

# 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.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

**SUMMARY:** The Salt Lake Ranger District, of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, will prepare an EIS on Brighton Ski Resort's (Brighton) proposal to update their Master Development Plan.

**DATES:** Comments concerning the scope of the analysis should be received in writing by August 9, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to Michael Sieg, District Ranger, 3000 East 6944 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84121.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Steve Scheid, Environmental Analyst, (801) 943-9483.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Brighton is proposing to update their Master Development Plan. This update includes the following elements: upgrade the Snake Creek lift to a high-speed detachable Quad, construct a new transportation lift between Solitude Ski Resort and Brighton, modify existing ski trails, which include rock and stump removal and terrain grading, expand night skiing opportunities, construct new mid-mountain lodge at the base of the Snake Creek Lift, expand current snowmaking facilities, and expand the existing hiking and biking trail systems. A complete description of the proposal and its elements is available from the Salt Lake Ranger District.

Brighton will be required to obtain an amendment of water supply permit agreement from Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities and a Water Change Application from the Utah Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water Rights, State Engineer. They will also be required to obtain all necessary building and construction permits from Salt Lake County.

A scoping document has been sent to more than 600 individuals,

organizations and government agencies, detailing Brighton's proposal for the next planning period. Preliminary issues identified by the interdisciplinary team include effects of the proposed action on: visual quality, run quality, year-round recreation experiences, wetland and riparian areas, water quality and quantity, vegetation, fish and wildlife, traffic and parking in Big Cottonwood Canyon, and threatened, endangered and sensitive species.

Two preliminary alternatives have been identified: (1) the proposed action which would permit the aforementioned projects and require Brighton to convert to a new Ski Area Term Special Use Permit, and (2) the No Action alternative which would continue the use as currently permitted with no new improvements.

The public is invited to submit comments or suggestions to the address above. This public comment period does not replace the initial public comment period. All comments received to date will be included in the EIS. We are seeking new issues, comments and suggestions. The responsible official is Bernie Weingardt, Forest Supervisor. A draft EIS is expected to be filed in May, 1997 and the final EIS filed in September 1997.

The comment period on the draft EIS will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency's notice of availability appears in the Federal Register. It is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate at that time. To be the most helpful, comments on the draft EIS should be as specific as possible and may address the adequacy of the statement or the merits of the alternatives discussed (see The Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3).

In addition, Federal court decisions have established that reviewers of draft EIS's must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviews' position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 533 (1978). Environmental objections that could have been raised at the draft stage may be waived if not raised until after completion of the final

EIS. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, (9th Circuit, 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). The reason for this is to ensure 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.

Dated: July 2, 1996.  
Steven W. Scheid,  
*District Environmental Analyst*.  
[FR Doc. 96-17445 Filed 7-8-96; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

### Rural Utilities Service

#### Information Collection Activity; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended), the Rural Utilities Service's (RUS) invites comments on this information collection for which RUS intends to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by September 9, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Billy J. Chapman, Loan Specialist, Processing Division, Water and Waste Disposal, Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 14th & Independence Ave., SW., AG Box 3223, Washington, DC 20250-1500. Telephone: (202) 690-3789. FAX: (202) 690-0649.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* 7 CFR 1942-I, Resources Conservation and Development.

*OMB Control Number:* 0572-0111.

*Type of Request:* Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection.

*Abstract:* This program would provide loan assistance to sponsoring local organizations (public and nonprofit) in authorized watershed areas for the local share of cost for works of improvement. RUS will assist the local sponsors and the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) in making loans for the development of future water supplies or for site preservation.