

MAXIMUM PER MEAL REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR ALL STATES (BUT ALASKA OR HAWAII)

| | Operating costs | Administrative costs | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Rural or self-preparation sites | Other types of sites |
| Breakfast | \$1.25 | \$.1250 | \$.0975 |
| Lunch or Supper | 2.18 | .2275 | .1900 |
| Supplement | .50 | .0625 | .0500 |

The 2000 reimbursement rates, in dollars, for Alaska:

MAXIMUM PER MEAL REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR ALASKA ONLY

| | Operating costs | Administrative costs | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Rural or self-preparation sites | Other types of sites |
| Breakfast | \$2.02 | \$.2000 | \$.1600 |
| Lunch or Supper | 3.53 | .3700 | .3075 |
| Supplement | .82 | .1000 | .0800 |

The 2000 reimbursement rates in dollars, for Hawaii:

MAXIMUM PER MEAL REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR HAWAII ONLY

| | Operating costs | Administrative costs | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Rural or self-preparation sites | Other types of sites |
| Breakfast | \$1.46 | \$.1450 | \$.1150 |
| Lunch or Supper | 2.55 | .2675 | .2225 |
| Supplement | .59 | .0725 | .0575 |

The total amount of payments to State agencies for disbursement to Program sponsors will be based upon these Program reimbursement rates and the number of meals of each type served. The above reimbursement rates, for both operating and administrative reimbursement rates, represent a 2.4 percent increase during 1999 (from 162.6 in November 1998 to 166.5 in November 1999) in the food away from home series of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor. The Department would like to point out that the SFSP administrative reimbursement rates continue to be adjusted up or down to the nearest quarter-cent, as has previously been the case. Additionally, operating reimbursement rates have been rounded down to the nearest whole cent, as required by Section 11(a)(3)(B) of the NSLA (42 U.S.C. 1759(a)(3)(B)).

Authority: Secs. 9, 13 and 14, National School Lunch Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1758, 1761, and 1762a).

Dated: December 15, 1999.

Samuel Chambers, Jr.,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 99-33099 Filed 12-18-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-U

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the White River National Forest and Draft Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Extension of the comment period for the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the White River National Forest and Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: The comment period has been extended for the proposed revised Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan), the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), and associated documents. The original Notice of Availability was published in the

Federal Register, Vol. 64, No. 151 on August 6, 1999 (64 FR 42900) as FR Doc. 99-19922. The first extension of the comment period was published in the **Federal Register**, Volume 64, No. 210 on November 1, 1999 (64 FR 58807) as FR Doc. 99-28461.

DATES: Public comment began on August 6, 1999, and will end May 9, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties are invited to send written comments regarding the proposed revised Forest Plan and Draft EIS to the address below: Forest Supervisor, Forest Plan Revision Comments, White River National Forest, P.O. Box 948, Glenwood Springs, CO 81602.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions about this action or requests for the documents listed above should be addressed to: Carolyn Upton, Team Leader, White River National Forest, P.O. Box 948, Glenwood Springs, CO 81602, Telephone Number: (970) 945-3226.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The public comment period originally began

on August 6, 1999 and ended on November 4, 1999. The first extension to the comment period extended it to February 9, 2000. The FY 2000 Appropriations Bill (Public Law 106-113, passed on November 29, 1999) contains an amendment specific to the White River National Forest. The amendment reads: The Forest Service shall extend the public comment period on the White River National Forest plan revision for 90 days beyond February 9, 2000. To comply with that direction, the comment period has been extended.

Dated: December 10, 1999.

Martha Ketelle,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 99-33368 Filed 12-22-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-BW-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Deep Vegetation Management Project, Ochoco National Forest, Crook and Wheeler Counties, OR

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The USDA, Forest Service, will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) on a Proposed Action to complete silvicultural treatments, including commercial harvest, pre-commercial thinning, and prescribed fire, to improve the health and diversity of forest stands in the Deep Creek Watershed. The Deep Creek Watershed is located approximately 60 miles northeast of Prineville, Oregon and covers approximately 55,400 acres. Approximately 97 percent of the watershed is National Forest System land. The project is proposed for fiscal years 2000 through 2004. The Ochoco National Forest invites written comment on this proposal and the scope of analysis. The agency will give notice of the full environmental analysis and decision making process for the proposal so interested and affected people may participate and contribute to the final decision.

