

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

**Supplement for Hamm-Hasloe
Reforestation; Stanislaus National
Forest, Groveland Ranger District;
Notice of Intent To Prepare a
Supplement to an Environmental
Impact Statement**

The Department of Agriculture, Forest Service will prepare a supplement to the Hamm-Hasloe environmental impact statement (EIS) for a proposal to reforest the Hamm-Hasloe Fire Area which was burned in the Stanislaus Complex Fires of 1987. An estimated 45 units, approximately 1,500 acres, (the original project area totals 15,045 acres) will be analyzed due to changing conditions on the ground since the original decision was made.

The project area is located in both Tuolumne and Mariposa Counties in the following townships, ranges and sections (Mount Diablo Meridian): Portions of sections 25, 26, T.1S., R.16E.. Portions of sections 7, 16, 17, 21, 26-28, 34-36, T.1S., R.17E.. Portions of sections 1, 3-5, 10-12, 14, 22-26, 32, 34, 35, T.2S., R.17E.. Portions of sections 5-8, 17, 18, 30, T.2S., R.18E.. Portions of sections 1, 5, T.3S., R.17E..

This analysis and referenced document will follow the direction contained in the Record of Decision for the Final Environmental Impact Statement for Vegetation Management for Reforestation in Region Five, California which was signed February 13, 1989 by Regional Forester Paul Barker. The selected alternative in this Record of Decision calls for local management flexibility in selecting the appropriate vegetation management methods for reforestation. The actions proposed in the Hamm-Hasloe Reforestation EIS Supplement will also be consistent with the Stanislaus National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.

Units will be evaluated for site preparation prior to tree planting. Only these treatments will be modified under this supplement, subsequent tree planting and release treatments are already covered in the existing EIS and will still be implemented as analyzed under that document. Treatments analyzed will include; mechanical and hand treatments, aerial and ground application of herbicides, and control burning. Alternatives developed could include combinations of treatments as well as no action. Most of the new treatment prescriptions will involve removal of brush which is now too tall to spray by hand.

Federal, State, and local agencies, and interested individuals or groups are invited to participate in the scoping process. Letters will be sent to all individuals and groups who received a copy of the original EIS and expressed interest and concerns during the original project scoping. No scoping meetings are planned for this project. This process will include:

1. Identification of potential issues or concerns.
2. Identification of issues to be analyzed in depth.
3. Elimination of issues which have been covered by a previous environmental review.
4. Determination of potential cooperating agencies and assignment of responsibilities.

Following the environmental analysis the Supplement is expected to be made available for public review by October 1997. The Supplement and Record of Decision is estimated to be completed by November 1997.

The comment period on the draft supplement will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency's notice of availability appears in the **Federal Register**. It is very important that those interested in the management of the Hamm-Hasloe area participate at that time. To be the most helpful, comments should be as specific as possible and may address the adequacy of the statement or the merits of the alternatives discussed (see The Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3). In addition, Federal court decisions have established that reviewers must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewers' position and contentions, *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978), and that environmental objections that could have been raised at the draft stage may be waived if not raised until after completion of the final document. *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). The reason for this is to ensure that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when they can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final document.

Glenn Gottschall, Acting Forest Supervisor, Stanislaus National Forest, Sonora, California is the responsible official.

Written comments and suggestions concerning this project or analysis

should be addressed to Calvin Bird, Groveland District Ranger, 24545 Highway 120, Groveland, CA, 95321. Additional information can be obtained through John Schmechel, District Silviculturist, at the above address.

Dated: July 30, 1997.

David M. Freeland,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 97-20931 Filed 8-7-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**Natural Resources Conservation
Service**

**Notice of Proposed Change to the
Natural Resources Conservation
Service's National Handbook of
Conservation Practices**

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Department of Agriculture, New York State Office.

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed changes in the NRCS National Handbook of Conservation Practices, Section IV of the New York State NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) for review and comment.

SUMMARY: It is the intention of NRCS to issue a series of new conservation practice standards in its National Handbook of Conservation Practices. These new standards include: Waste Management System (NY312), Roof Runoff Management System (NY558), Manure Field Piles (NY193), and Riparian Forest Buffer (NY391).

DATES: Comments will be received until September 8, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Inquire in writing to Richard D. Swenson, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), 441 S. Salina Street, Fifth Floor, Suite 354, Syracuse, New York, 13202-2450.

Copies of these standards are available from the above individual.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 343 of the Federal Agricultural Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 states that revisions made after enactment of the law to NRCS State technical Guides used to carry out highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the law shall be made available for public review and comment. For the next 30 days the NRCS will receive comments relative to the proposed changes. Following that period a determination will be made by the NRCS regarding disposition of those comments and a final determination of change will be made.

Dated: July 31, 1997.

Richard D. Swenson,

State Conservationist, Natural Resources
Conservation Service, Syracuse, NY.

[FR Doc. 97-20930 Filed 8-7-97; 8:45 am]

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COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Proposed Collections and Comment Request for Surveys in the Benefit/ Cost Analysis of the Javits-Wagner- O'Day Program

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

ACTION: Notice of request for public
comment on proposed collections of
information.

