

equipment and the Government repays the ESCO over the life of the ESPC contract. ARS is considering the use of energy savings performance contracting to assist ARS in meeting its compliance with EPACT and E.O. 12902 and securing its own energy supply capabilities.

PIADC's existing electrical baseload is supplied through underwater cables from the grid by Long Island Lighting Company (LILCO). Electrical energy use on Plum Island varies seasonally, with a winter (February 1994) baseload of 1.1 megawatts (MW) and peak load of 1.4 MW and a summer (July 1993) baseload of 1.4 MW and peak load of 2.3 MW. In Fiscal Year 1996, total electrical cost was approximately \$1.2 million based on a total usage of 9850 MWhr. In addition to electricity, PIADC annually consumes 950,000 gallons of heating oil. The heating oil is used in the production of steam for heating and biological decontamination and to fuel the emergency electrical generators.

To meet the requirements of EPACT and E.O. 12902 and to better meet the energy needs of PIADC's facilities, ARS has already implemented some energy efficiency or energy conservation measures (e.g., replacement of incandescent lights with energy efficient lighting, installation of light sensors, replacement of chillers). Through the provisions of energy savings performance contracting, ARS is investigating additional energy conservation measures and alternate means of utilizing renewable energy and reducing its current dependence on fossil fuel-based energy resources.

Preliminary Identification of Alternatives

PIADC proposes to implement energy conservation measures to reduce its consumption of energy by 20 percent by the Year 2000 and by 30 percent by the Year 2005 (in compliance with EPACT and E.O. 12902) and to develop its own electrical and heating and cooling energy generation capabilities to substantially meet its operating demand. Through the provisions of energy savings performance contracting, PIADC will examine energy conservation and supply technologies capable of meeting these demand scenarios, with particular emphasis on technologies that reduce its dependence on fossil fuel-based resources. Based on a favorable preliminary analysis of the wind energy potential on Plum Island conducted by the New York Power Authority (NYPA) in 1995, ARS intends to assess the health and environmental impacts and other issues associated with the use of wind energy on Plum Island. Other

energy conservation and supply technologies, as well as the no action alternative, will be evaluated in the environmental impact statement. At this time, PIADC intends to evaluate:

- Wind energy,
- Solar water heating,
- Thermal storage systems (for heating and cooling),
- Tidal energy,
- Replacement of emergency generators,
- Additional lighting retrofits,
- Water conservation measures, and
- No action.

Since it is possible that ARS might decide to implement a number of these (or additional) measures, the environmental impact statement will assess the health and environmental impact of each alternative individually as well as in various combinations. The no action alternative will assume that none of the energy conservation and supply technologies will be implemented.

Preliminary Identification of Health and Environmental Issues

ARS has identified the following issues for analysis for alternative actions in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Additional issues may be identified as a result of the scoping process:

- Impact on air quality.
- Impact on marine water quality and coastal resources.
- Impact on land use.
- Impact associated with transportation.
- Impact on plants, animals, and habitat (e.g., nesting shorebirds and ospreys, freshwater and tidal wetland impact).
- Impact on aesthetic and visual resources (e.g., historic viewsheds)
- Impact on socioeconomic resources (e.g., impact on growth and character of local communities, impact on tourism).
- Noise impact (e.g., to area residents, workers, tourists, and wildlife).
- Impact on archaeological resources.
- Impact on public health.
- Environmental justice impact (i.e., disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations).
- Impact on energy consumption and resource availability.
- Cumulative impacts.

Preliminary Identification of Decision Criteria

In addition to the goals of EPACT and E.O. 12902, ARS will identify and evaluate alternatives using the following supplemental criteria:

- Health and environmental impact of the alternative(s).
- Proven and commercially available energy conservation and generation technologies.
- Life-cycle cost (or economic viability) of the alternative(s).
- Compliance with Federal, State, and local permitting requirements.
- Compliance with PIADC's security and biological safety requirements; and
- Pollution prevention.

The Environmental Impact Statement will focus on the health and environmental impact of alternative decisions but will also report on these supplemental criteria.

ARS invites comments from other Federal Agencies, States, Indian tribes, local governments, and the general public related to the scope of the environmental impact statement including energy conservation and supply technologies and alternatives to be evaluated, health and environmental issues to be evaluated, and the decision criteria ARS intends to use in making its decision.

John A. Crew,

Area Administrative Officer, North Atlantic Area.

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BILLING CODE 3410-03-M

Forest Service

Calypso Timber Sale, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Skamania County, Washington,

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Cancellation of an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: On September 13, 1990, a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Calypso Timber Sale on the Wind River Ranger District of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest was published in the Federal Register (55 FR 37727). The NOI was revised on December 21, 1990 (55 FR 52286). A draft EIS was released for public comment July 1991. A Notice of Availability for the draft EIS was published in the Federal Register on July 26, 1991 (56 FR 34203). Forest Service has decided to cancel the environmental analysis process. There will be no final EIS for the Calypso Timber Sale. The NOI is hereby rescinded.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct questions regarding this cancellation to Julie Knutson, Integrated Resource Planning Assistant, Wind River Ranger District, 1262 Hemlock

Road, Carson, Washington 98610 or telephone 509-427-3200.

