwatershed in the Panther Creek drainage.

The Salmon/Cobalt Ranger District is proposing to manage forested vegetation on approximately 1,855 acres through commercial timber harvest practices and associated pre-commercial thinning. The Interdisciplinary Team also reviewed the effectiveness of travel management closures in meeting the Forest Travel Plan; the Team recommended some road closure changes or modifications in order to better meet the Travel Plan objectives. It will take approximately three to five years to complete the harvest, firewood gathering, slash disposal and post sale pre-commercial thinning. No timber harvest would occur within PACFISH defined riparian habitat conservation areas. The analysis area is approximately 47,600 acres and is located Township 18 North, Range 18 East; Township 19 North, Ranges 17 and 18 East; Township 20 North, Ranges 17 and 18 East; Township 21 North, Ranges 17 and 18 East; Boise Meridian, Lemhi County, Idaho. The analysis area is completely within the Panther Creek drainage. None of the harvest units are within inventoried roadless areas identified in the Salmon National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.

**DATES:** Written comments concerning the project described in this notice should be received by December 15, 1999, to ensure timely consideration. No scoping meetings are planned at this time.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to District Ranger Terry Hershey, Salmon/Cobalt Ranger District, RR2, Box 600, Salmon, ID 83467.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Questions concerning the proposed action and Environmental Impact

Statement should be directed to Wayne Hecker at 208-756-5100.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Forest Service is seeking information and comments from the Federal, State and local agencies, as well as individuals and organizations who may be interested in, or affected by, the proposed action. The Forest Service invites written comments and suggestions on the issues related to the proposal and the area being analyzed.

Information received will be used in preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Final Environmental Impact Statement. For the most effective use, comments should be submitted to the Forest Service within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. The Responsible Official is George Matejko, Forest Supervisor, Salmon-Challis National Forest. The decision to be made to whether to harvest National Forest System timber and improve conditions for growth and regeneration of ponderosa pine and lodgepole pine stands. The draft is expected to be available in March of 2000, with a Final Environmental Impact Statement estimated to be completed in June of 2000. The comment period on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**. The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of Draft Environmental Impact Statement must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions, *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the Draft Environmental Impact Statement stage but that are not raised until after completion of the Final Environmental Impact Statement may be waived or dismissed by the courts, *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the 45-day comment period so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them

and respond to them in the Final Environmental Impact Statement. To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapter of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered, however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR 215 or 217. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the Freedom of Information Act, confidentiality may be granted in only limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requester of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be submitted with or without name and address within 10 days.

**Dated:** October 8, 1999.

**George Matejko,**

*Forest Supervisor.*

[FR Doc. 99-29096 Filed 11-5-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Klamath Provincial Advisory Committee (PAC)

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Klamath Provincial Advisory Committee will meet on November 18–19, 1999, at the Klamath County Community Meeting Room, in the Klamath County Courthouse, 316 Main Street, Klamath Falls, Oregon. On Thursday, November 18, the meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. and will adjourn at 5 p.m. On Friday, November 19, the meeting will start at 8 a.m. and adjourn at 1 p.m. Agenda items for the meeting include: (1) Survey and Manage Update; (2) Total Maximum Daily Load Letter Proposal; (3) Watershed Analysis Prioritization on the Shasta-Trinity National Forests; (4) Subcommittee Reports; and (5) Public Comment Periods. All PAC meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Connie Hendryx, USDA, Klamath National Forest, 1312 Fairlane Road, Yreka, California 96097; telephone 530–841–4468 (voice), TDD 530–841–4573.

Dated: November 1, 1999.

**Margaret J. Boland,**

*Forest Supervisor.*

[FR Doc. 99–29112 Filed 11–5–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–11–M

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Utilities Service

#### Distance Learning and Telemedicine Loan and Grant Program

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of application filing deadline.

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) announces its Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program application window for funding during fiscal year (FY) 2000. For FY 2000, \$20 million in grants and \$200 million in loans will be made available for distance learning and telemedicine projects serving rural America. The funding will be provided in three categories: (1) \$13 million will be available for grants; (2) \$130 million will be available for loans; and (3) \$77 million will be available for combination grants and loans (\$7 million in grants paired with \$70 million in loans).

