

completion of the final environmental impact statement may be waived or dismissed by the court. *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 these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the comment period for the draft environmental impact statement so that 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 environmental impact statement.

To assist the Forest in identifying and considering issues raised by the proposed action, comments on the draft environmental impact statement 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 environmental impact statement 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.

Dated: April 29, 2003.

**Ruth Monahan,**

*Sawtooth Forest Supervisor.*

[FR Doc. 03-11098 Filed 5-5-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-11-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### **Sawtooth National Forest, Idaho; Baker Creek and North Fork-Boulder Creek Allotment Management Plans Analysis**

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

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

**SUMMARY:** The USDA Forest Service will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Baker Creek and North Fork-Boulder Creek livestock grazing allotments. The proposed action in the EIS is to authorize grazing through revised allotment management plans (AMPs). 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 Sawtooth

National Forest invites written comments and suggestions on the scope of the analysis and the issues to address.

**DATES:** Written comments concerning the proposed project should be postmarked within 30 days from the day after publication of this announcement in the **Federal Register**. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including the names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposal and will be available to public inspection. The draft environmental impact statement is expected to be available for public review and comment in November, 2003 and the final environmental impact statement is expected to be available May, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to Kurt Nelson, District Ranger at Ketchum Ranger Station; P.O. Box 2356; Ketchum, Idaho, 83340. Faxes should be sent to 208-622-3923 and e-mails to [kjnelson@fs.fed.us](mailto:kjnelson@fs.fed.us).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Questions about the proposed project and scope of analysis should be directed to Mike O'Farrell, Team Leader, at the above address, [mofarrell@fs.fed.us](mailto:mofarrell@fs.fed.us), or phone at (208) 622-5371.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The analysis area is located in the Pioneer, Smoky Mountain and Boulder Mountain ranges in Blaine County, north of Ketchum, ID and is administered by the Ketchum Ranger District and Sawtooth National Recreation Area (SNRA) of the Sawtooth National Forest. The allotments are located in portions of Townships 4-6 North and Ranges 15-18 East, Boise Meridian. The proposed action will be in compliance with the Sawtooth National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (FLRMP), as amended, which provides overall guidance for management of this area and Public Law 92-400, the Organic Act for the SNRA.

#### **Purpose and Need for Action**

The purpose of the proposed action is to update the allotment management plans to allow for permitted livestock grazing that meets or moves toward desired resource conditions. The need for the proposed action is to comply with desired resource conditions as described in Sawtooth FLRMP Standards.

#### **Proposed Action**

The proposed action of this EIS is to bring management of the allotments into compliance with FLRMP and PL 92-400 by authorizing permitted grazing that meets or moves toward desired resource conditions. AMPs would be revised to

reflect these changes. An adaptive management strategy, which would allow for flexibility during the implementation of the grazing strategy, would allow permittees to respond to changing conditions and unexpected results. Permitted numbers and seasons would be modified as necessary to meet standards, based on monitoring results of the previous season.

#### **Possible Alternatives**

Possible alternatives include: Alt. 1—continued grazing as currently permitted (No change); Alt. 2—revised stocking rate and permitted area; Alt. 3—No grazing (grazing phased out).

#### **Responsible Official**

The responsible official for the Baker Creek allotment is the District Ranger of the Ketchum District and the responsible official for the North Fork-Boulder allotment is the Area Ranger of the Sawtooth National Recreation Area, Sawtooth National Forest.

#### **Nature of the Decision To Be Made**

The responsible official will decide if domestic livestock grazing can occur within the analysis area, and if so, where within the analysis area and under what conditions (timing and duration). In accordance with 36 CFR 292.17(b)(10), it defines substantial impairment as "that level of disturbance of the values of the SNRA which is incompatible with the standards of the General Management Plan." Therefore, within the SNRA, the Area Ranger must also decide if the primary SNRA values will be substantially impaired by livestock grazing on the allotments.

#### **Scoping Process**

Public notices will be placed in local newspapers.

#### *Comment Requested*

This notice of intent initiates the scoping process which guides the development of the environmental impact statement for the Baker Creek and North Fork-Boulder Creek allotment management plans.

