

Road, Carson, Washington 98610 or telephone 509-427-3200.

Dated: February 7, 1997.

Ted C. Stubblefield,
Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 97-3728 Filed 2-13-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

Dry Smith Timber Sale, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Lewis County, Washington

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Cancellation of an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: On February 22, 1991, a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Dry Smith Timber Sale on the Packwood Ranger District of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest was published in the Federal Register (56 FR 7336). A draft EIS was released for public comment November 1993. A Notice of Availability for the draft EIS was published in the Federal Register on November 19, 1993 (58 FR 61090). Forest Service has decided to cancel the environmental analysis process. There will be no final EIS for the Dry Smith Timber Sale. The NOI is hereby rescinded.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Direct questions regarding this cancellation to Bill Uyesugi, Intergrated Resource Planning Assistant, Packwood Ranger District, 13068 US Highway 12, Packwood, Washington 98361 or telephone 360-497-1100.

Dated: February 7, 1997.

Ted C. Stubblefield,
Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 97-3729 Filed 2-13-97; 8:45 am]

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McCoy Timber Sales and Related Projects, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Lewis and Skamania Counties, Washington

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Cancellation of an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: On May 8, 1991, a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the McCoy Timber Sales and Related Projects on the Randle Ranger District of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest was published in the Federal Register (56 FR 21352). A draft EIS was released for public comment December 1993. A Notice of Availability for the draft EIS was published in the Federal Register on December 3, 1993 (58 FR 63954).

Forest Service has decided to cancel the environmental analysis process. There will be no final EIS for the McCoy Timber Sales and Related Projects. The NOI is hereby rescinded.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct questions regarding this cancellation to Buddy Rose, Integrated Resource Planner, Randle Ranger District, PO Box 670, Randle, Washington 98377 or telephone 360-497-1100.

Dated: February 7, 1997.

Ted C. Stubblefield,
Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 97-3730 Filed 2-13-97; 8:45 am]

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Meadow Timber Sales and Associated Activities; Kootenai National Forest, Lincoln County, MT

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 timber harvest, prescribed fire, road closures, road obliteration, construction of temporary and specified roads in the western portions of the Tobacco River drainage. The Tobacco River drainage is located approximately 38 air miles northeast of Libby, Montana, near the communities of Fortine and Eureka, Montana.

The proposed actions to harvest and reforest timber stands, construct and reconstruct roads, prescribe burning, and restrict roads 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 provide timber to support local communities, regulate disturbance patterns and natural cycles to provide forest structure to maintain habitat for viable populations, and manage access to protect important wildlife habitat and provide recreational opportunities.

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. All activities associated with the proposal will be designed to maintain high quality wildlife, fisheries, and watershed objectives.

DATES: Written comments and suggestions should be received on or before March 17, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The Responsible Official is Edward C. Monnig, District Ranger, Fortine Ranger District, P.O. Box 116, Fortine, Montana, 59918. Written comments and suggestions concerning the scope of the analysis may be sent to him at that address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joleen Dunham, Project Coordinator, Fortine Ranger District. Phone: (406) 882-4451.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The decision area contains approximately 21,500 acres within the Kootenai National Forest in Lincoln County, Montana. All of the proposed projects would occur on National Forest lands in the western portion of the Tobacco River drainage near Eureka, Montana. The legal location of the decision area is as follows: Sections 8-10, 14-29, and 33-36 of Township 36 North, Range 27 West; Sections 29-33 of Township 36 North, Range 26 West; Sections 4-9, 15-36 of Township 35 North, Range 26 West; Sections 1-3, 10-15, 23-26, and 35-36 of Township 35 North, Range 27 West; Sections 1-25 of Township 34 North, Range 26 West; Sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 24 of Township 34 North, Range 27 West; and Sections 18, 19, and 30 of Township 34 North, Range 25 West, Principal Montana Meridian.

All proposed activities are outside the boundaries of any 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 to harvest approximately 14 million board feet of timber through application of a variety of harvest methods on approximately 3,026 acres of forest land. An estimated 0.8 miles of temporary road and 3.8 miles of specified road construction would be needed to access timber harvest areas. Approximately 2.4 miles of this new specified road construction would be managed with yearlong restriction to motorized use. An estimated 31 miles of road reconstruction would also be needed to access timber harvest areas. All temporary roads would be obliterated following completion of sale activities. An additional 24 miles of road no longer in use would be obliterated by various methods which include rehabilitation of stream crossings, recontouring, ripping and seeding, and installment of barriers resulting in abandonment. The type of method would be based on site specific conditions. An estimated 33 miles of existing road would be restricted year round to improve watershed conditions, minimize future road maintenance