

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

Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion; Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Report—Nutrition and Your Health: Dietary Guidelines for Americans in 2000

AGENCY: Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice invites the general public and other public agencies to comment on a proposed information collection. This notice announces the Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion's intention to request the Office of Management and Budget's approval of the information collection instruments to be used during research with focus groups of consumers to gauge their understanding of the concepts and messages of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Approval is also requested for an additional collection instrument to be used during consumer research with focus groups to test prototype sections of nutrition education materials based on preliminary drafts of the anticipated Dietary Guidelines fifth edition. The information collected will be summarized and presented in written reports made available to the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee and will be used to refine the consumer bulletin, to develop new nutrition promotion products, and to plan a national campaign to promote the 2000 Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

DATES: Written comments on this notice must be submitted on or before February 19, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Carole Davis, Nutrition Promotion Staff Director, Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1120 20th Street, NW, Suite 200 North Lobby, Washington, DC 20036.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Catherine Tarone, (202) 606-4154.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Nutrition and Your Health: Dietary Guidelines for Americans in 2000.

OMB Number: Not assigned yet.

Expiration Date: Not applicable.

Type of Request: New collection of information.

Abstract: The Dietary Guidelines for Americans were first introduced over 15 years ago. Section 301 of the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990 requires the Secretaries of Agriculture (USDA) and Health and Human Services (DHHS) to publish jointly at least every 5 years a report entitled, Report of the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee on the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. The next report is due by December 2000. The 1995 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee recommended that USDA and DHHS gather information about consumer understanding of the Dietary Guidelines' messages and concepts.

This study involves twelve focus groups: four adult general consumer groups (two male and two female), two African-American groups (one male and one female), two overweight adult groups (one male and one female), two older adult groups (one male and one female), two food stamp participant

groups (one male one female), to gauge the understanding and effectiveness of the Dietary Guidelines. Two focus groups of health professionals will gauge the use of the Dietary Guidelines and effectiveness of the concepts and messages. The information collected will be analyzed and summarized in a report made available to the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee. A second phase of this study involves twelve focus groups of consumers to pre-test prototype sections of nutrition education material based on preliminary drafts of the anticipated Dietary Guidelines fifth edition. The results of the focus group sessions will be analyzed and summarized in a report made available to the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee and will be used to refine the nutrition prototypes, to develop new nutrition promotion products, and to plan a national campaign to promote the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, fifth edition.

Affected Public: Adult consumers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 234.

Estimated Time Per Response: 4 hours/focus group.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 936 hours.

Dated: December 16, 1998.

Samuel Chambers, Jr.,

Administrator, Food and Nutrition Services.

[FR Doc. 98-33748 Filed 12-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Wild and Scenic River Suitability Study for Pine Creek (Box/Death Hollow Wilderness Section), Mamie Creek and Its West Tributary, Death Hollow Creek (Box/Death Hollow Wilderness Section), East Fork Boulder Creek, Slickrock Canyon, Cottonwood Canyon, Steep Creek, Water Canyon, Lamanite Arch Canyon, and The Gulch, Dixie National Forest, Garfield County, UT

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Forest Service, USDA, will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) which analyzes the suitability of

sections of Pine Creek (Box/Death Hollow Wilderness portion), Mamie Creek and its west tributary, Death Hollow Creek (Box/Death Hollow Wilderness portion), East Fork Boulder Creek, Slickrock Canyon, Cottonwood Canyon, Steep Creek, Water Canyon, Lamanite Arch Canyon, and The Gulch, within the Dixie National Forest boundary in Garfield County, Utah, for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The Forest Service invites written comments and suggestions on the suitability of these river sections. The DEIS will also include a Forest Land and Resource Management Plan amendment. The amendment will provide interim protection for those rivers recommended to Congress until Congress rules on a final recommendation.

The agency gives notice that the environmental analysis process is underway. Interested and potentially affected persons, along with local, state, and other federal agencies, are invited to participate and contribute to the environmental analysis prior to final recommendation to Congress.

