

# Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 63, No. 243

Friday, December 18, 1998

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

### Forest Service

#### Ramshorn Forest Vegetation Management, Shoshone Indian National Forest, Fremont County, Wyoming

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Revised notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** The Shoshone National Forest previously published a notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for forest vegetation management (**Federal Register** July 11, 1997, pages 37188–37189). This revised notice supplements the earlier notice, and does not contravene any of the information provided therein.

There are two reasons for filing a revised notice. First, at the time of the original filing, our estimate for publishing a draft EIS was February 1998. At the present time, we expect to publish a draft EIS in May of 1999. Second, the proposed action and the decision to be made have changed. For purposes of paperwork reduction, and to provide a reasonably timely response to a current oil and gas lessee, we are incorporating the analysis of a proposed exploratory well into the EIS.

The lease area and the proposed well site are located within the area being evaluated for vegetation management. While the vegetation management Interdisciplinary Team is performing site-specific analyses for prescribed fire and mechanical treatment of vegetation (including timber harvest), it can concurrently perform analysis for the proposed well and access road. Since most of the team members would be the same in either case, it is deemed to be more effective with our limited resources to produce one environmental document rather than two, for which the affected environments are the same.

The EIS document will adopt a purpose and need statement, a proposed action, and alternatives that will clearly separate the analyses, while recognizing that similar actions, issues, and potential effects accrue to both. All those who have indicated an interest in the vegetation management EIS will be notified directly of this change. Comments were received from some during the initial scoping process that encouraged joint analysis of the two actions, in part because they felt it would facilitate the display of cumulative impacts.

**DATE:** Additional comments concerning the revised notice should be sent in writing by January 22, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to Bob Rossman, Project Interdisciplinary Team Leader, Shoshone National Forest, 808 Meadow Lane, Cody, Wyoming 82414.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bob Rossman at the above address or phone (307) 527–6241. A detailed scoping statement for the proposed exploration well can be obtained. Also, updated information on the vegetation management portion of the project is available. Most of these items will soon be available at the web site reading room for the Shoshone National Forest. See [www.fs.fed.us/r2/shoshone](http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/shoshone).

For those who intend to comment, please note the following. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who only submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR part 215. Any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality.

**Rebecca Aus,**

*Forest Supervisor.*

[FR Doc. 98–33544 Filed 12–17–98; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410–11–M**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Natural Resources Conservation Service

#### Salado Creek Watershed, Bexar County, TX, Floodwater Retarding Structure Nos. 15Rev

**AGENCY:** Natural Resources Conservation Service.

**ACTION:** Notice of a Finding of No Significant Impact.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR Part 1500); and the Natural Resources Conservation Service Regulations (7 CFR Part 650); the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, gives notice that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared for the Salado Creek Watershed, Floodwater Retarding Structure (FRS) No. 15Rev, Bexar County, Texas.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John P. Burt, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 101 South Main, Temple, Texas 76501–7682, Telephone (254) 742–9800.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The environmental assessment of this federally assisted action indicates that the project will not cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. As a result of these findings, John P. Burt, State Conservationist, has determined that the preparation and review of an environmental impact statement is not needed for this project.

The recommended actions included in the original work plan as supplemented proposed installing 14 floodwater retarding structures as well as land treatment measures. All of the land treatment measures and 13 floodwater retarding structures have been installed. The environmental assessment addresses the installation of the remaining floodwater retarding structure (FRS 15Rev) that remain to be installed.

Installation of the site, including dam, emergency spillway, and additional borrow areas will require 58 acres. The dam will be planted to grasses that have wildlife values. The dam and emergency spillway will not be fenced to allow public access through McAllister Park.