DATES: Send written comments and concerns on the issues and management of this area by February 15, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Thomas A. Schmidt, Forest Supervisor, Ochoco National Forest, P.O. Box 490, Prineville, Oregon 97754, or Eugene Skrine, District Ranger, Paulina Ranger District, 7803 Beaver Creek Road, Paulina, Oregon 97751.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tom Mafera, Deep Project Leader, Paulina,

Ranger District, 7803 Beaver Creek Road, Paulina, OR 97751, phone (541) 477-6910.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Forest Service Proposed Action will conduct management activities, including commercial timber harvest, pre-commercial thinning, and prescribed fire, in the Deep Creek Watershed. Based on an analysis of existing vegetation conditions in the Deep Creek Watershed, opportunities were identified to conduct silvicultural treatments to improve the health and diversity of forested stands. Silvicultural treatments include approximately 8,000 acres of thinning/selection harvest and approximately 25,000 acres of low intensity prescribed burning. This Proposed Action will to develop opportunities for post/pole/chip/firewood products from small-sized trees. The proposal will develop habitat improvement projects for a variety of wildlife, fish, and sensitive plant species. There will be road development and/or repair to access the treatment areas. Approximately 10 miles of currently existing roads will be decommissioned or obliterated. Roads currently closed will be re-assessed.

The purpose and need for action is to provide landscape-level health and diversity within the project area. Also to provide multiple use benefits: such as wildlife and fish habitat restoration; riparian and watershed restoration; visual quality; and timber products.

All activities will be consistent with the 1989 Ochoco National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan as amended by the 1995 Inland Native Fish Strategy and the Regional Foresters Forest Plan Amendment #2. This project will also be guided by the recommendations in the Deep Creek Watershed Analysis.

The decision-to-be-made will include whether, where, and/or how much of each proposed vegetation activity should occur, and/or how much road and where decommissioning, repair, obliteration, or construction should occur.

The northern edge of the project area follows the ridgeline north of Forest Road (FR) 2630 east from the western district boundary through Buck Point, and Camp Weston Point. The eastern edge follows the ridgeline from Camp Weston Point southeasterly to Alder Springs. From Alder Springs it goes south and follows FR 1200 to the junction of FR 1200/1250, southeasterly to Bear Mountain and south to FR 42. FR 42 bounds the southern edge west to Dry Reservoir, southwest through Twin Springs to the North Fork Crooked

River. The western boundary is from the North Fork Crooked River north along the Paulina/Big Summit Ranger District boundary to just north of FR 2630. The project area includes portions of the following streams: Deep Creek, Little Summit Creek, Happy Camp Creek, Jackson Creek, Double Corral Creek, Chamberlin Creek, Toggle Creek, Buck Hollow Creek, Derr Creek, Haypress Creek, Big Spring Creek, and branches of Crazy and Thorton Creeks.

Preliminary issues have been identified: landscape level pattern and vegetative diversity; water quality and fish habitat; fuels and fire hazard, effects on soils, and effects on proposed endangered, threatened or sensitive species.

Alternatives to be considered will include the no action alternative, plus action alternatives that will be developed in response to key issues. The action alternatives will include various levels of commercial harvest, pre-commercial thinning, prescribed fire, road work, and fish, wildlife and riparian habitat improvement projects.

Initial scoping began in October 1999. The public is invited to offer suggestions and comments in writing. Comments received in response to this notice, including the names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposal and will be available to 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 part 215. 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 (FOIA) permits such 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 resubmitted with or without name and address within a specified number of days.

The draft EIS expected to be completed in April 2000. The comment period on the draft EIS will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

The Forest Service believes it is important to give reviewers notice at this early stage of several court ruling related to public participation in the environmental review process. First,