

# 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

### Forest Service

#### Water Rights Task Force Meeting

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Forest Service announces a meeting of the Water Rights Task Force established on August 20, 1996, in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Agricultural Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, as amended. The chairman has scheduled the second meeting of the Task Force in Denver, Colorado, on October 21.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held October 21, 1996, from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the United Airlines Red Carpet Club Conference Room at the Denver International Airport.

Send written comments to Eleanor Towns, FACA Liaison, Water Rights Task Force, c/o USDA Forest Service, MAIL STOP 1124, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090. Telephone: (202) 205-1248; Fax: (202) 205-1604.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Steve Glasser, Watershed & Air Management Staff, Telephone: (202) 205-1172; Fax: (202) 205-1096.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Water Rights Task Force is composed of seven members appointed by Congress and the Secretary of Agriculture to study and make recommendations on issues pertaining to water rights. At the forthcoming meeting, the Task Force will develop a plan for carrying out its assigned responsibilities. The meeting is open to the public and time will be provided at the meeting for the public to address the Task Force; however, discussion is limited to Task Force members and Forest Service personnel. Persons who wish to bring water rights matters to the attention of the Task

Force may also file written statements with the Forest Service liaison at the address listed earlier in this notice either before or after the meeting.

Notice of the establishment of the Water Rights Task Force was published in the Federal Register on September 11, 1996 (61 FR 47858). The Task Force terminates either in August of 1997 or upon submission of a final report.

Dated: October 3, 1996.

David G. Unger,  
*Associate Chief.*

[FR Doc. 96-25755 Filed 10-4-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

#### Willamette Provincial Interagency Executive Committee (PIEC), Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Willamette PIEC Advisory Committee will meet on Thursday, October 17, 1996. The meeting will be held at the Quality Inn; 3301 Market Street NE; Salem, Oregon 97301; phone (800) 248-6273. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at approximately 3:00 p.m. Topics tentatively scheduled on the agenda include: (1) Province Advisory Committee (PAC) priorities during the next year, (2) Response from Adaptive Management Area on research issues raised at the August meeting, (3) Local Watershed Council and PAC relationship and roles, (4) Public forum, (5) Information sharing.

The meeting is open to the public and opportunity will be available to address the Advisory Committee during the public forum. Time allotted for individual presentations to the committee will be limited to 3-5 minutes each. Written comments are encouraged and can be submitted prior to the meeting.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For more information regarding this meeting, contact Designated Federal Official Neal Forrester; Willamette National Forest, 211 Each Seventh Avenue; Eugene, Oregon 97401; (541) 465-6924.

Dated: October 1, 1996.

Darrel L. Kenops,  
*Forest Supervisor.*

[FR Doc. 96-25595 Filed 10-4-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

### Natural Resources Conservation Service

#### Potomac Headwaters Watershed Hardy, Hampshire, Mineral, Grant, and Pendleton Counties, WV

**AGENCY:** Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of a finding of no significant impact.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; the Council of Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR Part 1500); and the Natural Resources Conservation Service Regulations (7 CFR Part 650); the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, gives notice that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared for the Potomac Headwaters Watershed, Hardy, Hampshire, Mineral, Grant, and Pendleton Counties, West Virginia.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Roger L. Bensey, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 75 High Street, Morgantown, West Virginia 26505, Telephone: 304-291-4153.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The environmental assessment of this federally assisted action indicates that the project will not cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. As a result of these findings, Roger L. Bensey, State Conservationist, has determined that the preparation and review of an environmental impact statement are not needed for this project.

The project purpose is water quality improvement of streams in the Potomac Headwaters. The planned works of improvement include installation of animal waste storage systems, dead bird composters, livestock confinement areas, nutrient management plans, and riparian buffer zones.

The Notice of a Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been forwarded to the Environmental Protection Agency and to various Federal, State, and local agencies and interested parties. A limited number of copies of the FONSI are available to fill single copy requests at the above address. Basic data developed during the environmental assessment are on file and may be reviewed by contacting Roger L. Bensey.

No administrative action on implementation of the proposed will be taken until 30 days after the date of this publication in the Federal Register.

