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.

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Board for International Food and Agricultural Development; One Hundred and Forty-Seventh Meeting; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given of the one hundred and forty-seventh meeting of the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD). The meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on May 11, 2006 in the ground floor meeting room of the National Association of State Universities & Land Grant Colleges (NASULGC), at 1307 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.

The BIFAD will hear briefings on the Title XII legislation, U.S. Government and U.S. university support for agriculture development in Africa; USAID and university partnerships; the status of portfolio of the Collaborative Research Support Programs (CRSPs), and other items of current interest.

The meeting is free and open to the public. Those wishing to attend the meeting or obtain additional information about BIFAD should contact John Rifenbark, the Designated Federal Officer for BIFAD. Write him in care of the U.S. Agency for International Development, Ronald Reagan Building, Office of Agriculture, Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Room 2.11–004, Washington DC, 20523–2110 or telephone him at (202) 712–0163 or fax (202) 216–3010.

John T. Rifenbark,

USAID Designated Federal Officer for BIFAD, Office of Agriculture, Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture & Trade, U.S. Agency for International Development.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Tracy Placer Mine, Rogue River—Siskiyou National Forest, Josephine County, OR

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: The Forest Service will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS), to examine surface resource impacts connected with extracting gold from placer deposits within a 4.25-acre (approx.) area, in response to a mining claimant's proposed plan of operations. Proposed mining would occur along the south bank of Sucker Creek, about 11 miles southeast of Cave Junction, Oregon. During previous placer operations in the area, an existing but steeply inclined road provided vehicle access to several nearby sites. Because the placer deposit the claimant proposes to mine is located on the stream bank opposite from the road, the proponent proposes to use the existing road but would traverse Sucker Creek to reach the mine site by means of a low water crossing (ford).

The purpose for preparing this EIS is to forecast and disclose environmental consequences to surface resources, resulting from road use and mine operations, as well as to ascertain reasonable operational terms and conditions needed during development of locatable mineral resources of the United States (as authorized by the Mining Law of 1872, as amended). Although this is an action having ''effects primarily of local concern (40 CFR 1506.6(3)),'' the Forest Service is nonetheless publishing this notice in the **Federal Register** to make diligent effort at involving the public, agencies, organizations, Indian tribes and other interested parties in preparation of this EIS.

DATES: The EIS Team Leader (at the address below) should receive written comments concerning the scope of this analysis, identification of significant issues or both within 30 days following publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Once the scope of analysis is established, and significant issues identified, the Forest Service will prepare a draft EIS to document alternatives considered and to disclose anticipated environmental consequences. The draft EIS is expected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and to be available for public comment during July 2006. Following issuance of the draft EIS, and receipt of public comments related to the draft, completion of a final EIS is scheduled for November 2006.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments or inquiries regarding this proposal to Howard Jubas, EIS Team Leader, care of USDA Forest Service, Grants Pass Interagency Office, 2164 NE Spalding Ave., Grants Pass, Oregon 97526. If electronic submission of written correspondence is preferred, send electronic documents to the following e-mail address: *comments-pacificnorthwest-siskiyou-galice-illinoisvalley@fs.fed.us*. The subject line must contain the name of the project for which you are submitting comments.

The responsible official, Pamela Bode, District Ranger, may be contacted at the following mailing address: Illinois Valley Ranger District, Rogue River—Siskiyou National Forest, 26568 Redwood Highway, Cave Junction, Oregon 97523.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For technical information or questions, contact Howard Jubas, EIS Team Leader, at (541) 471–6760.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As set forth in the provisions of the 1872 Mining Law (as amended), a mining claimant (proponent) proposes to exercise his exclusive right to mine for gold within his placer mining claim (ORMC 159735). The location of the proposed placer mining operation is in the NW 1/4 of Section 19, Township 40 South, Range 6 West, Willamette Meridian, Josephine County, Oregon. The proposed mine site is located approximately 11 air miles southeast of Cave Junction, Oregon, at an elevation approximately 2400 feet above sea level. The proclaimed boundary of the Siskiyou National Forest encompasses all proposed mining excavations within the claim, as well as the access road to the mine site, and all operations would be conducted on National Forest System lands.

Proposed Action: The claimant proposes to mine gold from a 4.25-acre (approx.) placer deposit during a five-year period, beginning in 2007. Mine work would be suspended during