

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

Foreign Agricultural Service

Foreign Market Development Cooperator Program—FY 1998 Program Announcement Extension

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice extends the application deadline for participation in the Foreign Market Development Cooperator (Cooperator) Program for Fiscal Year 1998 and permits facsimile applications.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Marketing Operations Staff, STOP 1042, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-1042.

A **Federal Register** notice published July 14, 1997 (62 FR 37539) announced the Cooperator Program for Fiscal Year 1998 and set forth an application deadline of August 13, 1997. The deadline for submission of applications for the 1998 Cooperator Program is hereby extended to August 25, 1997 due to the disruption of parcel delivery services. Applications may be submitted by facsimile, hand delivered, or sent by postal delivery and must now be received by 5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Savings Time, August 25, 1997 at the following:

Facsimile: Director, Marketing Operations Staff on (202) 720-9361;

Hand Delivery (including Federal Express, DHL, etc.): U.S. Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Marketing Operations Staff, Room 4932-S, 14th and Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-1042;

U.S. Postal Delivery: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Marketing Operations Staff, STOP 1042, 1400 Independence

Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-1042.

For more detailed information regarding the application process or other terms and requirements of the Cooperator Program, contact the Marketing Operations Staff, FAS, USDA at the address above or telephone (202) 720-4327. Comments regarding the conduct of the Cooperator Program may be directed to either address as applicable.

All applications submitted by hand delivery or U.S. Postal Delivery should be submitted in triplicate (an original and two copies). Applicants submitting facsimile applications are requested to promptly submit an original and two copies by hand delivery or U.S. Postal Delivery.

Signed at Washington, DC, on August 12, 1997.

Timothy J. Galvin,

Acting Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.

[FR Doc. 97-21798 Filed 8-15-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Plum Creek Access Requests Within the Green River Drainage, Mt. Baker- Snoqualmie National Forest, King County, Washington

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: The Forest Service, USDA, will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) on Plum Creek Timber Company's (Plum Creek) application to acquire easements which allow the construction and maintenance of roads across portions of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest in King County in the State of Washington. The easements will access to Plum Creek parcels that are intermingled with National Forest System lands and that are not currently served by roads. The EIS will address Plum Creek proposals to build roads to eight separate parcels of company lands.

Requirements of the access authorized in the Record of Decision will be consistent with the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (LRPM) (as

amended in April 1994), which provides guidance for all land management activities on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest

The Forest Service invites written comments and suggestions on the issues for the proposed project.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of this analysis should be received in writing by September 19, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Dennis Bschor, Forest Supervisor, 21905 64th Avenue West, Mountlake Terrace, Washington 98043, Attention: Plum Creek Access Requests.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lloyd Johnson, Realty Specialist, North Bend Ranger District, 42404 Southeast North Bend Way, North Bend, Washington 98045. Phone: 425-888-1421.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Plum Creek owns lands which are intermingled with National Forest System lands in the Green River Watershed, North Bend District, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. Some of the parcels that Plum Creek owns and wishes to manage for timber are not served by existing roads. Access to these parcels via roads necessitates crossing National Forest System lands. Because Plum Creek's purpose for requesting access is to harvest timber and to conduct forest management activities, consistent with a 50-year Habitat Conservation Plan for Plum Creek lands, the company has specifically requested permanent easements from the Forest Service to construct and maintain permanent roads for access to Plum Creek lands. Under Section 1323 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 (Pub. L. 96-487, 94 Stat. 2371; 16 U.S.C. 3210), the United States shall provide access to nonfederal lands within national forest boundaries, as deemed adequate to secure to the owner the reasonable use and enjoyment of those lands, subject to the rules and regulations applicable to ingress and egress to or from the National Forest System.

Depending on specific road location alternatives, the road projects are likely to range from about 0.25 to 2.5 miles in length. For this analysis, it is assumed that a 66-foot-wide right-of-way (ROW) would be established for each road corridor and that vegetation clearing would only occur within this ROW.

Vegetation removal would occur on approximately 24 to 32 feet of the ROW; the road surface proper would be approximately 14 feet wide. Because road grade and terrain would vary, the amount of the 66-foot ROW affected and the exact amount utilized per mile is unknown. Plum Creek would construct and maintain the roads according to Forest Service road construction standards and guidelines.

The Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie LRMP (as amended) provides guidance for access across National Forest System lands through its goals, objectives, standards, guidelines, and management direction.

An environmental document will be produced which will display alternatives considered, including no action and the proposed action, and an estimation of the effects of the alternatives. The EIS will analyze the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the alternatives. Past, present, and projected activities on both private and National Forest System lands will be considered. The EIS will disclose the effects of site-specific mitigation.

Comments from the public will be used to:

- Identify potential issues.
- Identify major issues to be analyzed in depth.
- Eliminate minor issues or those that have been covered by a previous environmental analysis, such as the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie LRMP.
- Identify alternatives to the proposed action.
- Identify potential environmental effects of the proposed action and alternatives.
- Determine potential cooperating agencies and task assignments.

Issues identified as the result of internal scoping include:

- How will wildlife and wildlife habitat be affected by the project;
- Will unique plant communities be affected;
- Will fish habitat be affected downstream, especially in Sawmill Creek which has a distinct population of trout as well as coho and steelhead that are being planted by the State and the Muckleshoot Tribe;
- Will water quality be affected by sedimentation from mass wasting and surface erosion;
- Will large woody material be affected;
- Will water temperature be affected;
- The conversion of areas without roads to roaded areas; and
- Will cultural properties or heritage sites be impacted.

An initial scoping letter was mailed on August 8, 1997. One public scoping meeting will be held on September 9,

1997, at the North Bend Ranger District from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The responses and information provided during scoping will be compiled and will be incorporated into the analysis.

The draft EIS is expected to be filed in December 1997. 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 Forest Service believes that it is important to give reviewers notice at this early stage of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of the 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 45-day 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 EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft EIS. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft EIS or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the EIS. (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.)

The final EIS is scheduled to be completed in June 1998. In the final EIS, the Forest Service is required to respond to comments and responses received during the comment period that pertain to the environmental consequences discussed in the draft EIS and applicable laws, regulations, and policies considered in making the decision regarding this proposal. The lead agency is the Forest Service. Dennis E. Bschor, Supervisor of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, is

the responsible official. As the responsible official, he will document the decision and the reasons for the decision in the Record of Decision. That decision will be subject to Forest Service appeal regulations (CFR Part 215).

Dated: August 7, 1997.

Terry L. Degrow,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 97-21786 Filed 8-15-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C-489-502]

Certain Welded Carbon Steel Pipes and Tubes and Welded Carbon Steel Line Pipe From Turkey; Final Results of Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of final results of countervailing duty administrative reviews.

SUMMARY: On April 8, 1997, the Department of Commerce (the Department) published in the **Federal Register** its preliminary results of administrative reviews of the countervailing duty orders on certain welded carbon steel pipes and tubes and welded carbon steel line pipe from Turkey for the period January 1, 1995 through December 31, 1995. The Department has now completed these administrative reviews in accordance with section 751(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended. For information on the net subsidy for each reviewed company, and for all non-reviewed companies, please see the *Final Results of Reviews* section of this notice. We will instruct the U.S. Customs Service to assess countervailing duties as detailed in the *Final Results of Reviews* section of this notice.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 18, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephanie Moore or Kelly Parkhill, Office of CVD/AD Enforcement VI, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone: (202) 482-3692 or (202) 482-2786.