Roger L. Bensey,  
*State Conservationist.*

(This activity is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.904, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention, and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials)

**Finding of No Significant Impact for Potomac Headwaters Land Treatment Watershed Project, Hardy, Hampshire, Mineral, Grant, and Pendleton Counties, West Virginia**

#### Introduction

The Potomac Headwaters Land Treatment Watershed Project is a federally assisted action authorized for planning under Public Law 78-534, the Flood Control Act. An environmental assessment was undertaken in conjunction with the development of the watershed plan. This assessment was conducted in consultation with local, State, and Federal agencies as well as with interested organizations and individuals. Data developed during the assessment are available for public review at the following location: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 75 High Street, Room 301, Morgantown, West Virginia 26505.

#### Recommended Action

Proposed is the installation of animal waste storage systems, dead bird composters, livestock confinement improvements, nutrient management plans, and riparian buffer zones for the purpose of reducing nutrient and bacterial pollution in the Potomac River headwaters.

#### Effects of the Recommended Action

Improvements in animal waste management will result in decreased runoff of nutrients and bacteria to streams, improving the water quality of the project area. Proper storage and application of manure and poultry litter will not only improve water quality, but will also improve the farmers efficiencies and make the product available for market. Installation of dead bird composters will enable more growers to manage this poultry waste product in an environmentally sound and economical means. Development of nutrient management plans will assure proper field application rates of animal waste. Installation of riparian buffer zones will reduce nutrient and bacteria runoff to streams and surface waters.

Risks of water-borne illnesses will be reduced, and the water pollution threat to fishing, boating, swimming, and tourism in the area will be lessened.

The proposed action will have little or no effect on wetlands. No adverse effects to threatened/endangered species are anticipated.

Consultation has been initiated with the State Historic Preservation Office. Should significant cultural resources be identified during implementation, they will be avoided or otherwise preserved in place to the fullest practical extent. If significant cultural resources cannot be avoided or preserved, pertinent information will be recovered before construction. If there is a significant cultural resource discovery during construction, appropriate notice will be made by NRCS to the state Historic Preservation Officer and the National Park Service. Consultation and coordination have been and will continue to be used to ensure the provisions of Section 106 of Public Law 89-665 have been met and to include provisions of Public Law 89-523, as amended by Public Law 93-291. NRCS will take action as prescribed in NRCS GM 420, Part 401, to protect or recover any significant cultural resources discovered during construction.

#### Alternatives

The planned action is the most practical means of reducing nutrient and bacterial pollution of streams. Because no significant adverse environmental impacts will result from installation of the measures, no other alternatives, other than the no project one, were considered.

#### Consultation—Public Participation

Formal agency consultation began with the initiation of the notification of the State Single Point of Contact for Federal Assistance in September 1995. Scoping meetings were held in September, October, and December 1995 and interdisciplinary efforts were used in all cases. A public meeting was held on May 2, 1996 to present the Draft Plan-Environmental Assessment to the Public and to receive comments and questions.

Specific consultation was conducted with the State Historic Preservation Officer concerning cultural resources in the watershed, and with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding threatened/endangered species. The U.S. Geological Survey, through a cooperative agreement, conducted water sampling and testing to establish baseline water quality values.

The plan-environmental assessment was transmitted to all participating and

interested agencies, groups, and individuals for review and comment on March 29, 1996.

Agency consultation and public participation to date have shown no unresolved conflicts with the implementation of the selected plan.

#### Conclusion

The Environmental Assessment summarized above indicates that this Federal action will not cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. Therefore, based on the above findings, I have determined that an environmental impact statement for the Potomac Headwaters Land Treatment Watershed Project is not required.

Dated: October 1, 1996.

Roger L. Bensey,  
*State Conservst.*

[FR Doc. 96-25598 Filed 10-4-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-M

#### Task Force on Agricultural Air Quality

**AGENCY:** Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Task Force on Agricultural Air Quality will meet for the first time to establish operating procedures and outline objectives. The meeting is open to the public.

**DATES:** The meeting will take place Friday, October 25, 1996 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Written material and requests to make oral presentations should reach the Natural Resources Conservation Service on or before October 21, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in the Williamsburg Room, Room 104A, in the Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building, 12th and Jefferson Drive, SW, Washington, DC. Written material and requests to make oral presentations should be sent to George Bluhm, University of California, Land, Air, Water Resources, 151 Hoagland Hall, Davis, CA 95616-6827.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** George Bluhm, telephone (916) 752-1018, fax (916) 752-1552.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2.

#### Agenda of October 25, 1996 Meeting

- (1) Welcome by Task Force Chair Paul Johnson.
- (2) Remarks by George Bluhm, Designated Agency Official
- (3) Introduction of members.