

# 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.

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Agricultural Research Service

#### Notice of Intent To Grant Exclusive License

**AGENCY:** Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, intends to grant to Continental Grain Company of Chicago, Illinois, an exclusive license to U.S. Patent No. 5,807,546 issued on September 15, 1998, entitled "Livestock Mucosal Competitive Exclusion Culture to Reduce Enteropathogenic Bacteria." Notice of Availability was published in the **Federal Register** on August 7, 1997. **DATES:** Comments must be received on or before April 5, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to: USDA, ARS, Office of Technology Transfer, Room 415, Building 005, BARC-West, Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2350.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** June Blalock of the Office of Technology Transfer at the Beltsville address given above; telephone: 301-504-5989.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Federal Government's patent rights to this invention are assigned to the United States of America, as represented by the Secretary of Agriculture. It is in the public interest to so license this invention as Continental Grain Company submitted a complete and sufficient application for a license. The prospective exclusive license will be royalty-bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective exclusive license may be granted unless, within sixty (60) days from the date of this published Notice, the Agricultural Research Service receives written evidence and argument which establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the

requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

**Richard M. Parry, Jr.,**

*Assistant Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 99-2429 Filed 2-1-99; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-03-P**

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Duck-Sheriff Project, Allegheny National Forest

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, notice is hereby given that the Forest Service, Allegheny National Forest (ANF), will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement to disclose the environmental consequences of the proposed Duck-Sheriff project.

The purpose of this project is to move the ANF from the existing condition towards the desired future condition (DFC) as detailed in the Allegheny National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan). The Forest Plan allocates land to management where wood production is one of the featured objectives (Management Area [MA] 3.0). Equally important, the Forest Plan allocates land to management that emphasizes wildlife and recreation (MA 6.1). The Duck-Sheriff project contains both of these management areas.

In order to move toward the DFC, the acres in early successional age class (0-20 year age) need to increase; healthy forested stands capable of producing high quality, high value sawtimber need to be maintained; and understories dominated by fern, grass or undesirable vegetation need to develop desirable seedlings. Project proposals include timber harvesting as a means for making desired changes to forest vegetation and satisfying the demonstrated public need for wood products. Management actions necessary to meet the purpose and need include: 1,364 acres of regeneration harvest to ensure future forests; herbicide, fertilizer, fencing, mechanical site preparation, and/or planting to ensure seedling establishment and growth in understories. An additional 1,842 acres of intermediate harvests are

planned to reduce the competition for light and nutrients, thereby improving the health, vigor, and growth of residual trees and to restore the understory within mature forests. Activities associated with these silvicultural practices include 3 miles of new road construction, 28 miles of road restoration, 9 miles of road betterment, and 7 acres of stone pit development to provide an adequate long-term transportation system.

Additional areas need to be designated for management of late successional values, riparian areas need protection and enhancement, sections of the North Country Trail need improvement, water borne recreation needs enhancement, wildlife habitat needs improvement, and interpretation of wildland heritage needs to be increased. Project proposals (management actions) were designed to address these needs.

During project analysis issues will be identified that focus on the management of the area. Alternatives will be developed to show various ways to address the issues. This process is driven by comments received from the public, other agencies, and internal Forest Service concerns. To assist in commenting, a scoping letter providing more detailed information on the project proposal has been prepared and is available to interested parties.

After analysis, the responsible official will select an alternative that maximizes net public benefits for the Duck-Sheriff Project area.

**DATES:** Comments, suggestions, and recommendations for achieving the purpose and need for the Duck-Sheriff Project are now being accepted. The public comment period will be for 30 days from the date this notice is published in the **Federal Register**. Comments and suggestions should be submitted in writing and postmarked by March 4, 1999 to ensure timely consideration.

**CONTACT PERSONS & ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments and suggestions concerning the proposed action to: "Duck-Sheriff Project", attention Sue Wingate—ID Team Leader, Bradford Ranger District, HC1 Box 88, Bradford, PA 16701. For further information, contact Sue Wingate @ (814) 362-4613. The responsible official for this project is John R. Schultz, District Ranger,