

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service**

[Docket No. 97-076-1]

Procedures for Importing Animals Through the Harry S Truman Animal Import Center**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: We are giving notice of the date and location of the lottery for authorization of the use of the Harry S Truman Animal Import Center (HSTAIC) in calendar year 1998. We are also giving notice of the period during which applications must reach the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service in order to be included in the lottery.

DATES: To be included in the lottery for authorization to use HSTAIC in calendar year 1998, applications must be received no earlier than October 1, 1997, and no later than October 15, 1997. Deposits must be received by November 26, 1997. The lottery for authorization to use HSTAIC during 1998 will be held on December 3, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Completed applications and deposits must be sent to the Administrator, c/o Import-Export Animal Staff, National Center for Import-Export, VS, APHIS, USDA, 4700 River Road Unit 39, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231. Application forms may be obtained by writing to the same address, or by calling the telephone number provided under the heading "For Further Information Contact". The lottery will be held at USDA, APHIS, Conference Room 3B01CN, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. David Vogt, Senior Staff Veterinarian, Animals Program, National Center for Import-Export, VS, APHIS, suite 3B30, 4700 River Road Unit 39, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231, (301) 734-8423.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The regulations in 9 CFR part 92, §§ 92.430, 92.431, 92.522, and 92.523 (referred to below as the regulations), set forth the conditions under which importers may qualify animals to enter the United States through the Harry S Truman Animal Import Center (HSTAIC) in Fleming Key, FL.

Because the demand for quarantine space at HSTAIC has traditionally exceeded the space available, the regulations provide that a lottery will be held each year during the first 7 days of December, to determine the priority of

applications for the following calendar year. To be included in the December lottery, applications must reach the Import-Export Animals Staff of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) no earlier than October 1, and no later than October 15 of the year of the lottery. Additionally, applicants must send a deposit in the form of a certified check or money order in the amount of \$32,000, payable to the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, for each application. APHIS will not consider an application unless we receive this deposit from the applicant on or before November 26, 1997. In the event that the Import-Export Animals Staff receives no more than one application between October 1, 1997, and October 15, 1997, the lottery will not be held, and APHIS will grant exclusive right to use HSTAIC during the calendar year 1998 in the order applications are received.

Applicants should be aware that the HSTAIC facility must meet standards set by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The availability of HSTAIC for use for 1998 lottery applicants will be dependent upon HSTAIC meeting these standards.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1622; 19 U.S.C. 1306; 21 U.S.C. 102-105, 111, 114a, 134a, 134b, 134c, 134d, 134f, 135, 136, and 136a; 31 U.S.C. 9701; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.2(d).

Done in Washington, DC, this 20th day of August 1997.

Terry L. Medley,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service****Basalt Mountain Timber Sale Analysis, White River National Forest; Eagle County, Colorado****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 alternatives to harvest live and dead Engelmann spruce, sub-alpine fir, lodgepole pine, aspen and associated road construction and reconstruction within the Basalt Mountain Timber Sale planning area, on the Sopris Ranger District of the White River National Forest.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis should be received in writing by October 12, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Kevin Riordan, District Ranger, Sopris Ranger District, White River National Forest, PO Box 309, Carbondale, CO 81623. The Forest Supervisor Martha J. Ketelle, P.O. Box 948, Glenwood Springs, CO 81602 is the Responsible Official for the Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Timothy M. Snowden, Project Coordinator, Sopris Ranger District, 620 Main Street, Carbondale, CO 81623, (970) 963-2266.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 9, 1996 the White River National River Forest solicited comments for a Draft Environmental Assessment for the proposed action under Pub. L. 104-19. The Interdisciplinary Team has determined that the proposed action and alternatives to that action represent a roadless area entry. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is required as per Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, Section 20.6. The proposed action is to harvest approximately 6.0 million board feet from approximately 1,400 acres of live and dead sawtimber and poletimber using ground-based yarding, and to construct and reconstruct approximately 14.2 miles of specified road.

The proposed action is consistent with programmatic management direction contained in the *Rocky Mountain Regional Guide for Standards and Guidelines* (1983) and in the *Land and Resource Management Plan for the White River National Forest* (LMP, 1984). The LMP allocated the proposed timber sale area to wood fiber production and utilization of sawtimber products, with a small portion of the sale area being allocated to managing for the habitat needs of one or more management indicator species. Both allocations allow for timber harvest.

The site specific environmental analysis documented in the EIS will assist the Responsible Official in determining which actions are needed to meet the following objectives: promote long term ecosystem health by returning age, class and species diversity in the forest vegetation, control and prevent forest disease and insect infestations, provide for recreation and visual quality, maintain or enhance quality wildlife habitat, reduce accumulated natural fuel loading and provide wood products for the nation. Based on initial agency scoping and public comment the preliminary issues