

Forest Development Roads suitable for commercial haul already exist to a termination point within School Section 16. The National Forest roads to be used include both roads that are open system roads as well as roads originally constructed as part of the Coon Creek Pilot Project, which are normally closed.

**Scoping process:** All comments received from previous scoping efforts related to the issuance of a Road Use Permit to access State of Wyoming lands in Damfino Section 16 will be combined with comments received as a result of this Notice of Intent and reviewed to identify potential issues for this analysis. Since previously received comments will be incorporated into this analysis, individuals who responded to either the January 28, 1999 or August 10, 1999 scoping requests need to provide comment at this time only if they wish to provide information additional to what they previously submitted.

**Proposed Action:** The proposed action is to issue a Road Use Permit to the State of Wyoming for commercial haul over National Forest Roads from State of Wyoming land in Section 16 in T.12N., R.83W.

**Potential alternatives:** The Interdisciplinary Team will review scoping comments from all three scoping processes to identify key issues and will develop a recommendation concerning alternatives to the Proposed Action warranting analysis in the Environmental Impact Statement. As a minimum, the alternatives to be analyzed in the EIS would include the No Action Alternative (do not issue a Road Use Permit); and the Proposed Action (issue a road use permit to the State of Wyoming over the requested route).

**Preliminary Issues:** The following preliminary issues have been identified through past scoping of projects in the area:

What are the FS authorities and Wyoming's rights under ANILCA concerning the issuance of a Road Use Permit to Section 16?

Under what conditions would a Road Use Permit needed for commercial haul for a commercial timber sale be issued to the State of Wyoming?

What would be the effects of a timber sale on lands owned by the State of Wyoming to adjacent National Forest System resources, particularly, what are the effects to recreation, wildlife, soil and water?

What are appropriate alternatives for the analysis?

What interpretations and positions concerning effects to resources, roadless character, fragmentation and

environmental laws should be used to analyze activities on lands not under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service?

**Decision to be made:** The Responsible Official will decide which alternative of those considered in the draft Environmental Impact Statement to select. Based on the decision that is made, he will also decide what mitigation measures and permit stipulations will be required. The issues and alternatives developed from public comment and Interdisciplinary Team analysis will be clearly disclosed in the Environmental Impact Statement. From the project record, the Responsible Official and others who may review the decision will be able to fully understand the consequences of implementing the selected alternative.

**Reviewer Obligations:** 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 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 chapters of the draft statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft environmental impact statement or the merits of the

alternatives formulated and discussed in the 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.

**Release of Names:** 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 parts 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 (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very 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 ten (10) days.

**Responsible Official:** Don Carroll, District Ranger; Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District; Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests; P.O. Box 249; Saratoga, WY 82331.

As the Responsible Official, I will decide which, if any of the alternatives to be described in the draft Environmental Impact Statement will be implemented. I will document the decision and reasons for my selection of the decision in the Record of Decision.

Dated: December 16, 1999.

**Don G. Carroll,**

*District Ranger.*

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**BILLING CODE 3410-GM-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

**Transfer of Administrative Jurisdiction: Hawthorne Army Depot New Bomb Project Interchange, Toiyabe National Forest, Nevada**

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of land interchange.

**SUMMARY:** On September 15, 1999, and November 4, 1999, the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of Agriculture, respectively, signed a joint interchange order authorizing the transfer of administrative jurisdiction of 3,183.418 acres, more or less, lying within the Toiyabe National Forest, Mineral County, Nevada, from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of the Army. Furthermore, the order transfers from the Department of the Army to the Department of Agriculture 487.96 acres, more or less, lying adjacent to the exterior boundaries of the Los Padres National Forest, Monterey County, California, for inclusion in the Los Padres National Forest. The 45-day Congressional oversight requirement of the Act of July 26, 1956 (70 Stat. 656; 16 U.S.C. 505a, 505b) has been met. A copy of the Joint Order, as signed, and Exhibits A-1 and B-1, which describe the lands and interests therein being conveyed, are set out at the end of this notice.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The order is effective December 23, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David M. Sherman, Lands Staff, Forest Service, USDA, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090, Telephone: (202) 205-1362.

Dated: December 2, 1999.