#### *Early Notice of Importance of Public Participation in Subsequent Environmental Review*

A draft environmental impact statement will be prepared for comment. The comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of 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 environmental impact statements 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 environmental impact statement stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement 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 these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the comment period for the draft environmental impact statement so that 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 environmental impact statement.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues raised by the proposed action, comments on the draft environmental impact statement 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 environmental impact statement 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.

Dated: April 29, 2003.

**Ruth Monahan,**

*Sawtooth Forest Supervisor.*

[FR Doc. 03-11099 Filed 5-5-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-11-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Notice of Meeting; Siskiyou Resource Advisory Committee (RAC)

**SUMMARY:** The Siskiyou Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet on Wednesday, June 4, 2003. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 8 a.m. and conclude at approximately 5 p.m. The

meeting will be held at Options for Southern Oregon, 1215 SW., "G" Street, Grants Pass, Oregon. The tentative agenda for June 4, 2003 includes: (1) Budget Proposal for FY04, (2) Election of Chairperson, (3) Review of FY02 and FY03 Project Status, (4) Project Recommendations of FY04 Proposals and (5) Public Forum. The public forum is tentatively scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. Time allotted for individual presentations will be limited to 3-4 minutes. Written comments may be submitted prior to the June 4 meeting by sending them to the Designated Federal Official, Scott D. Conroy, at the address given below.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Designated Federal Official Scott D. Conroy; Rogue and Siskiyou National Forests; P.O. Box 520, Medford, Oregon 97501; (541) 858-2200.

Dated: April 28, 2003.

**Scott D. Conroy,**

*Forest Supervisor, Rogue River and Siskiyou National Forests.*

[FR Doc. 03-11137 Filed 5-5-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-11-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Docket 22-2003]

#### Proposed Foreign-Trade Zone—Koochiching County, MN; Application and Public Hearing

An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones (FTZ) Board (the Board) by the Koochiching Economic Development Authority, to establish a general-purpose foreign-trade zone at sites in Koochiching County, Minnesota, within the International Falls Customs port of entry. The FTZ application was submitted pursuant to the provisions of the FTZ Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), and the regulations of the Board (15 CFR part 400). It was formally filed on April 30, 2003. The applicant is authorized to make the proposal under Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 469, as amended by Laws of Minnesota 1989.

The proposed zone would consist of three sites covering 718 acres in Koochiching County, Minnesota: *Site 1* (1 acre)—International Falls Airport site, southwest corner of U.S. Highway 53 and Van Lynn Road, Koochiching County; *Site 2* (707 acres)—KEDA Business Park, intersection of the D.W. & P. rail line and Minnesota Highway 11, City of Ranier (Koochiching County); and, *Site 3* (10 acres)—International Falls Business Park, southeast corner of

U.S. Highway 53 and 22nd Street, Koochiching County. All three sites are publicly owned.

The application indicates a need for zone services in Koochiching County. Several firms have indicated an interest in using zone procedures for warehousing/distribution activities. Specific manufacturing approvals are not being sought at this time. Requests would be made to the Board on a case-by-case basis.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, a member of the FTZ Staff has been designated examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

As part of the investigation, the Commerce examiner will hold a public hearing on June 9, 2003, at 7 p.m., International Falls Holiday Inn, 1500 Highway 71, International Falls, Minnesota 56649.

Public comment on the application is invited from interested parties. Submissions (original and 3 copies) shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary at one of the following addresses:

1. Submissions via Express/Package Delivery Services: Foreign-Trade Zones Board, U.S. Department of Commerce, Franklin Court Building-Suite 4100W, 1099-14th Street NW., Washington, DC 20005; or

2. Submissions via the U.S. Postal Service: Foreign-Trade Zones Board, U.S. Department of Commerce, FCB—Suite 4100W, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230.

The closing period for their receipt is July 7, 2003. Rebuttal comments in response to material submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period (to July 21, 2003).

A copy of the application and accompanying exhibits will be available for public inspection at the Office of the Foreign-Trade Zones Board's Executive Secretary at the first address listed above, and at the Office of the Koochiching Economic Development Authority, 405-3rd Street, International Falls, Minnesota 56649.

Dated: April 30, 2003.

**Dennis Puccinelli,**

*Executive Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 03-11177 Filed 5-5-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P**