

Total Burden Hours: 80,568.

Larry Roberson,

Deputy Departmental Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-4933 Filed 2-26-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-01-M

Forest Service

South Quartzite Salvage Timber Sale Analysis, White River National Forest, Garfield County, CO

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement to disclose effects of alternative decisions it may make to harvest dead Engelmann spruce and associated road construction within the South Quartzite Salvage Timber Sale Planning area, on the Rifle Ranger District of the White River National Forest.

DATES: Written comments concerning the scope of the analysis should be received on or before April 14, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Veto J. LaSalle, Forest Supervisor, White River National Forest, PO Box 948, 9th and Grand Ave., Glenwood Springs, Colorado 81602. Mr. LaSalle is the Responsible Official for this EIS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert W. Currie, Project Coordinator, Holy Cross Ranger District, 24747 U.S. Highway 24, PO Box 190, Minturn, CO 81645, (970) 827-5715.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On May 16, 1996 the White River National Forest released a Draft Environmental Assessment for the proposed action and alternatives to that proposed action under Public Law 104-19. Based on comments received from members of the public, the Interdisciplinary Team has determined that the proposed action and alternatives to that action represent an inventoried roadless area entry. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is required as per Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, Section 20.6. The proposed action proposes to harvest approximately 4.0 to 5.0 million board feet from approximately 1,280 acres of dead Engelmann spruce using a combination of ground-based (approximately 110 acres) and helicopter yarding (approximately 1,180 acres) and to construct approximately 0.9 miles of new specified road.

The proposed action is consistent with governing programmatic management direction contained in the *Rocky Mountain Regional Guide* and

FEIS for Standards and Guidelines (1983) and in the Final EIS and *Land and Resource Management Plan for the White River National Forest* (LMP, 1984). The LMP allocated the proposed timber sale area to semi-primitive motorized and semi-primitive non-motorized use and allows for timber harvest. The site-specific environmental analysis provided by the EIS will assist the Responsible Official in determining which improvements are needed to meet the following objectives: Reduce natural fuel loadings and to provide wood products for the nation and opportunities for timber related jobs. Alternative will be carefully examined for their potential impacts on the physical, biological, and social environments so that tradeoffs are apparent to the decisionmaker.

Public participation will be fully incorporated into preparation of the EIS. The first step is the scoping process, during which the Forest Service will be seeking information, comments, and assistance from Federal, State, and local agencies, and other individuals or groups who may be interested in or affected by the proposed action. This information will be used in preparing the EIS. No public meetings are planned for this project. Public comments received during initial scoping and those raised during public review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for this project will be incorporated into this EIS. Individuals who have provided comments during initial scoping, on the Draft Environmental Assessment, and those who provide comments on this EIS will receive copies of the Draft EIS for their review.

Preliminary issues include the potential effects of proposed actions on the following elements of the biological, physical, and social environments: wildlife and wildlife habitat, recreation resource values, roadless area resource values, and watershed health resources. The direct, indirect, cumulative, short-term, and long-term aspects of impacts on national forest lands and resources, and those of connected or related effects off-site, will be fully disclosed.

Preliminary alternatives include the proposed action (described above) and No Action, which in this case is deferring treatment of the area until the future. A third preliminary alternative could be analyzed which would harvest approximately 6.0 to 7.0 million board feet of approximately 2,500 acres of dead Engelmann spruce using a combination of ground-based and helicopter yarding and to construct approximately 3.0 miles of new specified road. Additional alternatives may be developed after the significant

issues are clarified and management objectives are fully defined. The Responsible Official will be presented with a range of feasible and practical alternatives.

Permits and licenses required to implement the proposed action will, or may, include the following: consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, review from the Colorado Division of Wildlife, and clearance from the Colorado State Historic Preservation Office.

The Forest Service predicts the draft environmental impact statement will be filed during the fall of 1997 and the final environmental impact statement during the spring of 1998.

