

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

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket 97-032N]

Relocation of FSIS Docket Reading Room and Inclusion of Freedom of Information Act Documents for Public Display and Access

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is relocating its Docket Reading Room from the South Agriculture Building to the Cotton Annex Building. FSIS is also making available in the Reading Room Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) documents for review by the public.

DATES: The Docket Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., each Monday through Friday, except for designated Federal holidays.

ADDRESSES: The FSIS Docket Reading Room has moved to Room 102 Cotton Annex Building, Department of Agriculture, 300 12th Street SW., Washington, DC. 20250-3700 from its former location in Room 3806 South Agriculture Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC. 20250-3700.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To inquire about the availability of FSIS dockets and other public documents, contact Ms. Diane Moore, FSIS Docket Clerk, at (202) 720-3813.

Done at Washington, DC, on: April 24, 1997.

Thomas J. Billy,
Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Private Property Access-Road Construction; Kootenai National Forest, Lincoln County, Montana

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: The owner of record of landlocked private property located in portions of Sections 33 and 34, Township 27 North, Range 31 West, Principal Montana Meridian and the owner of record of landlocked private property located in portions of Sections 12 and 13, Township 26 North, Range 31 West, Principal Montana Meridian have requested special use permit applications for the construction and reconstruction of roads to their property.

The Libby Ranger District on the Kootenai National Forest intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess and disclose the environmental effects of the proposed road construction and reconstruction. The decision areas are located approximately 24 and 26 air miles respectively south of Libby, Montana.

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.

DATES: Written comments and suggestions should be received on or before June 5, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The Responsible Official is Robert L. Schrenk, Forest Supervisor, Kootenai National Forest. Written comments and suggestions concerning the scope of the analysis should be sent to Lawrence A. Froberg, District Ranger, Libby Ranger District, 12557 U.S. Hwy 37 N, Libby, Montana 59923.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jon Jeresek, Interdisciplinary Team Leader, Libby Ranger District. Phone: (406) 293-7773.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: All of the properties and proposed road constructions are located within the Inventoried Roadless Area #671—Cabinet Face East. The decision areas are occupied grizzly bear habitat.

Proposed Action: The Kootenai National Forest is proposing to issue two special use permits for permanent access to West Fisher private property and to allow reconstruction of roads to allow passenger traffic. The purpose of the projects is to access private land that is surrounded by National Forest. No proposed activities are located in areas considered for inclusion to the National Wilderness Preservation System as recommended by the Kootenai National Forest Plan.

The Kootenai National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan provides overall management objectives in individual delineated management areas (MA's). The decision area is allocated to MA-2, Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized Recreation. Briefly described, MA-2 is managed to provide for the protection and enhancement of areas for roadless recreation use, and to provide for wildlife management where specific values are high. Within grizzly bear habitat, the goal of MA-2 is to provide habitat that will contribute to the recovery of the grizzly bear.

Preliminary Issues: Several preliminary issues of concern have been identified by the Forest Service. These issues are briefly described below.

- **Water Quality**—How would the proposed actions affect sediment production?
- **Roadless Areas**—The proposed road construction lies entirely within the Cabinet Face East Inventoried Roadless Area #671. What effect would the proposals have on the character of this Roadless Area?
- **Grizzly Bear**—The decision area lies within the recovery area for the Cabinet/Yaak grizzly bear ecosystem. How would the proposals protect and enhance grizzly bear habitat, and contributes to recovery efforts?
- **Fisheries**—The proposed road construction would cross Bramlet and 4th of July Creeks which are priority bull trout streams. How would the proposed action affect sediment production and bull trout habitat?
- **Heritage Resources**—The road construction is proposed to occur over the existing historic 4th of July Trail #115. Can the loss of this resource and associated sites by mitigated?

Forest Plan Amendment: The Kootenai National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan has specific management direction for the Harpole