

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

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

September 13, 1996.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Washington, D.C. 20503 and to Department Clearance Officer, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, D.C. 20250-7630. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-6204 or (202) 720-6746.

- Food and Consumer Service
Title: Integrated Quality Control Review Worksheet

Summary: Quality Control monitors the error rate in determining eligibility and benefit levels for qualified recipients. Form FCS 380 is the source document from which other reports are compiled by State officials and sent to the Food and Consumer Service. This integrated review schedule has been developed to assist when there are overlaps in the population served by Federal assistance programs

Need and Use of the Information: State agencies are required to perform Quality Control reviews for each of three Federal assistance programs: Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), Medicaid and Food Stamps

Description of Respondents: Individuals or households; Federal Government; State, Local, or Tribal Government

Number of Respondents: 61,840
Frequency of Responses: Recordkeeping;

Reporting: Weekly, Monthly

Total Burden Hours: 558,019

- Agricultural Marketing Service

Title: Cranberries Grown in the States of MA, RI, CT, NJ, WI, MI, MN, OR, WA, and Long Island in the State of New York, Marketing Order No. 929

Summary: The information collected establishes the cranberry marketing committee and provides production and disposition figures for management of the order

Need and Use of the Information: The information used to correlate the supply of cranberries available for sale in the various trade channels with the demand in those outlets

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; Farms

Number of Respondents: 1,083

Frequency of Responses: Recordkeeping;

Reporting: Quarterly; Monthly

Total Burden Hours: 874

Larry K. Roberson,

Deputy Departmental Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 96-23912 Filed 9-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-01-M

Forest Service

Tonto National Forest, AZ

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and agenda for a forthcoming public meeting on the proposed Forest Service withdrawal application to protect the foreground area's scenic values along State Highway 87 between Slate Creek and the Town of Payson, Arizona. This public meeting will provide the opportunity for public involvement in this proposed action as required by regulation. All comments will be considered when a final determination is made on whether this land should be withdrawn.

DATES: The public meeting will be held on October 17, 1996, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

ADDRESS: Tonto National Forest, Supervisor's Office, 2324 E. McDowell Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lisa Subcasky, Tonto National Forest, (602) 225-5200 or Rod Byers, Payson Ranger District, (520) 474-7900.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Notice of Proposed Withdrawal for State

Highway 87 which was published on February 6, 1995, (24 FR 7066) is hereby modified to allow for a public meeting as provided in 43 U.S.C. 1714 and 43 CFR Part 2310.3-1(2)v.

This meeting will be open to all interested persons who would like to comment in person or to submit written comments on this subject. All comments should be submitted to the Tonto National Forest, 2324 E. McDowell Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85006, by October 31, 1996.

Dated: September 10, 1996.

Judith A. Miller,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 96-23850 Filed 9-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

Steward Mining Operation, Umpqua National Forest, Douglas County, Oregon

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service, USDA, will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the purpose of approving a Plan of Operations to conduct mining operations in the City Creek Watershed. The EIS will document the environmental analyses and effects of a range of alternatives, including a no-action alternative. The EIS will analyze at least three alternatives: (1) The no action alternative; (2) the proposed action, as submitted by the operator; and (3) a modification to the proposed action, which includes appropriate mitigation measures. Under the 1872 mining law, the no-action alternative is not a viable alternative. It is required by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations and serves as a baseline to measure the environmental effects of other alternatives. Additional alternatives and/or revisions to the above alternatives will be evaluated in the EIS. This approval is in accordance with direction set forth in the Umpqua National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (September 1990), as amended, which provides for mining operations within applicable standards, guidelines, and management prescriptions. The agency invites written comments on the scope of this project. In addition, the agency gives

