

Notices

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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

Herger-Feinstein Quincy Library Forest Recovery Plan Amendment

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Revised notice of intent to prepare a final supplemental environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Lassen National Forest, Plumas National Forest, and Tahoe National Forest will prepare a supplemental environmental impact statement (EIS) in response to a recent United States District Court Decision in *Californians for Alternatives to Toxics v. Michael Dombeck No. Civ. S-00-605 LKK/PAN*. This supplemental EIS will address maintenance of defensible fuels profile zones (DFPZs) in the Herger-Feinstein Quincy Library Forest Recovery Act Pilot Project Area.

The Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement was published in the **Federal Register**/Vol 66, No. 15, page 42625 on Tuesday, August 14, 2001. The Notice announced that a supplemental draft environmental impact statement was expected to be available for public review and comment in October 2001, and a final environmental impact statement in January 2002. The Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplement was published in the **Federal Register**/Vol 66, No. 194, page 51036 on Friday, October 5, 2001. The Final Supplement is now expected to be available in October 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Theresa Frolli, Team Leader, USDA Forest Service, Lassen National Forest, 2550 Riverside Dr. Susanville, CA 97130. Phone number (530) 257-2151.

Dated: July 2, 2002.

Edward C. Cole,

Forest Supervisor, Lassen National Forest.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Payette National Forest, Idaho; Lick Timber Sale

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The USDA Forest Service will prepare the Lick Timber Sale environmental impact statement (EIS). The proposed action in the EIS is to reduce fuels, manage forest vegetation, enhance northern Idaho ground squirrel (NIDGS) habitat, and manage roads. The EIS will analyze the effects of the proposed action and alternatives. The agency gives notice of the full National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis and decision making process on the proposal so interested and affected members of the public may participate and contribute to the final decision. The Payette National Forest invites written comments and suggestions on the scope of the analysis and the issues to address.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing by August 12, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Faye L. Krueger, Council District Ranger at P.O. Box 567, Council, Idaho, 83612. Faxes should be sent to 208-253-0109 and e-mails to fkruieger@fs.fed.us.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions about the proposed project and scope of analysis should be directed to Sam Feider, Team Leader, at the above address, or phone at (208) 253-0100.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The analysis area is about 25 air miles north-northwest of Council, Idaho, in Adams County. The area can be reached by taking Forest Road #002 (Council-Cuprum Road) to Forest Road #143 (Lick Creek Road). The project area consists of National Forest System lands located in Township 20N, Range 2W, in all or portions of sections 9, 10, 15-17, 20-23, and 26-35, Boise Meridian and in Township 19N, Range 2W, in all or

portions of sections 2-10, and 15-18, Boise Meridian. It is located entirely within the 6,922-acre Middle Lick subwatershed, and a small portion (4,237 acres) of the Upper Lick subwatershed. The proposed action will be in compliance with the Payette National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan of 1988), as amended), which provides overall guidance for management of this area.

Purpose and Need for Action

The purpose and need for the proposed action is to: (1) Improve timber stand growth and yield, (2) Reduce the incidence and hazard of insect and disease in timbered stands through harvest and salvage, (3) Reduce the risk of wildland fire to forestland, investments, adjacent private lands, and facilities, (4) Reduce the potential of sediment delivery to Lick Creek and its tributaries from roads, and eliminate roads unneeded for future management, and (5) Enhance suitable habitat for northern Idaho ground squirrels to meet habitat management and recovery plan goals. The proposal has four main objectives it would achieve. It would: (1) Reduce the risk of extreme fire behavior (crown fire) in the Upper Lick Creek and Middle Lick drainages. This in turn would: (a) Reduce the risk that wildfire would damage and/or destroy tree plantations in the project area, thereby maintaining past investments; (b) protect private land investments; (c) provide an area that would allow firefighters to safely suppress an escaped wildfire; and (d) provide a foundation to expand future fuels reduction activities into other portions of the Bear Watershed. (2) Reduce overstocked timber stands and plantations through timber harvest and thinning. This in turn would: (a) improve seral tree species health and decrease opportunities for insect and disease outbreaks, (b) improve tree growth by reducing the competition between trees for sunlight, moisture, and nutrients, (c) reforest with seral tree species, and (d) contribute to the Council District's portion of the Payette National Forest allowable sale quantity. (3) Enhance northern Idaho ground squirrel habitat to facilitate population recovery, and (4) Design a transportation system that responds to human access needs while reducing impacts and improving watershed conditions for