Dated: February 7, 1997.

Ted C. Stubblefield,
Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 97-3728 Filed 2-13-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

Dry Smith Timber Sale, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Lewis County, Washington

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Cancellation of an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: On February 22, 1991, a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Dry Smith Timber Sale on the Packwood Ranger District of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest was published in the Federal Register (56 FR 7336). A draft EIS was released for public comment November 1993. A Notice of Availability for the draft EIS was published in the Federal Register on November 19, 1993 (58 FR 61090). Forest Service has decided to cancel the environmental analysis process. There will be no final EIS for the Dry Smith Timber Sale. The NOI is hereby rescinded.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Direct questions regarding this cancellation to Bill Uyesugi, Intergrated Resource Planning Assistant, Packwood Ranger District, 13068 US Highway 12, Packwood, Washington 98361 or telephone 360-497-1100.

Dated: February 7, 1997.

Ted C. Stubblefield,
Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 97-3729 Filed 2-13-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

McCoy Timber Sales and Related Projects, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Lewis and Skamania Counties, Washington

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Cancellation of an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: On May 8, 1991, a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the McCoy Timber Sales and Related Projects on the Randle Ranger District of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest was published in the Federal Register (56 FR 21352). A draft EIS was released for public comment December 1993. A Notice of Availability for the draft EIS was published in the Federal Register on December 3, 1993 (58 FR 63954).

Forest Service has decided to cancel the environmental analysis process. There will be no final EIS for the McCoy Timber Sales and Related Projects. The NOI is hereby rescinded.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct questions regarding this cancellation to Buddy Rose, Integrated Resource Planner, Randle Ranger District, PO Box 670, Randle, Washington 98377 or telephone 360-497-1100.

Dated: February 7, 1997.

Ted C. Stubblefield,
Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 97-3730 Filed 2-13-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

Meadow Timber Sales and Associated Activities; Kootenai National Forest, Lincoln County, MT

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: The USDA, Forest Service, will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to disclose the environmental effects of timber harvest, prescribed fire, road closures, road obliteration, construction of temporary and specified roads in the western portions of the Tobacco River drainage. The Tobacco River drainage is located approximately 38 air miles northeast of Libby, Montana, near the communities of Fortine and Eureka, Montana.

The proposed actions to harvest and reforest timber stands, construct and reconstruct roads, prescribe burning, and restrict roads are being considered together because they represent either connected or cumulative actions as defined by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR 1508.25). The purposes of the project are to provide timber to support local communities, regulate disturbance patterns and natural cycles to provide forest structure to maintain habitat for viable populations, and manage access to protect important wildlife habitat and provide recreational opportunities.

The EIS will tier to the Kootenai National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan and Final EIS of September, 1987, which provides overall guidance for forest management of the area. All activities associated with the proposal will be designed to maintain high quality wildlife, fisheries, and watershed objectives.

DATES: Written comments and suggestions should be received on or before March 17, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The Responsible Official is Edward C. Monnig, District Ranger, Fortine Ranger District, P.O. Box 116, Fortine, Montana, 59918. Written comments and suggestions concerning the scope of the analysis may be sent to him at that address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joleen Dunham, Project Coordinator, Fortine Ranger District. Phone: (406) 882-4451.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The decision area contains approximately 21,500 acres within the Kootenai National Forest in Lincoln County, Montana. All of the proposed projects would occur on National Forest lands in the western portion of the Tobacco River drainage near Eureka, Montana. The legal location of the decision area is as follows: Sections 8-10, 14-29, and 33-36 of Township 36 North, Range 27 West; Sections 29-33 of Township 36 North, Range 26 West; Sections 4-9, 15-36 of Township 35 North, Range 26 West; Sections 1-3, 10-15, 23-26, and 35-36 of Township 35 North, Range 27 West; Sections 1-25 of Township 34 North, Range 26 West; Sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 24 of Township 34 North, Range 27 West; and Sections 18, 19, and 30 of Township 34 North, Range 25 West, Principal Montana Meridian.

All proposed activities are outside the boundaries of any roadless area or any areas considered for inclusion to the National Wilderness System as recommended by the Kootenai National Forest Plan or by any past or present legislative wilderness proposals.

The Forest Service to harvest approximately 14 million board feet of timber through application of a variety of harvest methods on approximately 3,026 acres of forest land. An estimated 0.8 miles of temporary road and 3.8 miles of specified road construction would be needed to access timber harvest areas. Approximately 2.4 miles of this new specified road construction would be managed with yearlong restriction to motorized use. An estimated 31 miles of road reconstruction would also be needed to access timber harvest areas. All temporary roads would be obliterated following completion of sale activities. An additional 24 miles of road no longer in use would be obliterated by various methods which include rehabilitation of stream crossings, recontouring, ripping and seeding, and installment of barriers resulting in abandonment. The type of method would be based on site specific conditions. An estimated 33 miles of existing road would be restricted year round to improve watershed conditions, minimize future road maintenance