

**DATES:** Publication of Draft EIS: June 1997; Final EIS: September 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to Uncompahgre National Forest Travel Plan, USDA Forest Service, 2250 Highway 50, Delta, CO 81416.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Steve Hemphill, Team Leader. Phone: 970-874-6600. FAX: 970-874-6698.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of draft environmental impact statements 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 draft environmental impact stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final environmental statement 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 propose 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 meaningful consider them and respond to them in the final environmental impact statement.

To assist the Forest Service 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 to Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points.

Dated: April 21, 1997.

**Robert L. Storch**,

*Forest Supervisor.*

[FR Doc. 97-11949 Filed 5-7-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Southwest Washington Provincial Advisory Committee Meeting Notice

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Southwest Washington Provincial Advisory Committee will meet on May 21, 1997, at the Pack Forest Conference Center (Pack Hall) in Eatonville, Washington. For directions call (360) 891-5102. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. and continue until 5 p.m. The purpose of the Advisory Committee meeting is to (1) Utilize the Province Health Matrix and Watershed Analyses, to advise on proposed Timber sales, for the Wind River and White Salmon Basins, and (2) Present draft alternatives on the Cispus Adaptive Management Area.

Agenda items to be covered include: (1) 1997-1998 Timber Sale Program on the Wind River and White Salmon Basins, (2) Updates from Subcommittees on the Social and Economic Indicators of Basin Health, (3) Presentation of draft alternatives for the Cispus Adaptive Management Area, (4) Update on Plum Creek Land Exchange, and (5) Public Open Forum. All Southwest Washington Provincial Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend. The "open forum" provides opportunity for the public to bring issues, concerns, and discussion topics to the Advisory Committee. The open forum is scheduled as part of agenda item (5) for this meeting. Interested speakers will need to register prior to the open forum period. The committee welcomes the public's written comments on committee business at any time.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Direct questions regarding this meeting to Sue Lampe, Public Affairs, at (360) 891-5091, or write Forest Headquarters Office, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, 10600 NE 51st Circle, Vancouver, WA 98682.

Dated: May 2, 1997.

**Claire Lavendel**,

*Deputy Forest Supervisor.*

[FR Doc. 97-12022 Filed 5-7-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Natural Resources Conservation Service

#### Proposed Change to Section IV of the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) of the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Louisiana

**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 the NRCS in Louisiana to issue revised conservation practice standards: Firebreak (code 394), Forest Stand Improvement (code 666), Prescribed Burning (code 338), Tree/shrub Establishment (code 612), Tree/shrub Pruning (code 660), Access Road (code 560), Waste Storage Facility (code 313), and Composting Facility (code 317), in Section IV of the FOTG.

**DATES:** Comments will be received on or before June 9, 1997.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Inquire in writing to Donald W. Gohmert, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), 3737 Government Street, Alexandria, Louisiana 71302. Copies of the practice standards will be made available upon written request.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 343 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 states that revisions made after enactment of the law to NRCS State Technical Guides used to carry out highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the law shall be made available for public review and comment. For the next 30 days the NRCS in Louisiana will receive comments relative to the proposed changes. Following that period a determination will be made by the NRCS in Louisiana regarding disposition of those comments and a final determination of change will be made.

Dated: April 29, 1997.

**Donald W. Gohmert**,

*State Conservationist, USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service.*

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