

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

Warm Springs Ridge Vegetation Management Project, Boise National Forest, Boise County, ID

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The Boise National Forest will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to document the analysis and disclose the environmental impacts of a proposed vegetation management project on Warm Springs Ridge, located within the Lower Grimes Creek, Upper and Middle Mores Creeks Watersheds.

The Idaho City Ranger District of the Boise National Forest proposes to treat approximately 14,500 acres of forested lands and shrublands using timber harvest, silvicultural thinning, and prescribed fire. Approximately 350 acres of forested lands is under Bureau of Land Management jurisdiction. Timber harvest would occur on approximately 6,000 acres of overstocked Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine stands utilizing a combination of silvicultural treatments such as commercial thinning, shelterwood, seed tree, and sanitation activities. Noncommercial silviculture thinning treatments would also occur within portions of the above acres. Yarding systems to implement the harvest would include tractor/jammer, skyline, and helicopter. In addition, approximately 2,600 acres of overstocked, noncommercial stands (trees less than 8 inches in diameter) would be thinned. Cable yarding systems to remove the material from these stands to existing roads would occur on approximately 1,300 acres. Prescribed fire activities would occur on approximately 13,500 acres to reduce fuel loads from timber management activities, reduce national

fuels and the threat of uncharacteristic fire to the urban interface, and to improve wildlife forage and habitat. Included in this proposed action are road construction, reconstruction, and stabilization activities to facilitate timber harvest and reduce current and long-term sediment delivery from existing and proposed roads. Approximately 5 miles of new road segments would be constructed to facilitate timber harvest. Approximately 13 miles of existing roads would be reconstructed to facilitate timber harvest, and reduce sediment delivery. Approximately 12 miles of existing roads would be stabilized and/or closed to reduce sediment delivery.

Comments: Written comments concerning the scope of the analysis described in this Notice should be received by April 26, 1999 to ensure timely consideration. No scoping meetings are planned at this time. Send written comments to Kathy Ramirez, Project Coordinator, Idaho City Ranger District, P.O. Box 129, Idaho City, ID 83631.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions concerning the proposed action and EIS should be directed to Kathy Ramirez at 208-392-6681.

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

Information received will be used in preparation of the draft and final EIS. For the most effective use, comments should be submitted to the Forest Service within 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice in the **Federal Register**. The Responsible Official is David D. Rittenhouse, Forest Supervisor, Boise National Forest. The lead agency is USDA, Forest Service. The cooperating agency is USDI, Bureau of Land Management. The decisions to be made are whether timber harvest, noncommercial thinning, road system management, and prescribed fire should be implemented on National Forest System and Bureau of Land Management lands. The preliminary issue identified is increased sediment levels from the proposal could affect

water quality and fish habitat in Grimes and Mores Creeks which are currently listed under the State of Idaho Section 303(d) of the Clear Water Act as being water quality impaired. The pollutant of concern is sediment. The draft EIS is expected to be available for public review in June 1999, with a final EIS estimated to be completed in August 1999. 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, at this early stage, it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public 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. 519,553 (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft EIS stage but not raised until after completion of the final EIS may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1022 (Ninth Circuit 1986), and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). Because of these court rulings, it is important for 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 EIS. To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the draft EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapter of the draft EIS. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft EIS or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the draft EIS. 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 addressee 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 the 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: March 12, 1999.

David D. Rittenhouse,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 99-6795 Filed 3-25-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Deschutes Provincial Interagency Executive Committee (PIEC), Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Deschutes PIEC Advisory Committee will meet on April 22, 1999 at the Jefferson County Fire Hall located on the corner of Adam and "J" street off of Hwy 97 in Madras, Oregon. A business meeting will begin at 9 a.m. and finish at 4 p.m. Agenda items include Hosmer Lake Working Group Recommendations, PAC/IAC Summit, Revisit PAC Agreements on Ground Rules for Meetings and Subcommittee/Working Group Processes/Assignments, The Lower Deschutes Working Group PAC Liaison Update, 1999 Program of Work, a Short Course on the Northwest Forest Plan, and a public forum from 1:30 p.m. till 2 p.m. All Deschutes Province Advisory Committee Meetings are open to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mollie Chaudet, Province Liaison, USDA, Bend-Ft. Rock Ranger District, 1230 N.E. 3rd., Bend, OR 97701, mollie.chaudet/r6pnw_deschutes@fs.fed.us, phone (541) 383-4769.

Dated: March 22, 1999.

Sally Collins,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 99-7486 Filed 3-25-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Additions and Deletion

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

ACTION: Proposed additions to and deletion from procurement list.

SUMMARY: The Committee has received proposals to add to the Procurement List services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and to delete a commodity previously furnished by such agencies.

Comments Must Be Received On Or Before: April 26, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Gateway 3, Suite 310, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-4302.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Milkman (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 47(a) (2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the possible impact of the proposed actions.

Additions

If the Committee approves the proposed additions, all entities of the Federal Government (except as otherwise indicated) will be required to procure the services listed below from nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the services to the Government.
2. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the services to the Government.
3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish

the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the services proposed for addition to the Procurement List. Comments on this certification are invited. Commenters should identify the statement(s) underlying the certification on which they are providing additional information.

The following services have been proposed for addition to Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agencies listed:

Base Supply Center, Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

NPA: Alabama Industries for the Blind, Talladega, Alabama

Central Facility Management, Southern Maryland District Courthouse, Greenbelt, Maryland.

NPA: The Chimes, Inc., Baltimore, Maryland

Janitorial/Custodial, Internal Revenue Service, Fresno Service Center (FSC), 5045 E. Butler Avenue, Fresno, California. NPA: Goodwill Industries of San Joaquin Valley, Inc., Stockton, California

Janitorial/Custodial, USARC #2, 1107 Payne Avenue, Erie, Pennsylvania. NPA: Dr. Gertrude A. Barber Center, Inc., Erie, Pennsylvania

Deletion:

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities.
2. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the services to the Government.
3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the services proposed for deletion from the Procurement List.

The following commodity has been proposed for deletion from the Procurement List:

Pin, Tent, Metal, 8340-00-985-7461

Beverly L. Milkman,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 99-7494 Filed 3-25-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6353-01-P