

### Nature of Decision To Be Made

The Forest Supervisor will use the EIS process to develop the necessary information to make an informed decision on whether or not to approve the proposed Plan as submitted, or to decide what additional mitigations are needed to protect other resources as provided for in 36 CFR 228.8.

### Scoping Process

Scoping will include this NOI, listing in the Quarterly Schedule of Proposed Actions, letters to interested and affected individuals, agencies, and organizations, and legal notices, and the open houses in Grants and Gallup, New Mexico. Additional information about the project, schedule, permits and approvals, and opportunities for public involvement will be available at the open houses. The intent of scoping is to solicit comments on issues and alternatives that agencies and the public feel should be addressed in the EIS.

### Preliminary Issues

One preliminary issue has been identified: the development of the La Jara Mesa Mine may affect the characteristics that make the Mount Taylor Traditional Cultural Property eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Other issues may include groundwater contamination, natural resources, economics and health and safety issues.

### Permits or Licenses Required

The approved Plan of Operations authorizes mining. Operations must be consistent with Forest Service Conditions of Approval, and other applicable laws and regulations, including state permits for mining in New Mexico.

### Comment Requested

This notice of intent initiates the scoping process which guides the development of the environmental impact statement. Comments are solicited and are welcome for the 30 day comment period initiating on the publication date of this notice.

It is important that reviewers provide their comments at such times and in such a way that they are useful to the Agency's preparation of the EIS. Therefore, comments should be provided prior to the close of the comment period and should clearly articulate the reviewer's concerns and contentions. The submission of timely and specific comments can affect a reviewer's ability to participate in subsequent administrative review or judicial review.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be part of the public record for this proposed action. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, anonymous comments will not provide the respondent with standing to participate in subsequent administrative review or judicial review.

**Authority:** 40 CFR 1501.7 and 1508.22; 36 CFR 220.4.

Dated: May 8, 2009.

**Nancy Rose,**

*Forest Supervisor, Cibola National Forest.*

[FR Doc. E9-11265 Filed 5-13-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-11-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Fresno County Resource Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Fresno County Resource Advisory Committee will be meeting in Clovis, California on May 27th. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss monitoring for the projects submitted for funding.

**DATES:** The meeting will be from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in Clovis, CA.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Sierra National Forest Supervisor's Office, 1600 Tollhouse Rd., Clovis, CA. Send written comments to Robbin Ekman, Fresno County Resource Advisory Committee Coordinator, c/o Sierra National Forest, High Sierra Ranger District, 29688 Auberry Road, Prather, CA 93651 or electronically to [rekman@fs.fed.us](mailto:rekman@fs.fed.us).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Robbin Ekman, Fresno County Resource Advisory Committee Coordinator, (559) 855-5355 ext. 3341.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meeting is open to the public. Committee discussion is limited to Forest Service staff and Committee members. However, persons who wish to bring Payments to States Fresno County Title II project matters to the attention of the Committee may file written statements with the Committee staff before or after the meeting. Agenda items to be covered include (1) Monitoring.

Dated: May 7, 2009.

**Ray Porter,**

*District Ranger.*

[FR Doc. E9-11160 Filed 5-13-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-11-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Notice of Idaho Panhandle Resource Advisory Committee Meeting

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the authorities in the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463) and under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 110-343) the Idaho Panhandle National Forest's Idaho Panhandle Resource Advisory Committee will meet Friday, May 15, 2009, at 9 a.m. in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho for a business meeting. The business meeting is open to the public.

**DATES:** May 7, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting location is the Idaho Panhandle National Forest's Supervisor's Office, located at 3815 Schreiber Way, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ranotta K. McNair, Forest Supervisor and Designated Federal Official, at (208) 765-7369.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meeting agenda will focus on reviewing proposals for forest projects and recommending funding during the business meeting.

The public forum begins at 1 p.m.

Dated: May 7, 2009.

**Ranotta K. McNair,**

*Forest Supervisor.*

[FR Doc. E9-11157 Filed 5-13-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-11-M**

## AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

#### Notice of Public Information Collection Requirements Submitted to OMB for Review

**SUMMARY:** U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has submitted the following information collection to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding this information collection are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this

notification. Comments should be sent via e-mail to *Chad\_A\_Lallemand@omb.eop.gov* or fax to 202-395-7285. Copies of submission may be obtained by calling (202) 712-1365.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*OMB Number:* OMB 0412-0011.

*Form Number:* AID 1010-2.

*Title:* Application for Assistance—American Schools and Hospitals Abroad.

*Type of Submission:* Renewal of Information Collection.