**James R. Furnish,**  
*Deputy Chief.*

#### **Ft. Hunter Liggett Lands To Be Transferred from the Department of the Army to the Forest Service**

That portion of the Fort Hunter Liggett Military Reservation situated within Sections 33, 34, and 35; Township 24 South, Range 7 East, Mount Diablo Base Meridian, Monterey County, California, being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the northwest corner of Section 34; thence easterly along said section line to the westerly edge of the Salmon Creek Road; thence southeasterly along the westerly edge of said road to the Monterey County Line; thence westerly along said County Line to the westerly boundary of the Fort Hunter Liggett Military Reservation; thence; northwesterly along said boundary to the north line of Section 33; thence, along said line to the point of beginning.

Containing 487.96 acres more or less.

Hawthorne Army Depot—Lands to be Transferred From the Forest Service to the Department of the Army

A parcel of land situated in portions of Sections 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 34, and 35, Township 5 North, Range 30

East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian, and Sections 3, 4, and 5 Township 4 North, Range 30 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian, County of Mineral, State of Nevada, according to the attached Record of Survey, and more particularly described as follows:

COMMENCING for reference at the southeast corner of said Section 34;  
Thence, N 26°38'29" W, a distance of 1333.26 feet, to the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING;  
Thence, from said TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING, N 26°53'09" E, a distance of 530.03 feet;  
Thence, N 08°52'56" W, a distance of 26.77 feet;  
Thence, N 31°49'19" E, a distance of 523.98 feet;  
Thence, N 28°44'15" E, a distance of 1670.81 feet;  
Thence, N 28°04'37" E, a distance of 432.97 feet;  
Thence, N 22°59'00" E, a distance of 1006.98 feet;  
Thence, N 17°04'17" W, a distance of 803.47 feet;  
Thence, N 07°00'03" W, a distance of 1135.47 feet;  
Thence, N 29°34'33" E, a distance of 574.20 feet;  
Thence, N 47°40'04" W, a distance of 865.29 feet;  
Thence, N 86°54'23" W, a distance of 9686.49 feet;  
Thence, S 39°46'28" W, a distance of 5303.45 feet;  
Thence, S 00°59'45" W, a distance of 6514.70 feet;  
Thence, S 57°01'14" E, a distance of 3911.76 feet;  
Thence, S 73°00'55" E, a distance of 117.69 feet;  
Thence, N 86°37'18" E, a distance of 1461.68 feet;  
Thence, S 89°20'52" E, a distance of 2208.65 feet;  
Thence, N 76°48'58" E, a distance of 1251.50 feet;  
Thence, N 72°39'18" E, a distance of 1151.81 feet;  
Thence, N 28°43'31" E, a distance of 5448.58 feet, more or less, to the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING.

CONTAINING, 3183.42 Acres, more or less.

The Basis of Bearing for this legal description is the line between Monuments MIV 011 and MIV 012 taken from NDOT record information ASP 116 State Route 31, N 46°25'24" E, a distance of 10415.66 feet.

END OF DESCRIPTION

[FR Doc. 99-33304 Filed 12-22-99; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-11-M**

## **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

### **Forest Service**

#### **Northwest Sacramento Provincial Advisory Committee (PAC); Meeting**

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Northwest Sacramento Provincial Advisory Committee (PAC) will meet on Wednesday, January 12, 2000, at the North State Blood Center, 1880 Park Marina Drive, Redding, California. The meeting will start at 9 a.m. and adjourn at 4 p.m. Topics for the meeting are: (1) Discussion of a fuels reduction project; (2) Clear Creek Watershed implementation; (3) discussion of the draft policy letter to CALFED regarding upper watershed restoration; and (4) 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, 11263 N. Highway 3, Fort Jones, California 96032; telephone 530-468-1281; TDD (530) 468-2783; email: chendryx/r5\_klamath@fs.fed.us.

Dated: December 10, 1999.

**Constance J. Hendryx,**  
*PAC Support Staff.*

[FR Doc. 99-33369 Filed 12-22-99; 8:45 am]

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## **COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS**

### **Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Connecticut Advisory Committee**

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Connecticut Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 1 p.m. and adjourn at 5 p.m. on February 3, 2000, at the Catholic Charities, Conference Room, 467 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, Connecticut 06002. The Committee will review its report, "Civil Rights Issues in Connecticut: A Summary Report of the 1997 Civil Rights Conference", and plan a community forum in Spring 2000 in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Chairperson Neil Macy, 860-242-7287, or Ki-Taek Chun, Director of the Eastern Regional Office, 202-376-7533 (TDD 202-376-8116). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting