

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

Notice of Solicitations for Nominations for the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board

AGENCY: Research, Education, and Economics, USDA.

ACTION: Solicitation for membership.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. II, the United States Department of Agriculture announces solicitation for nominations to fill 10 vacancies on the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

DATES: Deadline for Advisory Board member nominations is July 16, 2004.

ADDRESSES: The nominee's name, resume, and completed Form AD-755 must be sent to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW.; Room 344-A, Whitten Building; Washington, DC 20250-2255.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Deborah Hanfman, Executive Director, National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board, telephone: 202-720-3684; fax: 202-720-6199; e-mail: ghanfman@csrees.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 1408 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3123) was amended by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 by adding one additional member to the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board, which totals 31 members. Since the Advisory Board's inception by congressional legislation in 1996, each

member has represented a specific category related to farming or ranching, food production and processing, forestry research, crop and animal science, land grant institutions, non-land grant college or university with a historic commitment to research in the food and agricultural sciences, food retailing and marketing, rural economic development, and natural resource and consumer interest groups, among many others. The Board was first appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture in September 1996 and one-third of its members were appointed for a one, two, and three-year term, respectively. The terms for 10 of the 31 members who represent specific categories will expire September 30, 2007. Nominations for a three-year appointment for these 10 vacant categories are sought. All nominees will be carefully reviewed for their expertise, leadership, and relevance to a category.

The 10 slots to be filled are:

- Category H. National Food Animal Science Society
- Category I. National Crop, Soil, Agronomy, Horticulture or Weed Science Societies
- Category N. 1890 Land-Grant Colleges and Universities
- Category O. 1994 Equity in Education Land-Grant Institutions
- Category Q. American Colleges of Veterinary Medicine
- Category U. Food Retailing and Marketing Interests
- Category W. Rural Economic Development
- Category X. National Consumer Interest Group
- Category Y. National Forestry Group
- Category Z. National Conservation or Natural Resource Group

Nominations are being solicited from organizations, associations, societies, councils, federations, groups, and companies that represent a wide variety of food and agricultural interests throughout the country. Nominations for one individual who fits several of the categories listed above, or for more than one person who fits one category, will be accepted. In your nomination letter, please indicate the specific membership category for each nominee.

Each nominee must fill out a form AD-755, "Advisory Committee Membership Background Information" (which can be obtained from the contact person or may be printed out from the following Web site: <http://www.nareeeab.com>;

then search AD-755). All nominees will be vetted before selection.

Nominations are open to all individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, mental or physical handicap, marital status, or sexual orientation. To ensure that recommendations of the Advisory Board take into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the Department, membership shall include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

Appointments to the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board will be made by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Done at Washington, DC this 26th day of May 2004.

Rodney J. Brown,

Deputy Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics.

[FR Doc. 04-12420 Filed 6-1-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Proposed Packsaddle Creek and Rammell Hollow Timber Sales Caribou-Targhee National Forest, Teton County, ID

AGENCY: USDA Forest Service.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare environmental impact statement

SUMMARY: The USDA Forest Service will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement to document the analysis and disclose the environmental impacts of proposed actions to harvest timber; regenerate stands of aspen trees; and construct roads, reconstruct roads, decommission roads and meet Revised Forest Plan Standards for road densities in the Packsaddle Creek and Rammell Hollow areas of the Targhee National Forest in Teton County, Idaho. The proposed projects are located in Township 5 North, Range 44 East, Sections 18 and 19, and Township 5 North, Range 43 East, Sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 14, 23, and 24, Boise Meridian, Teton County, Idaho.

The Teton Basin Ranger District of the Targhee National Forest proposes to

regenerate approximately 600 acres of aspen and harvest an estimated 7,200 hundred cubic feet (3.6 million board feet) of commercial timber on two timber sales. The purpose of the proposed project is to regenerate aspen. Conifer trees will be removed in these aspen-conifer mixed stands using a timber sale contract followed by implementing prescribed fire that will burn the conifer slash and will kill the remaining aspen parent stems. The prescribed fire will stimulate the production of root suckers throughout the treated aspen-conifer stand and will establish aspen regeneration. This activity will provide an Allowable Sale Quantity of merchantable forest products to industry and help meet Properly Functioning Conditions for stand structure, stand function, and species composition for aspen stands on suitable timberlands in the Mahogany Watershed.

Following conifer harvest, approximately 400 acres of the 600 acres would receive broadcast burning to stimulate aspen regeneration. Again, following conifer harvest, the remaining approximately 200 acres would have conifer slash piled and burned and the remaining aspen trees severed with chainsaws to stimulate aspen regeneration. All treatment units considered for cutting are mature aspen-conifer mixed stands consisting of aspen, Douglas-fir, lodgepole pine, subalpine fir and Engelmann spruce. An estimated 8.0 miles of existing Forest Road would be reconstructed, 0.3 miles of new road would be constructed, and 2.9 miles of existing road would be decommissioned following treatment. Approximately 0.5 miles of road reconstruction would occur on private ground. All merchantable timber would be yarded using ground based systems such as tractors. Natural aspen regeneration is planned and expected for in all the proposed cutting units. Logging slash will be available for firewood to the public on some portions for one year. Ten to fifteen tons per acres of large woody debris will be left in each cutting unit for nutrient recycling.