**DATES:** Applications for grants must be postmarked no later than Friday, March 17, 2000. Applications for FY 2000 loans or combination loans and grants may be submitted at anytime up to September 30, 2000, and will be processed on a first-come, first-serve basis.

**ADDRESSES:** Applications are to be submitted to the Rural Utilities Service,

U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, STOP 1550, Washington, DC 20250–1550.

Applications should be marked

“Attention: Director, Advanced Services Division, Telecommunications Program.”

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Orren E. Cameron, Director, Advanced Services Division, Telecommunications Program, Rural Utilities Service, STOP 1550, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250–1590, Telephone (202) 690–4493, Facsimile (202) 720–1051.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** For FY 2000, \$13 million in grants, a combination of \$7 million in grants paired with \$70 million in loans, and \$130 million in loans will be made available for distance learning and telemedicine projects.

Notice is hereby given that under 7 CFR 1703.124, 1703.133, and 1703.143, RUS has determined the maximum amount of an application for a grant that will be considered for funding in FY 2000 as \$350,000. The maximum amount for a loan, generally, that will be considered for funding in FY 2000 is \$10,000,000. However, RUS may fund a project greater than \$10,000,000 subject to the project's feasibility and the availability of loan funds.

Applications for financial assistance must be submitted in accordance with 7 CFR part 1703, subparts D, E, F, and G, which establish the policies and procedures for submitting an application for financial assistance. These subparts and an application guide to assist in the preparation of applications are available on the Internet at the following address: “<http://www.usda.gov/rus/dlt/dlml.htm>”. Applications guides may also be requested from RUS by contacting one of the following Area Offices: Eastern Area, USDA—RUS, Phone: (202) 690–4673; Northwest Area, USDA—RUS, Phone: (202) 720–1025; Southwest Area, USDA—RUS, Phone: (202) 720–0800.

Each application will be reviewed for completeness in accordance with 7 CFR part 1703, subparts D, E, F, and G. The applicant will be notified within 15 working days of receipt of the results of this review, citing any information needed to complete the application. It is suggested that grant applications be submitted prior to the deadline to ensure they can be reviewed and considered complete by the deadline.

Dated: November 3, 1999.

**Christopher A. McLean,**

*Acting Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.*

[FR Doc. 99–29117 Filed 11–5–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–15–P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Submission For OMB Review; Comment Request

DOC has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

*Agency:* U.S. Census Bureau.

*Title:* Quarterly Survey of Residential Alterations and Repairs.

*Form Number(s):* SORAR–705.

*Agency Approval Number:* 0607–0130.

*Type of Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Burden:* 2,400 hours.

*Number of Respondents:* 2,400.

*Avg Hours Per Response:* 15 minutes.

*Needs and Uses:* The Census Bureau conducts the Quarterly Survey of Residential Alterations and Repairs to collect information on real-property improvements and repairs from a sample of owners or designated representatives of rental or vacant residential housing units. We mail this survey quarterly to respondents over a one-year period. We use data gathered in this survey as a component to our published estimates of expenditures for residential upkeep and improvement. Data on improvements and repairs to owner occupied housing units are gathered in the Consumer Expenditures Survey and are also incorporated into published estimates. Estimates are used by a variety of private businesses and trade associations for marketing studies, economic forecasts, and assessments of the construction industry. They also provide all levels of government with a tool to evaluate economic policy and measure progress towards established goals. For example, the Bureau of Economic Analysis uses the improvement statistics to develop the structures component of gross private domestic investment in the national income and product accounts.

This submission requests a three year extension of the current expiration date. The only change is a 20 percent increase in sample size due to an equivalent sample size increase in the Consumer Expenditures Survey, from which the Quarterly Survey of Residential Alterations and Repairs obtains its sample.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households, businesses or other for-profit organizations, State, Local or Tribal Government.

*Frequency:* Quarterly.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

*Legal Authority:* Title 13 USC, Section 182.