*Purpose:* USAID finances grant assistance to U.S. founders or sponsors who apply for grant assistance from the Office of American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (ASHA) on behalf of their institutions overseas. ASHA is a competitive grants program. The Office of ASHA is charged with judging which applicants may be eligible for consideration and receive what amounts of funding for what purposes.

To aid in such determination, the Office of ASHA has established guidelines as the basis for deciding upon the eligibility of the applicants and the resolution on annual grant awards. These guidelines are published in the **Federal Register**, 79-36221.

*Annual Reporting Burden:*

*Respondents:* 85.

*Total annual responses:* 85.

*Total annual hours requested:* 900 hours.

Dated: May 7, 2009.

**Sylvia Lankford,**

*Acting Chief, Information and Records Division, Office of Administrative Services, Bureau for Management.*

[FR Doc. E9-11161 Filed 5-13-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6116-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Office of Administration

[Docket No. 090326470-9472-01]

### Commerce Alternative Personnel System

**AGENCY:** Office of Administration, Office of Human Resources Management, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of Modifications to the Department of Commerce Alternative Personnel System.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces changes made to the provisions of the Commerce Alternative Personnel System, formerly the Department of Commerce Personnel Management Demonstration Project, published in the **Federal Register** on December 24, 1997.

Also, this notice adds a new occupational series of 2150, Transportation Operations series to the system, and moves the Consumer Safety 696 occupational series in the (ZP) Scientific and Engineering career path from the Administrative (ZA) career path.

**DATES:** The changes announced in this notice are implemented as of May 14, 2009.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Department of Commerce: Sandra Thompson, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Room 5004, Washington, DC 20230, (202) 482-3725 or Pamela Boyland at (202) 482-1068.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### 1. Background

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) approved the Department of Commerce (DoC) Demonstration Project (project) and published the final plan in the **Federal Register** Wednesday, December 24, 1997 (62 FR Pages 67434-67463). The project pursued several key objectives of the National Performance Review. The project was designed to simplify current classification systems for greater flexibility in: (1) Classifying work and paying employees; (2) establishing a performance management and rewards system for improving individual and organizational performance; and (3) improving recruiting and examining to attract highly-qualified candidates. The purpose of the project was to strengthen the contribution of human resources management and test whether the same innovations conducted under the National Institute of Standards and Technology alternative personnel system would produce similarly successful results in other DoC environments. The project was implemented on March 29, 1998. The project plan has been modified six times to clarify certain DoC Demonstration Project authorities, and to extend and expand the project (64 FR Pages 52810-52812 (September 30, 1999), 68 FR Pages 47948-47949 (August 12, 2003), 68 FR Pages 54505-54507 (September 17, 2003), 70 FR Pages 38732-38733 (July 5, 2005), 71 FR Pages 25615-25616 (May 1, 2006), and 71 FR Pages 50950-50952 (August 28, 2006)). With the passage of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008, Public Law 110-161, on December 26, 2007, the project was made permanent (extended indefinitely) and renamed the Commerce Alternative Personnel System (CAPS).

The CAPS provides for modifications to be made as experience is gained, results are analyzed and conclusions are reached on how the system is working. This notice announces that the DoC modifies CAPS to add a new occupational series 2150, Transportation Operations series to the system, and moves the Consumer Safety 696 occupational series in the (ZP) Scientific and Engineering career path from the Administrative (ZA) career path.

The DoC will follow the CAPS plan as published in the **Federal Register** dated December 24, 1997, and subsequent modifications as listed in the Background Section of this notice.

**Deborah A. Jefferson,**

*Deputy Chief Human Capital Officer and Director for Human Resources Management.*

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### I. Executive Summary

CAPS is designed to (1) improve hiring and allow DoC to compete more effectively for high-quality candidates through direct hiring, selective use of higher entry salaries, and selective use of recruitment incentives; (2) motivate and retain staff through higher pay potential, pay-for-performance, more responsive personnel systems, and selective use of retention incentives; (3) strengthen the manager's role in personnel management through delegation of personnel authorities; and (4) increase the efficiency of personnel systems through the installation of a simpler and more flexible classification system based on pay banding through reduction of guidelines, steps, and paperwork in classification, hiring, and other personnel systems, and through automation.

### II. Basis for CAPS Modification

CAPS is designed to provide managers at the lowest organizational level the authority, control and flexibility to recruit, retain, develop, recognize, and motivate its workforce, while ensuring adequate accountability and oversight.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Office of Marine and Aviation Operations has requested to add the Transportation Operations Series, 2150 to the Administrative (ZA) career path. The series covers duties of which are to administer, supervise, or perform work involving the planning, directing, or operating of rail, motor, air, or water transportation systems and service,