The Forest Service will seek comments on the draft environmental impact statement for a period of 45 days after its publication in the Federal Register. Comments will then be summarized and responded to in the final environmental impact statement.

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 draft environmental impact statement 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 (1978). Also, *environmental objections that could be raised at the DEIS stage but that are not raised until after completion of the Final EIS 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 45 day comment period so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when they 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: February 19, 1997.

Gregory A. Kuyumjian,
Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 97-4839 Filed 2-26-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-BW-M

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Proposed Changes in the NRCS National Handbook of Conservation Practices for Review and Comment

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed changes in the NRCS National Handbook of Conservation Practices for review and comment.

SUMMARY: It is the intention of NRCS to issue a series of new or revised conservation practice standards in its National Handbook of Conservation Practices. These standards include Contour Buffer Strips (332), Filter Strips (393A), Tree/Shrub Pruning (660A), Riparian Forest Buffer (391A), and Manure Transfer (634). NRCS State Conservationist's who choose to adopt these practices for use within their state will incorporate them into Section IV of their Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG). Some of these practices may be used in conservation systems that treat highly erodible land or on land determined to be wetland.

DATES: Comments will be received on or before April 28, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Submit individual inquiries in writing to Gary Nordstrom, Director, Ecological Sciences Division (ECS), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), P.O. Box 2890, Room 6154-S, Washington, DC 20013-2890.

Single copies of these standards are available from NRCS-ECS in Washington, DC. Copies are also available electronically from the NRCS server at Fort Worth, Texas. The name of the server is ftp.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov. Practice standards appear as files in /pub/nhcp/pending. Practice code numbers are used as file names in this subdirectory. These standards are available as MS Word 6.0 files. They should be downloaded from the FTP server as binary files.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 343 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 requires the NRCS to make available for public review and comment proposed revisions to conservation practice standards used to carry out the highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the law. For the next 60 days the NRCS will receive comments relative to the proposed changes. Following that period a determination will be made by the NRCS regarding disposition of those comments and a final determination of change will be made.

Gary R. Nordstrom,
*Director, Ecological Sciences Division,
Natural Resources Conservation Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-4945 Filed 2-26-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Arizona Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Arizona Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 10:00 a.m. and adjourn at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 14, 1997, at the U.S. District Court Building, 7th Floor Hearing Room, 230 North First Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85025. The purpose of the meeting is to hold a factfinding forum on employment.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Committee Chairperson Manuel Pena, 602-254-3407, or Philip Montez, Director of the Western Regional Office, 213-894-3437 (TDD 213-894-3435). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least five (5) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, February 14, 1997.

Carol-Lee Hurley,
Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.

[FR Doc. 97-4799 Filed 2-26-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-P

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Texas Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and

regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Texas Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 9:00 a.m. and adjourn at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 5, 1997, at the Townes Hall Auditorium, the University of Texas School of Law, 727 E. 26th Street, Room 2-114, Austin, Texas 78705. The purpose of the meeting is to hold a public consultation on affirmative action and admissions practices and policies in Texas institutions of higher education, post *Hopwood v. Texas*.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Committee Chairperson Adolph Canales, 214-653-6779 or Philip Montez, Director of the Western Regional Office, 213-894-3437 (TDD 213-894-3435). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least five (5) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, February 14, 1997.

Carol-Lee Hurley,
Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.

[FR Doc. 97-4800 Filed 2-26-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-570-820]

Certain Compact Ductile Iron Waterworks Fittings and Glands From the People's Republic of China; Termination of Antidumping Duty New Shipper Administrative Review

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of termination of antidumping duty new shipper administrative review.

SUMMARY: On April 26, 1996, the Department of Commerce (the Department) published in the Federal Register (61 FR 18568) the notice of initiation of the administrative review of the antidumping duty order on Certain Compact Ductile Iron Waterworks Fittings and Glands (CDIW) from the People's Republic of China (PRC). We are terminating this review based on 776(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 as