

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

### Forest Service

#### Suitability Studies for 22 Wild and Scenic Rivers, Tahoe National Forest, Placer, Yuba, Eldorado, Sierra, and Nevada Counties, CA

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Revised Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Tahoe National Forest and the Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Folsom District, is preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) which analyzes the suitability of 22 rivers in, and adjacent to, the Tahoe National Forest in California. The Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement was published in the Federal Register on Tuesday, April 27, 1993 [58 FR 25601]. The Notice announced that a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) would be available for review in February of 1994. The DEIS is now expected to be available in November of 1995. Additionally, the scope of the EIS has been expanded to include a Forest Land and Resource Management Plan amendment. The amendment would give interim protection for those rivers recommended to Congress until Congress rules on a final recommendation.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Questions about the proposed action and environmental impact statement should be directed to Phil Horning, Wild and Scenic River Coordinator, P.O. Box 6003, Nevada City, CA 95959, phone (916) 265-4531.

Dated: October 24, 1995.  
John H. Skinner,  
*Forest Supervisor.*  
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**BILLING CODE 3410-11-M**

#### Chasina Environmental Impact Statement

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to provide timber for the Ketchikan Pulp Company 50-year Timber Sale Contract or the Ketchikan Area Independent Timber Sale Program. The Record of Decision will disclose how the Forest Service has decided to provide harvest units, roads, and associated timber harvesting facilities. The proposed action is to harvest an estimated 40 million board feet (mmbf) of timber on an estimated 1,500 acres. A range of alternatives will be developed to achieve this estimated volume and include a no-action alternative. The proposed timber harvest is located within Tongass Forest Plan Management Areas K24 and K25, VCU's 674, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, and 686, on Prince of Wales Island, Alaska, on the Craig Ranger District of the Ketchikan Area of the Tongass National Forest.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Comments concerning the scope of this project should be received by November 30, 1995.

**ADDRESSES:** Please send written comments and suggestions concerning the scope of this project to: Forest Supervisor, Tongass National Forest, Ketchikan Area, Attn: Chasina EIS, Federal Building, Ketchikan, AK 99901.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Questions about the proposal and EIS should be directed to David Arrasmith, Planning Staff Officer, Tongass National Forest, Ketchikan Area, Federal Building, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901, telephone (907) 228-6304, or to Dale Kanen, District Ranger, Craig Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, 900 Main Street, Craig, Alaska 99921, telephone (907) 826-3272.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** (1) Public Participation: Public participation will be an integral component of the study

process and will be especially important at several points during the analysis. The first is during the scoping process. The Forest Service will be seeking information, comments, and assistance from Federal, State, and local agencies and individuals and organizations that may be interested in, or affected by, the proposed activities. The scoping process will include: (1) Identification of potential issues; (2) identification of issues to be analyzed in depth; and (3) elimination of insignificant issues or those which have been covered by a previous environmental review. Written scoping comments are being solicited through a scoping package that will be sent to the project mailing list. For the Forest Service to best use the scoping input, comments should be received by November 30, 1995.

Tentative issues identified for analysis in the EIS include the potential effects of the project on and the relationship of the project to: subsistence resources, old-growth ecosystem management and the maintenance of habitat for viable populations of wildlife and plant species, timber sale economics, timber supply, visual and recreational resources, anadromous fish habitat, soil and water resources, cultural resources, cave and karst resources, and others.

Based on results of scoping and the resource capabilities within the project area, alternatives including a "no action" alternative will be developed for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS). The Draft EIS is projected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in May 1996. Public comment on the Draft EIS will be solicited for a minimum of 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of availability in the Federal Register. Subsistence hearings, as provided for in Section 810 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), are planned during this 45-day comment period. The Final EIS is anticipated by April 1997.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments during scoping and comments on the Draft EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft statement.