

After a comment period of 90 days, the Final Environmental Impact Statement and Forest Plan amendment should be completed by September, 1996.

The comment period on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will extend 90 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency 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 draft environmental impact statements 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 (1973). Also, 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, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the 90 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 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. It is also helpful if comments 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 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.

Dated: March 17, 1995.

R.M. "Jim" Nelson,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 95-7886 Filed 3-30-95; 8:45 am]

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Environmental Impact Statement Helicopter Landings in Wilderness, Tongass National Forest, Alaska

AGENCY: Forst Service, USDA.

ACTION: Revised notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS).

SUMMARY: The original notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for helicopter landings in Wilderness, Tongass National Forest, Alaska was published in the August 31, 1994 **Federal Register** (pages 44964-44965).

The purpose of this revised notice is to clarify the scope of activities to be analyzed in the helicopter landings in wilderness EIS. The EIS will include all helicopter access for recreational purposes including tours, sightseeing, guiding and other commercial recreation purposes. The environmental consequences of helicopter landing for general public access will be addressed. If helicopter landings are approved within Tongass wildernesses, allocation of those landings between commercial visitor service providers and other members of the public would be made in a separate process.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Written comments concerning the revised proposed action to approve helicopter landing areas in Tongass National Forest wilderness should be received on or before May 1, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Bill Tremblay, Team Leader USDA Forest Service, P.O. Box 309, Petersburg, AK 99833.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions concerning the environmental impact statement should be directed to Bill Tremblay, Team Leader, USDA Forest Service, P.O. Box 309, Petersburg, AK 99833, phone: (907) 772-3841.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the project is to provide for use of helicopters for general public access where this use was established prior to designation of Wilderness while managing Tongass National Forest wilderness to provide high quality Wilderness opportunities. In this context, general public access is for activities such as hiking, camping, photography, fishing, skiing, sightseeing, guiding, and other Wilderness-oriented forms of recreation.

The Regional Forester, Phil Janik, will decide whether to allow helicopter landings for access in areas that were used prior to Wilderness designation. If helicopter landings are approved, the Regional Forester will decide which

areas will be designated and what restrictions, if any, will be established.

Issuance of the final environmental impact statement is projected in the spring of 1996. The Responsible official for the decision is Phil Janik, Regional Forester, Alaska Region, P.O. Box 21628, Juneau Alaska, 99802-1628.

Dated: March 22, 1995.

Phil Janik,

Regional Forester.

[FR Doc. 95-7888 Filed 3-30-95; 8:45 am]

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Sequoia National Forest; California Spotted Owl DEIS

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces an open house in which the public is invited to participate in an information exchange regarding alternatives being considered in the California Spotted Owl Draft Environmental Impact Statement, as they affect the Sequoia National Forest area.

DATES AND TIME: April 11, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Springville Veterans Memorial Building, 35944 Highway 190, Springville, CA 93265.

CONTACT PERSON FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Judy Schutza, Hot Springs Ranger District, Route 4, Box 548, California Hot Springs, CA 93207, (805) 548-6503.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Forest Service has released a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to amend the Pacific Southwest Regional Guide Sierran Province Forest Plans with new management direction for the California Spotted Owl. The purpose of this meeting is to exchange information with the public regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the preferred alternative.

The meeting will be informally structured. A member of the team that prepared the DEIS will be available to answer questions and discuss the DEIS. Visual media depicting the alternatives and selected environmental consequences will be displayed.

March 27, 1995.

Linda C. Brett,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 95-7907 Filed 3-30-95; 8:45 am]

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