SUMMARY: The Committee for Purchase
from People Who Are Blind or Severely
Disabled (the Committee) is inviting
public comment on proposed collection
of information requests to be submitted
for approval by Office of Management
and Budget (OMB) as required by the
Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44
U.S.C. Chapter 35). The Committee is
seeking public comment on three
surveys being developed for the
comprehensive Benefit/Cost Analysis of
the JWOD Program. One request is for
renewal with revisions of a survey for
follow-up interviews with individuals
who are blind or have other severe
disabilities employed on contracts
authorized under the Javits-Wagner-
O'Day (JWOD) Act. The other request is
for approval of two related surveys of
state and local private nonprofit
agencies that participate in the JWOD
Program or are affiliated with National
Industries for the Blind (NIB) or NISH.
DATES: Submit comments on or before
October 7, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and
requests for copies of the proposed
information collection instruments
should be submitted to Sheryl Kennerly,
Committee for Purchase from People
Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled,
1735 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite
403, Arlington, VA 22202. Comments
and requests may be submitted by
electronic mail at: skennerl@jwod.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Sheryl Kennerly, Committee for
Purchase from People Who Are Blind or
Severely Disabled, 1735 Jefferson Davis
Highway, Suite 403, Arlington, VA
22202, phone: 703-603-7740, fax: 703-
412-7113.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The JWOD
Act prescribes that: "The Committee
shall make a continuing study and
evaluation of its activities under this
Act for the purpose of assuring effective
and efficient administration of this Act.
The Committee may study (on its own
or in cooperation with other public or
nonprofit private agencies) (1) problems
related to the employment of the blind
and of other severely handicapped
individuals * * *" (41 U.S.C. 47(e)).

As part of the effort to evaluate its
activities and study the employment of
individuals who are blind or severely
disabled, the Committee has initiated a
comprehensive analysis of benefits and
costs of the JWOD Program. The survey
instruments included in the requests for
OMB approval are required to collect
data for determining the benefits and
costs of the JWOD Program to
individuals who are blind or have other
severe disabilities, to the nonprofit
agencies that employ these individuals,
and to society in general, particularly
taxpayers.

The Committee specifically seeks
public comment on these instruments
to: (1) evaluate whether the proposed
collections of information are necessary
for the proper performance of the
functions of the Committee; (2) evaluate
the accuracy of the estimate of burden
for the proposed collections of
information; (3) enhance the quality,
utility, and clarity of the information to
be collected; and, (4) minimize the
burden of the collections of information
on those who are to respond. Comments
should reference the title of the survey
to which they apply.

Title: JWOD Employee Follow-Up
Survey.

Type of Review: Reinstatement with
revisions.

Frequency: One-time.

Affected Public: Individuals who are
blind or severely disabled and who
participated in the baseline surveys for
this study.

Burden Estimate:

Responses: 611

Total Burden Hours: 391 hours

Average Burden per respondent: 38
minutes

Abstract: The burden estimate above
is based on actual use of the previously
approved survey in baseline interviews
with the same individuals who will
participate in interviews using the
revised follow-up survey. This estimate
includes the average length of
interviews in the baseline stage. Actual
interview times vary between
individuals depending on the type of
disability. Individuals who responded
to the baseline interviews have been

informed of the intent and purpose of
this survey and agreed to participate.
The follow-up survey is being revised
based on comments and issues
identified during the baseline
interviews.

Title: Survey of JWOD Participating
Agencies.

Type of Review: New Collection.

Frequency: One-time.

Affected Public: State and local
nonprofit agencies (NPAs) that have
been authorized to participate in the
JWOD Program.

Burden Estimate:

Responses: 624

Burden Hours: 624 Hours.

The Committee is particularly
interested in comments from the
affected public on the accuracy of
burden hours estimate and the fully-
loaded labor costs per hour for
personnel who would be responding to
this survey.

Abstract: JWOD goods and services
are provided through State and local
nonprofit agencies (NPAs) that employ
individuals who are blind or have other
severe disabilities. In addition to the
benefits that accrue to individuals
employed on JWOD contracts, the study
methodology identifies potential
impacts on the NPAs that are measured
by this survey: (1) increased or reduced
non-JWOD sales; (2) induced or
suppressed charitable donations; and,
(3) shortfall or excess of JWOD product
or service provision costs. Data will be
requested for the year before the NPA
began participating in the program and
for the following five years for a before/
after analysis.

Title: Survey of Other Agencies
Associated With National Industries for
the Blind (NIB) or NISH.

Type of Review: New collection.

Frequency: One-time.

Affected Public: State and local
nonprofit agencies (NPA) that are
associated with NIB or NISH, for the
purpose of participating in the JWOD
Program, but have not yet received
authorization to provide a product or
service under the JWOD Program.

Burden Estimate:

Responses: 300

Burden Hours: 300 Hours.

The Committee is particularly
interested in comments from the
affected public on the accuracy of
burden hours estimate and the fully-
loaded labor costs per hour for
personnel responding to this survey.

Abstract: NPAs that are interested in
participating in the JWOD Program must
be associated with one of the central
nonprofit agencies, NIB or NISH,
designated by the Committee to