DATES: Written comments to be considered in the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) should be submitted on or before January 22, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to: Forest Supervisor, Dixie National Forest, 82 N. 100 E., Cedar City, UT 84720.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions about the proposed action and draft EIS should be directed to Steve Robertson, Wild and Scenic River Planning Team Leader, Dixie National Forest, 82 N. 100 E., Cedar City, UT 84720; telephone 435-865-3700.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The USDA, Forest Service will study the suitability of sections of Pine Creek (Box/Death Hollow Wilderness portion), Mamie Creek and its west tributary, Death Hollow Creek (Box/Death Hollow Wilderness portion), East Fork Boulder Creek, Slickrock Canyon, Cottonwood Canyon, Steep Creek, Water Canyon, Lamanite Arch Canyon, and The Gulch, within the Dixie National Forest boundary for possible inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. This suitability analysis is being initiated in response to the Management Plan currently being prepared by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM). A portion of this plan includes an assessment of streams and rivers within the boundary of the

GSENM for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Recognizing the need for consistency across jurisdictional boundaries, the Dixie National Forest, Bryce Canyon National Park, and Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, have worked together with the GSENM during the eligibility phase of their wild and scenic rivers analysis. This increased the Monument's study area to include portions of rivers that extended onto other Federally managed areas and allowed the planning team to look at entire watersheds.

Section 5(d)(1) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (Public Law 90-542, 82 Stat. 906, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1271-1287) allows for the study of new potential wild and scenic rivers not designated under Section 3(a) or designated for study under Section 5(a) of the Act. Section 5(d)(1) states "In all planning for the use and development of water and related land resources, consideration shall be given by all Federal agencies involved to potential national wild, scenic, and recreational river areas." Within the boundary of the Dixie National Forest, the suitability study will consider the following streams for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System: a 3.1 mile segment of Pine Creek and its tributaries within the boundary of the Box Death Hollow Wilderness Area; a 0.4 mile segment of Mamie Creek and its west tributary from their headwaters to the Forest boundary; a 13.4 mile segment of Death Hollow Creek from its headwaters on the Dixie National Forest within the Box Death Hollow Wilderness to Mamie Creek; a 2.7 mile segment of East Fork Boulder Creek immediately below Boulder Top to the upstream end of Kings Pasture; a 0.7 mile segment of Slickrock Canyon from its headwaters at 6720 feet elevation to the Forest boundary; a 2.5 mile segment of Cottonwood Canyon from its headwaters to the Forest boundary; a 3.0 mile segment of Steep Creek from one mile below Hiway 12 to the Forest boundary; a 0.2 mile segment of Water Canyon from its headwaters to the Forest boundary; a 0.6 mile segment of Lamanite Arch Canyon from its headwaters to the Forest boundary; and a 0.9 mile segment of The Gulch from its headwaters to the Forest boundary. The analysis will also include lands within 1/4 mile from each streambank. Preliminary alternatives include recommending a wild, scenic, or recreation designation for each segment and an alternative that recommends none of the segments for designation. Other appropriate alternatives may be

considered. The DEIS will also include an amendment to the Dixie National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan to protect those rivers recommended to Congress until Congress rules on a final recommendation.

Hugh C. Thompson, Forest Supervisor, Dixie National Forest, is the responsible official for preparing the suitability study. The Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 200-A, Administration Building, Washington DC, 20250 is the responsible official for recommendations for wild and scenic designation. The Forest Service is seeking comments from individuals, organizations, and local, state and Federal agencies who may be interested in or affected by the proposed action. The public input will be used in preparation of the draft EIS which is expected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and available for public review by April, 1999. At that time, the 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's notice of availability appears in the **Federal Register**. It is very important that those interested in the management of these rivers participate at this time. To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the DEIS should be as specific as possible, it is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft 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. Scoping notices have been sent to those interested publics on the Dixie National Forest NEPA mailing list. Other interested individuals, organizations, or agencies may have their names added to the mailing list for this project at any time by submitting a request to: Hugh C. Thompson, Forest Supervisor, Dixie National Forest, 83 N. 100 E., Cedar City, Utah 84720.

The Forest Service believes it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of the DEIS's 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. Versus NRDC, 435 U.S. 519, 553(1978).

Also, environmental objections that could have been raised at the DEIS stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final EIS may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angoon Versus Hodel*, (9th Circuit, 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc versus 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 so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when they can be meaningfully considered and responded to in the final EIS.

After the comment period ends on the draft EIS, comments will be analyzed and considered by the Forest Service in preparing the final EIS. In the final EIS, the Forest Service will respond to comments received. The final EIS is scheduled to be completed by October 1999. The Secretary of Agriculture will consider the comments, response, and consequences discussed in the EIS, applicable laws, regulations, and policies in making recommendation to the President regarding suitability of these river segments for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The final decision on inclusion of a river in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System rests with the Congress of the United States.

