

Approximately 2 miles of road would be constructed to access timber stands proposed for treatment. The newly constructed roads would be closed to all motorized use and revegetated following the project. Two helicopter landings would be constructed and revegetated. Six existing helicopter landings would be used and revegetated.

Aspen Stand Rejuvenation—On approximately 400 acres of aspen stands dispersed throughout the project area, prescribed fire and/or harvest of invading conifer trees would be used to rejuvenate decadent stands or maintain vigorous, young stands. These activities would promote regeneration of aspen suckers and saplings and prevent conversion to conifer stands.

Elk Habitat Improvement

Approximately 7 miles of the roads in the Spring Creek drainage would be obliterated and/or closed to all motorized vehicles with earthen barricades. Such closures would bring the elk habitat effectiveness of the Spring Creek drainage into compliance with the Forest Plan.

Fish Habitat Improvements—Five existing culverts currently posing a barrier to upstream fish passage would be replaced with bottomless culverts or other suitable structures to allow fish passage upstream. Bottomless culverts provide for slower water velocity and more pools, which facilitate upstream fish passage.

Approximately 13.7 miles of FDR 172 would be gravelled. Graveling of the road surface would help retain the fine sediment particles on the road surface.

Travel Safety Modifications to FDR 172—Approximately 25 “blind” curves and narrow road sections would be modified to improve sight distance and provide sufficient safe passing opportunities.

Preliminary Issues

The potential development of the Whiskey Jack and Rainbow Inventoried Roadless Areas is an anticipated concern. Under the Proposed Action, approximately 1.9 miles of road construction, 150 acres of ground-based yarding methods, and 1,750 of helicopter yarding would occur in the Whiskey Jack IRA. Approximately 250 acres of helicopter yarding would occur in the Rainbow IRA.

The effects of road construction and timber stand management activities on wildlife and fisheries are also anticipated concerns. Trinity Creek is designated a high priority watershed (Forest Plan—Inland Native Fish Strategy) because of its potential bull trout habitat. Habitat for some threatened, endangered or sensitive

species exists in the project area. Proposed activities have the potential to have both beneficial and adverse effects to wildlife and fisheries habitat.

Possible Alternative to the Proposed Action

One alternative to the Proposed Action has been identified. It is the No Action Alternative. Other alternatives may be developed as issues are raised and information is received.

Decisions To Be Made

The Boise National Forest Supervisor will decide whether or not to implement the project. If the project is to be implemented, the Forest Supervisor will decide which activities to include in the project, when the project should occur, and what mitigation and monitoring is needed to ensure the project is environmentally acceptable.

Schedule

Draft EIS, May 1998. Final, July 1998.

Public Involvement

Scoping is being initiated with this notice, a legal notice in the Idaho Statesman, and a letter to individuals, groups, organizations, and agencies who have expressed an interest in this type of project. Comments received from these public involvement efforts will be incorporated into the analysis process.

Comments

Written comments concerning the proposed project and analysis are encouraged and should be postmarked within 30 days following publication of this announcement in the **Federal Register**. Comments received in response to this notice will be released in their entirety if requested pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act. Mail comments to Frank Marsh, Mountain Home Ranger District, 2180 American Legion Boulevard, Mountain Home, ID 83647; telephone 208-587-7961 or 208-373-4310. Further information can be obtained at the same location.

The comment period on the draft EIS will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice 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 EIS 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 EIS 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, 1002 (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 for those interested in this Proposed Action participate by the close of the 45-day comment period so substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final EIS.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the Proposed Action, comments on the draft EIS 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 EIS 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. Comments received on the draft EIS will be released in their entirety if requested pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act.

Responsible Official

David D. Rittenhouse, Forest Supervisor, Boise National Forest, 1249 South Vinnell Way, Suite 200, Boise, ID 83709.

Dated: December 22, 1997.

David D. Rittenhouse,
Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 98-039 Filed 1-2-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

National Park Service

Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor; Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.
ACTION: Notice of meeting.

Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 552b of Title 5, United States Code, that a meeting of the Blackstone River Valley National

Heritage Corridor Commission will be held on Thursday, January 29, 1998.

The Commission was established pursuant to Public Law 99-647. The purpose of the Commission is to assist federal, state and local authorities in the development and implementation of an integrated resource management plan for those lands and waters within the Corridor.

The meeting will convene at 7:00 PM in the ITU Union Hall, Museum of Work and Culture, 42 South Main St., Woonsocket, RI for the following reasons:

1. Status of Ten Year Plan
2. Nominations of Commissioners
3. Budget

It is anticipated that about twenty people will be able to attend the session in addition to the Commission members.

Interested persons may make oral or written presentations to the Commission or file written statements. Such requests should be made prior to the meeting to:

Susan K. Moore, Executive Director
Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission, One Depot Square, Woonsocket, RI 02895, Tel.: (401) 762-0250.

Further information concerning this meeting may be obtained from Susan K. Moore, Executive Director of the Commission at the aforementioned address.

Susan K. Moore,
Executive Director BRVNHCC.

[FR Doc. 97-34240 Filed 12-31-97; 10:42 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Addition

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed Addition to Procurement List.

SUMMARY: The Committee has received a proposal to add to the Procurement List a service to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE: February 4, 1998.

ADDRESS: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Gateway 3, Suite 310, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-4302.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Beverly Milkman (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 47(a) (2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the possible impact of the proposed actions.

If the Committee approves the proposed addition, all entities of the Federal Government (except as otherwise indicated) will be required to procure the service listed below from nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the service to the Government.

2. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the service to the Government.

3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the service proposed for addition to the Procurement List. Comments on this certification are invited. Commenters should identify the statement(s) underlying the certification on which they are providing additional information.

The following service has been proposed for addition to Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agency listed: Laundry Service, Naval Hospital, San Diego, California, NPA: Job Options, Inc., San Diego, California.

Beverly L. Milkman,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 98-127 Filed 1-2-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6353-01-P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement list Proposed Additions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed additions to procurement list.

SUMMARY: The Committee has received proposals to add to the Procurement List commodities and services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies

employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE: February 2, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Gateway 3, Suite 310, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-4302.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Beverly Milkman (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 47(a) (2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the possible impact of the proposed actions.

If the Committee approves the proposed additions, all entities of the Federal Government (except as otherwise indicated) will be required to procure the commodities and services listed below from nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities. I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the commodities and services to the Government.

2. The action does not appear to have a severe economic impact on current contractors for the commodities and services.

3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the commodities and services to the Government.

4. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the commodities and services proposed for addition to the Procurement List. Comments on this certification are invited. Commenters should identify the statement(s) underlying the certification on which they are providing additional information.

The following commodities and services have been proposed for addition to Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agencies listed:

Commodities

Office and Miscellaneous Supplies
(Requirements for Hurlburt Field Air Force Base, Florida)