

intensity of fire is not within historic pattern for this area. The developed and natural resources on the National Forest lands and private property within the area are of considerable value both locally and regionally. For these reasons, this area has been identified as a top priority to reduce the wildfire potential.

The project includes approximately 7200 acres, encompassing 2030 acres of private lands and 5100 acres of National Forest lands. The area is situated totally within Bonner County, Idaho, approximately 22 airmiles north of the community of Priest River, Idaho. The legal description for the project includes all or portions of the following sections: Sections 5–8; Township 59 North;

Range 4 West

Sections 1–3 and 10–12; Township 59 North; Range 5 West

Sections 5–7, 17, 19, 20 and 29–32;

Township 60 North; Range 4 West

Sections 1–3, 10–15, 22–27, and 34–36;

Township 60 North; Range 5 West.

As Deciding Officer, I will decide how much and what, if any, actions including fuel treatments, timber harvesting and related activities, and road construction/reconstruction will occur on National Forest lands. I also will decide specific project mitigation measures, as necessary, to achieve Forest Plan objectives and standards for affected resources.

Public participation plays an important role in the environmental analysis process. The initial scoping process (40 CFR 1501.7) for this analysis began October 1999. Earlier public participation occurred during the preparation of the Lakeface-Lamb Fuel Reduction environmental assessment beginning in 1995. This environmental assessment led us to the conclusion that we needed to further the assessment in the format of an EIS, hence the issuance of this NOI. The mailing list for public scoping will include those individuals who have previously expressed interest in this project as well as those responding to this NOI and to the Idaho Panhandle National Forests Quarterly Schedule of Proposed Actions, October 1999. In addition, the public is encouraged to visit with Forest Service officials during the analysis and prior to the decision. The Forest Service will also be seeking information, comments, and assistance from Federal, State, and local agencies and other individuals or organizations who may be interested in or affected by the proposed actions.

Comments from the public and other agencies will be used in preparation of the Draft EIS. The scoping process is used to:

1. Identify potential issues.
2. Identify major issues to be analyzed in depth.
3. Eliminate minor issues or those covered by a relevant previous environmental analysis
4. Identify alternatives to the proposed action.
5. Identify potential environmental effects of the proposed action and alternatives including cumulative effects.

Some public concerns have already been expressed through earlier scoping and the following significant issues have been identified: scenery; social; and white-tailed deer winter range.

This list will be verified, expanded, or modified based on public scoping and interdisciplinary review for this proposal.

The draft environmental impact statement is expected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and available for public review in January 2000. The final environmental impact statement is expected to be completed in March 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 statements 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, 533 (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft environmental statement stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final environmental 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 final environmental impact statement.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concern 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 statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft environment impact statement or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in statement. Reviews 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.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication of program information (braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250, call 1-800-245-6340 (voice) or 202-720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

Dated: November 22, 1999.

David J. Wright,

Forest Supervisor, Idaho Panhandle National Forests.

[FR Doc. 99-30865 Filed 11-26-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Additions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed Additions to Procurement List.

SUMMARY: The Committee has received proposals to add to the Procurement List services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE: December 29, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Gateway 3, Suite 310, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-4302.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Milkman (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 47(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the possible impact of the proposed actions.

If the Committee approves the proposed additions, all entities of the Federal Government (except as otherwise indicated) will be required to procure the services listed below from nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the services to the Government.

2. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the services to the Government.

3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the services proposed for addition to the Procurement List. Comments on this certification are invited. Commenters should identify the statement(s) underlying the certification on which they are providing additional information.

The following services have been proposed for addition to Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agencies listed:

Base Supply Center, Operation of Individual Equipment Element Store and HAZMART, Charleston Air Force Base, South Carolina, NPA: Industries for the Blind, Inc., Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Grounds Maintenance/Vegetation Control, Concord Naval Weapons Station, Concord, California, NPA: Phoenix Programs, Incorporated, Concord, California

Janitorial/Custodial

The Library of Congress, Washington, DC for the following buildings:

James Madison Memorial, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams & Little Scholars Child Care Facility, NPA: Ability Unlimited, Inc., Washington, District of Columbia

Operation of Individual Equipment Element Store and HAZMART, Travis Air Force Base, California, NPA:

South Texas Lighthouse for the Blind, Corpus Christi, Texas

Beverly L. Milkman,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 99-30920 Filed 11-26-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6353-01-P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Additions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Additions to the Procurement List.

SUMMARY: This action adds to the Procurement List commodities and services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 29, 1999.

ADDRESS: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Gateway 3, Suite 310, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-4302.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Milkman (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On September 3 and 24, and October 8 and 15, 1999, the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notices (64 F.R. 48345, 51736, 54862 and 55897) of proposed additions to the Procurement List.

The Following Comments Pertain to Bookcase, Steel, Contemporary

Comments were received from the current contractor in response to a request for sales data. The contractor suggested that the previous addition to the Procurement List of a portion of the Government requirements for the bookcase hastened the demise of a corporate predecessor to the contractor. The contractor indicated that current Federal sales of the bookcase represent only a very small portion of the contractor's total sales, but are important because they use some of the company's underutilized productive capacity. The contractor also noted its status as a Hubzone Empowerment Contracting Company located in an extremely high unemployment area. According to the Committee's figures, the previous Procurement List addition the contractor mentioned affected a fairly small portion of the sales of the contractor's corporate predecessor. As the contractor admitted, the current

Procurement List addition affects an even smaller part of the contractor's current total sales. Persons with severe disabilities have an unemployment rate over twice that cited by the contractor for its area. The Committee therefore believes that addition of this supply requirement for the bookcase will not have a severe adverse impact on the contractor, even taking the past Procurement List addition impact into consideration, and the jobs to be created for persons with severe disabilities outweigh a possible job loss for workers who could more easily find replacement jobs.

The Following Comments Pertain to Cup, Paper, Disposable, Hot

Comments were received from one of the current contractors for this cup. The contractor noted that while sales of the cup are a small part of the company's total sales, they are a "rather significant piece of business" for the company's cup sales. The contractor also asked to be allowed to be a supplier if the cup were added to the Procurement List.

The contractor is a very large business, and its sales of this cup are well below one percent of its total sales, so the Committee's action should have no severe adverse impact on the company or its cup production operation, which the company can easily support if needed. Addition of the cup to the Procurement List will not bar the contractor from serving as a supplier of paper cup stock to the nonprofit agency which will produce the cup for the Government.

The Following Material Pertains to all of the Items Being Added to the Procurement List

After consideration of the material presented to it concerning capability of qualified nonprofit agencies to provide the commodities and services and impact of the additions on the current or most recent contractors, the Committee has determined that the commodities and services listed below are suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 46-48c and 41 CFR 51-2.4.

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the commodities and services to the Government.