

reviewer's position and contentions (*Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519 553 [1978]). Also, environmental objection that could be raised at the draft environmental impact statement state but that are not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement stage 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 the above rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the 45-day comment period so that substantive comments are made available to the Forest Service at a time when they can be meaningfully considered and responded to in the final environmental impact statement. Comments on the draft environmental impact statement should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages, sections, 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 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. After the comment period ends on the draft EIS, the comments received will be analyzed and considered by the Forest Service in preparing the final EIS.

The final EIS is scheduled to be completed in September, 2002. In the final EIS, the Forest Service is required to respond to the comments received (40 CFR 1503.4). The responsible official will consider the comments, responses, environmental consequences discussed in the environmental impact statement, and applicable laws, regulations and policies in making a decision regarding this proposal. The responsible official will document the decision and reasons for the decision in a Record of Decision. That decision will be subject to appeal under 36 CFR part 215.

The responsible official is Dan Chisholm, Forest Supervisor, Modoc National Forest, 800 W. 12th St., Alturas CA, 96101.

Dated: December 19, 2001.

Dan Chisholm,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 01-31910 Filed 12-27-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-U

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Deschutes Provincial Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Deschutes Provincial Advisory Committee (PAC) will meet on January 16, 2002 at the Crook County Library, Broughton Room, 200 E. 2nd Street in Prineville, Oregon. A business meeting will begin at 9:00 am and finish at 3:00 pm. Agenda items will include a discussion on the management implications of the Eastside Screens, Litigation Update, ICBEMP update, PAC Recommendations Regarding The Northwest Forest Plan Successes/ Failures, Info Sharing and a Public Forum from 2:30 pm till 3:00 pm. All Deschutes Province Advisory Committee Meetings are open to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mollie Chaudet, Province Liaison, USDA, Bend-Ft. Rock Ranger District, 1230 N.E. 3rd., Bend, OR 97701, Phone (541) 416-6872.

Leslie A.C. Weldon,

Forest Supervisor.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Forest Counties Payments Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Forest Counties Payments Committee has scheduled a business meeting on January 19-20, 2002, to discuss how it will provide Congress with the information specified in Section 320 of the Fiscal Year 2001 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. The meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., and is open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held on January 19-20, 2002.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Pontchartrain Hotel, 2031 Saint Charles Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana 70140.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Randle G. Phillips, Executive Director, Forest Counties Payments Committee, (202) 208-6574; or via e-mail at rphillips01@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 320 of the 2001 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (Pub. L. 106-291) created the Forest Counties Payments Committee to make recommendations to Congress on a long-term solution for making Federal payments to eligible States and counties in which Federal lands are situated. The Committee will consider the impact on eligible States and counties of revenues from the historic multiple use of Federal lands; evaluate the economic, environmental, and social benefits which accrue to counties containing Federal lands; evaluate the expenditures by counties on activities occurring on Federal lands which are Federal responsibilities; and monitor payments and implementation of Pub. L. 106-393, The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

Dated: December 19, 2001.

Elizabeth Estill,

Deputy Chief, Programs and Legislation.

[FR Doc. 01-31873 Filed 12-27-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Notice of Resource Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Ravalli County Resource Advisory Committee, Hamilton, MT. Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the authorities in the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463) and under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-393) the Bitterroot National Forest's Ravalli County Resource Advisory Committee will meet Tuesday, January 22, 2001 in Hamilton Montana for a business meeting. The meeting is open to the public.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The business meeting in January 22 begins at 6:30 p.m., at the Holiday Inn, 138 Bitterroot Plaza Drive, Hamilton, Montana. Agenda topics will include FACA overview, Charter overview, Process of project identification/ recommendation, election of Chairperson, operating guidelines, and establishment of future meeting schedule.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeanne Higgins, Stevensville District Ranger and Designated Federal Officer, Phone: (406) 777-5461.