

The treatment methods for each infested site would include some combination of the following methods:

- Chemical: Spot application (backpack spraying) of herbicides: picloram in upland areas, glyphosate near waterways
- Manual: Hand pulling, grubbing
- Mechanical: Heat treatment (propane heated disk), helicopter staging of personnel and materials
- Cultural: Reseeding treated areas, using native seed, where the other non-native vegetation might re-occupy the treated areas.

The appropriate treatment method for each site will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Proximity of Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive plants (hand pull only) that would be impacted by chemical spray or drift
- Riparian areas (hand pulling and/or glyphosate)
- Sensitive or erodible soils (herbicide treatment to minimize foot traffic)
- Composition of existing native plant community (herbicide/reseed where native plant population is already compromised)
- Accessibility for foot traffic (prioritize treatment in adjacent areas). Treatment priority will be placed on sites with the greatest risk of spread.

Possible Alternatives

Additional alternative to be analyzed is the use of all treatment methods listed in the proposed action except herbicides or mechanical. All action alternatives will consider treatments on adjacent private lands, which would require cooperation from willing landowners.

Scoping Process

Scoping is an ongoing process throughout the planning process. A scoping letter was mailed in early June to individuals and organizations on the Chelan Ranger District's mailing list and adjacent landowners. The Chelan District Ranger has been on the local radio and the local paper has covered the project. The draft EIS will be circulated to those who indicated an interest in this specific project.

Preliminary Issues

Previous environmental analysis and decisions made in previous Environmental Assessments have provided a preliminary list of issues, and these have been reviewed and supplemented by Forest staff. These issues include:

- The potential continued spread of this weed, particularly in light of

conditions created by the Red Creek Fire of 2001.

- Concern about the use of, and application methods of, herbicides and the effects on surrounding vegetation and other resources.
- The project area is located mostly in the Lake Chelan-Sawtooth Wilderness and the use of mechanical methods of control and the presence of control personnel could affect wilderness resources.
- Concern that, based on the results of past control measures, the proposed control measures might not be effective.
- Concern that mechanical and manual control efforts could cause soil disturbance.
- Concern about the effects of treatments on recreation use in the project area and adjacent areas.

Early Notice of Importance of Public Participation in Subsequent Environmental Review: A draft EIS will be released for public comment November 2002. 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 final EIS is to be released in January 2003.

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 process. First, reviewers of a draft EIS must 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, 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 environmental impact statement should be as specific as possible. 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. (40 CFR 1501.7 and 1508.22).

The Forest Service is the lead agency. The Regional Forester for the Pacific Northwest Region is the Responsible Official. The Responsible Official will decide which, if any, of the proposed projects will be implemented. The Crupina Vegetation Management decision and the reasons for the decision will be documented in the Record of Decision. That decision will be subject to Forest Service Appeal Regulations (36 CFR part 215).

Dated: October 9, 2002.

Richard W. Sowa,

Acting Deputy Regional Forester.

[FR Doc. 02-26381 Filed 10-16-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Notice of Resource Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Modoc Resource Committee, Alturas, California, USDA Forest Service.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the authorities in the Federal Advisory Committees Act (Public Law 92-463) and under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-393) the Modoc National Forest's Modoc Resource Advisory Committee will meet Wednesday, November 13, 2002, in Alturas, California for a business meeting. The meeting is open to the public.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The business meeting November 13th begins at 4 p.m., at the Modoc National Forest Office, Conference Room, 800 West 12th St., Alturas. Agenda topics will include approval of September 11, 2002 minutes, nomination and selection of a new chairperson for the new fiscal year 2003, reports from subcommittees, review and selection through roll call votes of Fiscal Year 2003 projects that will improve the maintenance of existing infrastructure, implement stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems, and restore and improve health and water quality that

meet the intent of Pub. L. 106-393. Time will also be set aside for public comments at the beginning of the meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kathleen Jordan, Acting Forest Supervisor and Designated Federal Officer, at (530) 233-8700; or Public Affairs Officer Nancy Gardner at (530) 233-8713.