notice of this analysis so that interested and affected parties are aware of how they may participate and contribute to the final decision.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of this proposal must be received by October 4, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments and suggestions concerning the scope of the analysis to Ned Davis, District Ranger, North Umpqua Ranger District, 18782 North Umpqua Highway, Glide, Oregon 97443.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions and comments about this EIS should be directed to Debbie Anderson, EIS Project Leader, North Umpqua Ranger District, 18782 North Umpqua Highway, Glide, Oregon 97443.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed mining operation will construct and/or maintain approximately .65 mile of road, .9 mile of cat road, 2.5 miles of ATV trail, 1.1 miles of foot trail, and proposes to move approximately 21,000 cubic yards of ore and/or waste rock material. On the unpatented claims (27 in total), discovery cuts and veins would be sampled, existing adits would be opened and timbered, a new adit would be excavated, and corners and claim lines would be brushed. The proposal also includes installing a sluice box in St. Peter Creek, a catch basin and a dam in a small tributary, installation of a 4' spring box, and maintenance and installation of two gates.

The 6,458 acre City Creek watershed encompasses both City Creek and St. Peter Creek. A tributary to Steamboat Creek, City Creek is located 17 river-miles north of the confluence of Steamboat Creek and the North Umpqua River. Steamboat Creek is located approximately 38 miles East of Roseburg, Oregon.

Scoping for this project began in January of 1996 through the environmental assessment process. Public notice and participation has occurred through notices in Forest's quarterly Schedule of Proposed Actions, field trips, and public comments received during the formal 30-day comment period under 36 CFR 215. The extensive information gathered during the environmental assessment process will be used in the preparation of the draft EIS.

The scoping effort for this project has achieved the following:

1. Identification of issues.
2. Identification of key issues.
3. Elimination of insignificant issues, issues which have been covered by a relevant previous environmental

process, and issues that could be successfully mitigated.

4. Exploration of additional alternatives based on the key issues identified during the scoping process.

5. Identification of potential environmental effects of the proposed action and alternatives (i.e. direct, indirect, and cumulative effects and connected actions).

The following issues have been identified as a result of the extensive scoping performed through the environmental assessment process: late-successional species; late-successional habitat; threatened, endangered and sensitive species; survey and manage species; water quality; aquatic habitat; archaeological sites from road maintenance; and introduction and dispersal of noxious weeds and aggressive non-native species.

The 1990 Umpqua National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, as amended, allocates Steamboat Creek and all of its tributaries, including City and St. Peter Creeks, as a Late-Successional Reserve and Tier 1 Key Watershed. The Forest Plan's overall objective for Late Successional Reserves is to protect and enhance conditions of late-successional and old-growth forest ecosystems, which serve as habitat for late-successional and old-growth related species including the northern spotted owl. In addition, tier 1 Key Watersheds contribute directly to conservation of at-risk anadromous salmonids, bull trout, and resident fish species. They also have a high potential of being restored as part of a watershed restoration program. The city and St. Peter Creek watersheds are also a part of Management Area 13, as allocated by the 1990 Umpqua National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, which provides for additional emphasis for the orderly exploration, development, extraction, and production of mineral resources on lands within the Fairview-Bohemia mineralized area.

The draft EIS is expected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and to be available for public review in October of 1996. At that time, copies of the draft EIS will be distributed to interest and affected agencies, organizations, and members of the public for their review and comment. EPA will publish a Notice of Availability of the draft EIS in the Federal Register.

The comment period on the draft EIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA notice appears in the Federal Register. It is very important that those interested in the management of the Umpqua National Forest participate at that time.

The Forest Service believes it is important to give reviewers notice at this early stage of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviews of the draft EIS's must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts the agency to the reviewers 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 that are 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 (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 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 chapters 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 statement.

The final EIS is scheduled to be completed by January, 1997. In the final EIS, the Forest Service is required to respond to comments and responses received during the comment period that pertain to the environmental consequences discussed in the draft EIS, as well as applicable laws, regulations, and policies considered in making the decision regarding this proposal. The lead agency is the Forest Service. Don Ostby, Forest Supervisor, Umpqua National Forest, P.O. Box 1008, Roseburg, Oregon, 97470, is the responsible official. As the responsible official, he will document the decision and reasons for the decision in the Record of Decision. That decision will be subject to Forest Service appeal regulations (36 CFR Part 215 and 36 CFR Part 251).

Dated: September 10, 1996.

Don Ostby,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 96-23859 Filed 9-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M