

review in January 1996 (66 FR 2508). This supplement will document the environmental analyses of additional information that was not included in the original road access draft EIS. This new information includes: change in the road access right-of-way; two additional alternative road locations will be considered; and a third road access will be added. The Forest Service gives notice of this analysis so that interested and affected people are aware of how they may participate and contribute to the final decision.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions and comments about this supplement should be directed to Douglas Campbell, Lands Specialist, Cle Elum Ranger District, 803 West Second Cle Elum, Washington 98922, phone 509-674-4411.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Wenatchee National Forest is initiating this action in response to an application filed by Plum Creek Timber Company. The applicant requests additional right-of-way across National Forest System (NFS) lands for the purpose of establishing legal access to their lands. The information to be included in the supplement includes a change in the road access right-of-way application from temporary road permit to permanent road right-of-way; the addition of two new alternatives for road locations in the Taneum and in the Peaches Ridge project areas; and the addition of a third road access project area, Big Bend, in the Little Creek drainage of the Yakima River watershed. The proposed access involves approximately 38 feet of road on .1 acres of NFS land for the Peaches section; 432 feet of road on .7 acres of NFS land for the Tarneum section; and .6 miles of road on 4.3 acres of NFS land for the Big Bend section.

The applicant seeks legal access pursuant to the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). The ANILCA directs the Forest Service to grant access to in-holdings of non-Federal land within the National Forest boundary for the reasonable use and enjoyment of those lands by the landowner. The applicant has stated that it intends to manage the lands to be accessed for long term timber production utilizing conventional ground based logging systems. The applicant intends to build roads on the permitted rights-of-way sufficient to support the intended use of the land.

The supplement will be prepared and circulated in the same manner as the draft EIS (40 CFR 1502.9). The supplement to this draft EIS is expected to be released to the public for review

in August 1996. The comment period on the draft supplement will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency's notice of availability appears in the Federal Register.

The Forest Service believes it is important to give reviewers notice at this early stage of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of a draft supplement to the EIS 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 Yankees Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft supplement stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final EIS may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angood 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 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 final EIS.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the draft supplement should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft supplement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the supplemental EIS or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. (Reviewer may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environment Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points.).

After the 45 day comment period ends on the draft supplement, the comments will be analyzed and considered by the Forest Service in preparing the final supplement. The final EIS is scheduled to be completed by October 1996.

In the final EIS, the Forest Service is required to respond to the comments received (40 CFR 1503.4). The responsible official, Forest Supervisor Sonny J. O'Neal, will consider the comments, responses, environmental consequences discussed in the EIS and applicable laws, regulations, and policies in making a decision regarding this proposal. The responsible official

will document the decision and reasons for the decision in the Record of Decision. The Forest Service decision will be subject to Forest Service Appeal Regulations (36 CFR Part 215).

Dated: July 15, 1996.
Sonny J. O'Neal,
Forest Supervisor.
[FR Doc. 96-18769 Filed 7-23-96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

Intergovernmental Committee Subcommittee meeting

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Intergovernmental Advisory Committee will meet on July 31, 1996, at the Robert Duncan Plaza Building, 333 SW First Ave., Portland, Oregon 97208 in the Regional Forester's conference room on the 6th floor. The purpose of the meeting is to continue discussions to identify issues and solutions to improve the implementation of the Northwest Forest Plan (NFP) and in particular to focus on ways to help field specialists evaluate riparian reserves during watershed analysis. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue until 12:00 noon. The IAC meeting will be open to the public and is fully accessible for people with disabilities. Interpreters are available upon request in advance. Written comments may be submitted for the record at the meeting. Time will also be scheduled for oral public comments. Interested persons are encouraged to attend.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions regarding this meeting may be directed to Don Knowles, Executive Director, Regional Ecosystem Office, 333 SW 1st Avenue, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208 (Phone: 503-326-6265).

Dated: July 12, 1996.
Donald R. Knowles,
Designated Federal Official.
[FR Doc. 96-18762 Filed 7-23-96; 8:45 am]
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Rural Utilities Service

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.; Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), formerly the Rural Electrification