Elizabeth Cavasso,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 02-26369 Filed 10-16-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Siskiyou Resource Advisory Committee; Meeting

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Siskiyou Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet on Thursday, November 7, 2002. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at approximately 4:30 p.m. This meeting will be held at the Harbor Sanitary Building, at 16408 Lower Harbor Road, in Harbor, Oregon. The tentative agenda includes: (1) The proposed FY 03 RAC administrative budget, (2) FY 02 projects update, (3) review and recommendation of FY 03 projects, and (4) Public Forum. The public forum is scheduled to begin at 11:30 a.m. Time allotted for individual presentations will be limited to 3-4 minutes. Written comments are encouraged, particularly if the material cannot be presented within the time limits for the public forum. The written comments may be submitted prior to the November 7 meeting by sending them to the Designated Federal Official Scott D. Conroy at the address given below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Designated Federal Official Scott D. Conroy; Rogue & Siskiyou national forests; P.O. Box 520, Medford, Oregon 97501; (541) 858-2200.

Dated: October 10, 2002.

Scott D. Conroy,

Forest Supervisor, Rogue River and Siskiyou National Forests.

[FR Doc. 02-26375 Filed 10-16-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Advisory Committee Meeting

Pursuant to the provisions of section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), notice is hereby given of the following committee meeting:

Name: Grain Inspection Advisory Committee.

Date: October 23-24, 2002.

Place: Iberville Suites, 910 Iberville Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70112.

Time: 7:30 am-5:00 pm on October 23, and 7:30am-12:00 (Noon) on October 24, 2002.

Purpose: To provide advice to the Administrator of the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) with respect to the implementation of the U.S. Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 71 *et seq.*).

The agenda will include a review and discussion of GIPSA's financial status and of the future proposal for a new fee structure; and updates on FGIS' program plans; on the Artificial Neural Networking (ANN) pilot program, and process verification proposal. Discussions also will be provided on future inspection equipment alternatives, wheat end-use functionality research, FGIS' Central Monitoring Laboratory, recent and planned inspection procedural changes, and on any other related issues concerning the delivery of grain inspection and weighing services to American agriculture.

Public participation will be limited to written statements, unless permission is received from the Committee Chairman to orally address the Committee. Persons, other than members, who wish to address the Committee or submit written statements before or after the meeting, should contact the Administrator, GIPSA, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, STOP 3601, Washington, DC 20250-3601, telephone (202) 720-0219 or FAX (202) 205-9237.

The meeting will be open to the public. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication of program information or related accommodations should contact Terri Henry, telephone (202) 720-0219 or FAX (202) 205-9237.

Dated: October 10, 2002.

Donna Reifschneider,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 02-26399 Filed 10-16-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-EN-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

[Docket No. 021007230-2230-01]

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

AGENCY: Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of New Privacy Act System of Records: Commerce/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration System 14: Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship Program.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce is creating a new system of records listed under the Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship Program: Scholarship Recipients. We invite public comment on the system announced in this position.

DATES: *Effective Date:* The system will become effective without further notice on November 18, 2002 unless comments dictate otherwise.

Comment Date: To be considered, written comments must be submitted on or before November 18, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to the Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship Program, *Attention:* Privacy Act Comments, Office of the Assistant Administrator, National Ocean Service, 1305 East-West Highway, 13th Floor, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship Program, *Attention:* Privacy Act Comments, Office of the Assistant Administrator, National Ocean Service, 1305 East-West Highway, 13th Floor, Silver Spring, MD 20910, or by phone at (301) 713-3074.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship Program provides support for outstanding scholarship and encourages independent graduate-level research in oceanography, marine biology, or maritime archaeology, particularly by women and members of minority groups. For fall 2002, Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarships will carry a 12-month stipend for each student of \$20,000 and an annual tuition allowance of up to \$12,000.

COMMERCE/NOAA-14

SYSTEM NAME:

Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship Program.

SYSTEM LOCATION:

The National Ocean Service, Office of the Assistant Administrator, 1305 East-West Highway, 13th Floor, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3281.