

Plan allocated this area to general forest, including timber management and assigned it to Management Area #11. The area has had previous entries for timber harvest.

As well as forest-wide direction, the plan gives specific direction for this management area. It requires integrated protection of multiple resources including fish, wildlife, range, soil and water, timber, and fire/fuels.

Public participation will be especially important at several points during the analysis, particularly during scoping of issues and review of the DEIS. The first opportunity in the process is scoping.

The scoping process includes:

1. Identifying potential issues.
2. Identifying issues to be analyzed in detail.
3. Eliminating insignificant issues or those covered by a relevant previous environmental analysis.
4. Determining potential cooperating agencies and responsibilities.

The Forest Service will consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Interior, on potential impacts on threatened and endangered species.

Preliminary issues include effects on fisheries, wildlife, recreation, water quality, and economics.

The second major opportunity for public input is with the DEIS. The DEIS will analyze a range of alternatives to the proposed action, including the no-action alternative. The DEIS is expected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and to be available for public review in July, 1999. EPA will then publish a notice of availability of the DEIS in the **Federal Register**. Public comments are invited at that time.

The comment period on the DEIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA publishes the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of DEIS's must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts the agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC, 435 U.S. 519, 533 (1978). Also environmental objections that could be raised at the DEIS stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement (FEIS) 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 the 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 FEIS.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the DEIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the DEIS or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. 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.

In the FEIS the Forest Service is required to respond to comments received (40 CFR 1503.4). The responsible official will consider the comments, responses, environmental consequences discussed in the FEIS, and applicable laws, regulations, and policies in making the final decision regarding this proposal. The responsible official will document the decision and reasons for it in the Record of Decision. That decision will be subject to appeal under 36 CFR 215.

David F. Alexander, Forest Supervisor of the Payette National Forest, McCall, Idaho, is the responsible official for this EIS.

Dated: February 4, 1999.

David F. Alexander,
Forest Supervisor.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Eastern Washington Cascades Provincial Advisory Committee and Yakima Provincial Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Eastern Washington Cascades Provincial Advisory Committee and Yakima Provincial Advisory Committee will meet on Friday, February 26, 1999, at the Wenatchee National Forest headquarters

conference room, 215 Melody Lane, Wenatchee, Washington. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue until 3:30 p.m. The first part of the meeting will be devoted to subcommittee proposals for a Methow Valley dry forest management proposal, and the remainder of the day will be dedicated to presentations on listing of fish species under the Endangered Species Act. All Eastern Washington Cascades and Yakima Provincial Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are welcome to attend.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct questions regarding this meeting to Paul Hart, Designated Federal Official, USDA, Wenatchee National Forest, 215 Melody Lane, Wenatchee, Washington 98801, 509-662-4335.

Dated: February 3, 1999.

Sonny J. O'Neal,

Forest Supervisor, Wenatchee National Forest.

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COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Additions and Deletion

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed additions to and deletion from Procurement List.

SUMMARY: The Committee has received proposals to add to the Procurement List services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and to delete a service previously furnished by such agencies.

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE: March 15, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Gateway 3, Suite 310, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-4302.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Milkman (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 47(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the possible impact of the proposed actions.