

Responsible Official

Michael D. Lloyd, District Ranger, Black Hills National Forest, Hell Canyon Ranger District, 330 Mount Rushmore Road, Custer, South Dakota 57730.

Nature of Decision To Be Made

The decision to be made is whether or not to implement the proposed action or an alternative to the proposed action at this time.

Scoping Process

The Hell Canyon Ranger District has mailed letters with comprehensive scoping documents to landowners, local and tribal government representatives, permittees, and other interested or potentially affected parties and organizations. The scoping document with attached maps will be posted on the Black Hills National Forest Web site in July 2007. Comments submitted in response to this NOI will be most useful to the project planning team if received within 30 days from the date of this notice.

Comment Requested

This notice of intent is part of the scoping process which will guide the development of the EIS. Comments received will assist the planning team with identification of key issues to refine the proposal, create alternative proposals, and identify necessary project design features. Comments on the Draft EIS will be requested during the 45 day comment period following publication of the Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register** which is expected in January 2008.

Early Notice of Importance of Public Participation in Subsequent Environmental Review

A Draft EIS will be prepared for comment. The comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**.

The Forest Service planning team would like to take this opportunity to give reviewers advanced notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process: (1) Reviewers of draft environmental impact statements must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alters an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978); (2) 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). Because of these court rulings, parties interested in this proposed action must submit comments by the close of the 45 day comment period to assure that the Forest Service planning team can meaningfully consider and respond to them in the final environmental impact statement. 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. Please 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 within the statement. In addressing these points, 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.

Comments received on this proposal, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record and will be available for public inspection.

(Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7 and 1508.22; Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, Section 21)

Dated: July 18, 2007.

Craig Bobzien

Forest Supervisor, Black Hills National Forest.

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BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Notice of Southwest Idaho 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. 106-393), the Boise and Payette National Forests' Southwest Idaho Resource Advisory Committee will conduct a business meeting, which is open to the public.

DATES: Wednesday, August 8, 2007, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: Idaho Counties Risk Management Program Building, 3100 South Vista Avenue, Boise, Idaho.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Agenda topics will include review and approval of project proposals, and is an open public forum.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Doug Gochnour, Designated Federal Officer, at 208-392-6681 or e-mail dgochnour@fs.fed.us.

Dated: July 17, 2007.

Richard A. Smith,

Forest Supervisor, Boise National Forest.

[FR Doc. 07-3617 Filed 7-24-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE: 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Sierra County, CA, Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Sierra County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet on August 9, 2007, in Sierraville, California. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss issues relating to implementing the *Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000* (Payments to States) as extended by Public Law 110-28 and the expenditure of Title II funds benefiting National Forest System lands on the Humboldt-Toiyabe, Plumas and Tahoe National Forests in Sierra County.

DATES: The meeting will be held Thursday, August 9, 2007 at 10 a.m. (If there is a need to cancel this meeting, a back-up is scheduled for Monday, August 13, 2007 at the same time/location.)

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Downieville Community Hall, Downieville, CA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ann Westling, Committee Coordinator, USDA, Tahoe National Forest, 631 Coyote St., Nevada City, CA 95959, (530) 478-6205, e-mail: awestling@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Welcome and announcements; (2) status of previously approved projects; and (3) review of and decisions on new projects proposals for current year. The meeting is open to the public and the public will have an opportunity to comment at the meeting.