

commercially objectionable foreign odor (except garlic odor), or which meet the special grade requirements for garlicky soybeans; or

(ii) Substances or conditions are present that are identified by the Food and Drug Administration or other public health organizations of the United States as being injurious to human or animal health.

(3) Quality will be a factor in determining your loss only if:

(i) The deficiencies, substances, or conditions resulted from a cause of loss against which insurance is provided under these crop provisions and which occurs within the insurance period;

(ii) All determinations of these deficiencies, substances, or conditions are made using samples of the production obtained by us or by a disinterested third party approved by us; and

(iii) The samples are analyzed by a grader licensed to grade the insured crops under the authority of the United States Grain Standards Act or the United States Warehouse Act with regard to deficiencies in quality, or by a laboratory approved by us with regard to substances or conditions injurious to human or animal health. Test weight for quality adjustment purposes may be determined by our loss adjuster.

(4) The grain production that is eligible for quality adjustment, as specified in sections 11(d)(2) and (3), will be reduced by the quality adjustment factor contained in the Special Provisions.

(e) Any production harvested from plants growing in the insured crop may be counted as production of the insured crop on a weight basis.

12. Prevented Planting

Your prevented planting coverage will be 60 percent of your per-acre revenue guarantee for timely planted acreage. You may increase your prevented planting coverage to a level specified in the actuarial documents by paying an additional premium.

Signed in Washington, D.C., on December 17, 1998.

Kenneth D. Ackerman,

Manager, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.

[FR Doc. 98-34250 Filed 12-24-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Rio Sabana Day Use Picnic Area, Caribbean National Forest, Naguabo, Puerto Rico; Revised Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Revised Notice; extension of time for submitting scoping comments.

SUMMARY: Due to the passing of Hurricane Georges over the island of Puerto Rico, on September 21st, 1998, the Forest Service is extending the time for submitting scoping comments concerning the environmental analysis for the Rio Sabana Day Use Picnic Area, on the Caribbean National Forest. Additionally, this notice corrects the location of the proposed project site, as published in the **Federal Register** on Friday, September 18th, 1998, Vol. 63, No. 181. The location of project site should read as follows: from entrance gate at Highway #191, Km. 21.3 to project site, Km. 20.0, in the Cubuy sector of the Municipality of Naguabo.

DATES: (a) Comments to be incorporated into the draft environmental impact statement should be received by January 8th 1999 to ensure timely consideration.

(b) Comments to be incorporated into the final environmental impact statement should be received 45 days following the publication of Notice of Availability of the draft environmental impact statement, approximately the first week of March 31, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Send written comment to Abigail Rivera, Team Leader; Caribbean National Forest, P.O. Box 490, Palmer, Puerto Rico 00721.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Abigail Rivera, Rio Sabana Picnic Area EIS Team Leader, 787 888-5643.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Caribbean National Forest is proposing: (a) to develop a day use picnic area located in the vicinity of the Rio Sabana Bridge, on the southern end of Highway #191, at Km. 20.0, in the Cubuy Sector of the Municipality of Naguabo; (b) the rehabilitation of 2.5 miles of the Rio Sabana Trail #6 and trailhead; (c) repair and reconstruction of 0.8 miles of entrance road, located on Hwy. #191, Km. 21.3, to project site, Km. 20.0; Currently, the area has not been developed for recreation but receives heavy use. This use, coupled with a sensitive ecosystem in which it is located, gives rises to a potential conflict between the need to protect and conserve natural resources and the need to provide a well managed natural

setting where our customers can enjoy a satisfying recreational experience.

On April 13, 1992, U.S. District Judge Guierbolini permanently enjoined and restrained the U.S. Forest Service and the Federal Highway Administration from proceeding with construction activities on the closed portion of Highway P.R. #191, from Km. 13.5 to Km. 20, until completion of an environmental impact statement. The proposed project is located on a segment of Hwy. #191 that is outside of the area under court order.

The proposed action would meet the objectives of: (a) Correcting the current managerial situation and social settings in relation to the physical setting and actual use; (b) protect the natural resources in the vicinity; (c) increase Forest Service presence on the southern end of the Forest, which currently is minimal.

The EIS will be prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The U.S. Forest Service will be the lead agency and the Puerto Rico Department of Public Transportation (DTOP) will be a cooperating agency.

Public participation will be especially important at several points during analysis. The first point is when scoping officially begins (40 CFR 1501.7). The Forest Service will be seeking information, comments, and assistance from Federal, State and local agencies, and other individuals or organizations who may be interested in or affected by the proposed action. Comments must be received by *January 8th 1999*. This input will be used in preparation of the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS). The scoping process will include: (1) Identifying potential issues; (2) Identifying issues to be analyzed in depth; (3) Eliminating insignificant issues or those which have been covered by a relevant previous environmental process; (4) Exploring additional alternatives; (5) Identifying potential environmental effects of the proposed action and alternatives (i.e. direct, indirect, and cumulative effects and connected actions). Public participation will include notifying interested and affected publics of the proposed action in person and/or by mail. News releases will be used to provide general notice to the public.