The issues identified during scoping and the analysis process will determine alternatives to the proposed action. The no action alternative will be analyzed.

DATES: Written comments concerning the scope of the analysis described in this notice should be received within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. No scoping meeting are planned at this time. Information received will be used

in preparation of the draft EIS and final EIS.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Caribou-Targhee National Forest, Teton Basin Ranger District, P.O. Box 777, Driggs, Idaho 83422.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions concerning the proposed action and EIS should be directed to Jim Robertson, Caribou-Targhee National Forest, Teton Basin Ranger District, 515 South Main Street, P.O. Box 777, Driggs, Idaho 83422. (Telephone: (208) 354-2312.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Forest Service is seeking information and comments from Federal, State and local agencies, as well as individuals and organizations that 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.

The responsible official is Jerry B. Reese, Forest Supervisor, Caribou-Targhee National Forest, 1405 Hollipark Dr., Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401.

The decision to be made is: The Forest Service needs to decide whether to continue the present course of action (the no action alternative) or to implement the proposed action with applicable mitigation measures, or to implement an alternative to the proposed action with its applicable mitigation measures.

The tentative date for filing the Draft EIS is August 1, 2004. The tentative date for filing the final EIS is October 1, 2004. The comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will be open for 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 viewers 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 alert an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft impact statement stage but 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 of the Draft Environmental Impact statement 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. Agency representatives and other interested people are invited to visit with Forest Service officials at any time during the EIS process.

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. 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. 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 (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under FOIA, 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 10 days.

Dated: May 25, 2004.

Jerry B. Reese,

Forest Supervisor, Caribou-Targhee National Forest, Intermountain Region, USDA Forest Service.

[FR Doc. 04-12391 Filed 6-1-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Red Pines EIS Project, Nez Perce National Forest, Idaho County, ID

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Revision of notice of intent.

Authorization: 40 CFR 1508.22.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service published a notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Red Pines Project published in the **Federal Register** on June 13, 2003 (68 FR 35377, June 13, 2003). Forest Service Policy mandates that a revised notice of intent (NOI) be filed when there is a major change in information included in a notice of intent. This notice announces a change in the Red Pines Project. For the Red Pines Project there is a major change. The project will now include actions that were originally proposed as part of the Red River Salvage project that was discussed in a Predecisional Environmental Assessment released in August 2003. The project area will increase from 31,500 acres to approximately 103,500 acres. The Forest Service will prepare an environmental impact statement to disclose the environmental impacts of implementing fuel hazard reduction and watershed improvement activities within the newly defined Red Pines project area.

DATES: Scoping comments received on either the original Red Pines or the Red River Salvage project will be addressed in the Red Pines draft environmental impact statement, expected to be released in August 2004.

It is not necessary to submit your comments again for them to be considered.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Bruce Bernhardt, Forest Supervisor, Nez Perce National Forest, Route 2 Box 475, Grangeville, ID 83530.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ester Hutchison, Project Coordinator, (208) 983-1950.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 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**.

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 an alerts and 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 the Red Pines project, as now defined, submit comments by June 18, 2004, 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.

Dated: May 26, 2004.

Michael J. Cook,

Acting Forest Supervisor, Nez Perce National Forest.

[FR Doc. 04-12393 Filed 6-1-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Del Norte County Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: The Del Norte County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet on June 22 and June 29 in Crescent City, California. The purpose of the meetings is to discuss the selection of Title II projects under Public Law 106-393, H.R. 2389, the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, also called the "Payments to States" Act.

DATES: The meetings will be held on June 22 and June 29 from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Del Norte County Unified School District Board Room, 301 West Washington, Crescent City, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Laura Chapman, Committee Coordinator, USDA, Six Rivers National Forest, 1330 Bayshore Way, Eureka, CA 95501. Phone: (707) 441-3549. E-mail: lchapman@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the meetings is to select Title II projects for fiscal year 2005. The meetings are open to the public. Public input opportunity will be provided at each meeting and individuals will have the opportunity to address the committee during that time.

Dated: May 24, 2004.

William D. Metz,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 04-12392 Filed 6-1-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Hood/Willamette Resource Advisory Committee (RAC)

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Action of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Hood/Willamette Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet on Friday, June 25, 2004. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. and will conclude at approximately 3 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Salem Office of the Bureau of Land Management Office, 1717 Fabry Road SE., Salem, Oregon, (503) 375-5646. The tentative agenda includes: (1) Recommendations on 2005 Projects; and (2) Public Forum. The Public Forum is tentatively scheduled to begin at 9:30 p.m. Time allotted for individual presentations will be limited to 3-4 minutes. Written comments are encouraged, particularly if the material cannot be presented within the time limits for the Public Forum. Written comments may be submitted prior to the June 26th meeting by sending them to Designated Federal Official Donna Short at the address given below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For more information regarding this meeting, contact Designated Federal Official Donna Short; Sweet Home Ranger District, 3225 Highway 20, Sweet Home, Oregon 97386, (541) 367-9220.

Dated: May 21, 2004.

Dallas J. Emch,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 04-12438 Filed 6-1-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M