Dated: December 8, 1998.

Hugh C. Thompson,

Forest Supervisor, Dixie National Forest.

[FR Doc. 98-33649 Filed 12-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

EIS for The Herger-Feinstein Quincy Library Group Forest Recovery Act Pilot Project

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: On October 21, 1998, the President of the United States signed the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, including Section 401, The Herger-Feinstein Quincy Library Group Forest Recovery Act (Act).

The Act states that the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Forest Service and after completion of an environmental impact statement, shall conduct a pilot project on described Federal lands to demonstrate the

effectiveness of specific resource management activities including fuelbreaks, group selection and individual tree selection, and avoidance or protection of specified areas. A Record of Decision (ROD) is to be adopted by August 17, 1999.

Additionally, the Forest Service is to develop a program for riparian restoration. The Pilot Project is defined in the Act as Quincy Library Group Proposal, as described in the "Quincy Library Group-Community Stability Proposal", to be implemented on Federal lands identified on the map (MAP) entitled "Quincy Library Group Community Stability Proposal", dated October 12, 1993, and prepared by Vestra Resources of Redding, California.

DATES: The public is asked to submit any issues (points of concern, debate, dispute or disagreement) regarding potential effects of the proposed action or alternatives by January 19, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to David Peters, Project Manager, USDA Forest Service, Herger-Feinstein Quincy Library Group Forest Recovery Act Pilot Project, PO Box 11500, Quincy, CA 95971.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact David Peters, Project Manager, USDA Forest Service, Herger-Feinstein Quincy Library Group Forest Recovery Act Pilot Project, PO Box 11500, Quincy, CA 95971. Copies of the Quincy Library Group Community Stability Proposal, the ACT, the MAP and associated documents are available upon request from the Project Manager.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background and Early Public Involvement

The pilot project is based on an agreement by a coalition of representatives of fisheries, timber, environmental, county government, citizen groups, and local communities that formed in northern California to develop a resource management program that promotes ecologic and economic health for certain Federal lands and communities in the Sierra Nevada area. The agreement is the "Quincy Library Group-Community Stability Proposal," which has received broad public review over a period of years. The proposal was developed by an active cross-section from the local communities. The proposal was included for analysis in the "Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Managing California Spotted Owl Habitat in the Sierra Nevada National Forests of California, an Eco-system Approach", 1996. Additionally, there were congressional hearings and debate

associated with the proposed Bill as it was introduced in the House of Representatives.

Proposed Action

The Act directs the Forest Service to develop a Pilot Project, described as follows

- **Pilot Project Area and Exclusions.** The pilot project is limited to certain Federal lands (National Forest System Lands of the Plumas, Lassen, and Tahoe National Forests) and local communities of the Sierra Nevada area, that are identified on the MAP as "Available for Group Selection". All spotted owl habitat areas and protected activity centers located in the pilot project area will be deferred from resource management activities.

- **Riparian Protection and Limitation.** The Scientific Analysis Team (SAT) guidelines for riparian protection are described in the document entitled "Viability Assessments and Management considerations for Species Associated with Late-Successional and Old-Growth Forests of the Pacific Northwest", a Forest Service research document dated March 1993 and coauthored by the Scientific Analysis Team, including Dr. Jack Ward Thomas. The ACT does not require the application of SAT guidelines to any livestock grazing in the pilot project area during the term of the pilot project, unless the livestock grazing is being conducted in the specific location at which the SAT guidelines are being applied to a required "Resource Management Activity".

- **Compliance.** All required "Resource Management Activities" shall be implemented to the extent consistent with applicable Federal Law and the standards and guidelines for the conservation of the California spotted owl as set forth in the California Spotted Owl Sierran Province Interim Guidelines or subsequently issued guidelines.

- **Roadless Area Protection.** Required "Resource Management Activities", road building, riparian management activity that utilize road construction, and timber harvesting activities, shall not be conducted on National Forest System Lands that are designated as either "Off Base" or "Deferred" on the MAP.

- **Required "Resource Management Activities".** The following "Resource Management Activities" shall be implemented in compliance with Section 401 (1) on an acreage basis during the term of the pilot project:

- (1) **Fuelbreak Construction.**— Construction of a strategic system of defensible fuel profile zones, including