The following preliminary issues have been identified through internal scoping: (1) Possible effects of development of picnic area and reconstruction of Rd. #191 on the threatened and endangered species identified in the project area; (2)

Possible effects on natural resources due to an increase in visitors to picnic area and trail; (3) Reconstruction of the historic CCC Rio Sabana Trail, which connects with the Tradewinds/El Toro Trail, may generate greater use than is allowed in the proposed Wilderness Management Area; (4) Security issues in the area in relation to 24-hour presence of Forest Service hosts of volunteers; (5) Potential hazards to Forest users caused by a nearby water impoundment and transmission facility, located on private land.

A draft environmental impact statement is expected to be available for public review, for 45 days, in *February 1999*.

It is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate at that time. Upon release of the draft environmental impact statement, projected for *February 1999* reviewers should structure their 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, (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft environmental impact statement stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement 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). It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft environmental impact statement or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the 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.)

After the comments period on the draft environmental impact statement ends, the comments will be analyzed, considered, and responded to by the Forest Service in preparing the *final environmental impact statement*. The final environmental impact statement is scheduled to be completed by *May 1999*. The Responsible Official will consider the comments, responses, environmental consequences discussed in the final environmental impact statement, and applicable laws, regulations, and policies in making a decision. The Responsible Official will document the decision and rationale for the decision in a Record of Decision.

The decision will be subject to appeal in accordance with 36 CFR 215.

The Responsible Official is: Pablo Cruz, Forest Supervisor, Caribbean National Forest, P.O. Box 490, Palmer, Puerto Rico 00721.

Dated: December 18, 1998.

Pablo Cruz,

Forest Supervisor.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Upper Pipe Creek Timber Sale and Associated Activities, Kootenai National Forest, Lincoln County, Montana

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: The USDA, Forest Service, will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to disclose the environmental effects of proposed timber harvest, road construction, prescribed burns, watershed and fisheries habitat restoration, road restriction changes, noxious weed control, gravel pit expansion and recreational improvements in the upper and eastern portion of the Pipe Creek drainage. The upper and eastern portions of this drainage are located approximately 15 air miles north of Libby, Montana.

The proposed activities are being considered together because they represent either connected or cumulative actions as defined by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR 1508.25). The purposes of the project are to: (1) Manage road access to balance wildlife and fisheries habitat protection, limit the spread of noxious weeds and provide for public access; (2) improve watershed health and fisheries habitat to provide for stable stream channels, productive habitat for aquatic species and water quality that meets or exceeds State of Montana water quality goals; (3) use prescribed fire to stimulate natural processes, prevent natural and activity fuel buildup, create habitat diversity for wildlife, reduce suppression costs and maintain ecosystems; (4) utilize timber harvest to increase the long-term productivity of forest stands suitable for timber production which are currently slowing in growth, over stocked and approaching an age where they are becoming more susceptible to mountain pine beetle infestation; (5) provide

timber and other forest products to support local, regional and national needs; and (6) restore western white pine and other intolerant tree species to historic sites and/or conditions.

The EIS will tier to the Kootenai National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan and Final EIS of September, 1987, which provides overall guidance for forest management of the area.

DATES: Written comments and suggestions should be received on or before October 27, 1999.

ADDRESSES: The Responsible Official is the Kootenai National Forest, Forest Supervisor, 1101 U.S. Hwy 2 West, Libby, Montana 59923. Written comments and suggestions concerning this analysis may be sent to Lawrence A. Froberg, Libby District Ranger, 12557 U.S. Hwy 37, Libby, Montana 59923.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kirsten Kaiser, Project Coordinator, Libby Ranger District. Phone: (406) 293-7773.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The decision area contains approximately 21,000 acres within the Kootenai National Forest in Lincoln County, Montana. All of the proposed activities would occur on National Forest lands in the East Fork Pipe Creek drainage near Libby, Montana. The legal location of the decision area is as follows: T34N, R31W, Sections 14, 15, 21-28, 31-36; T33N, R31W, Sections 1-36; T33N, R30W, Sections 19 and 30; T33N R32W, Sections 24, 25, 36; T32N, R31W, Sections 3-36; T32N, R32W, Sections 1, 12-13, 25, 36; T31N, R32W, Sections, 1-3, 10, 11, 15, 16, 19-28, 34; Principal Montana Meridian.

All proposed activities are outside the boundaries of any inventoried roadless area or any areas considered for inclusion to the National Wilderness System as recommended by the Kootenai National Forest Plan or by any past or present legislative wilderness proposals.

The Forest Service proposes to harvest approximately 3.0 MMBF (million board feet) or approximately 7,300 CCF (hundred cubic feet of timber through application of a variety of harvest methods on approximately 400 acres of forest land. All activities would occur on suitable timberlands. An estimated 0.3 miles of temporary road and 2.2 miles of permanent road construction would be needed to access timber harvest areas. An estimated 30 miles of road reconstruction/maintenance would also be needed to improve existing road conditions. Approximately 20 miles of road would be restored by various methods which