

USDA's efforts to respond to the suspected or confirmed compromise and prevent, minimize, or remedy such harm.

STORAGE:

Records are maintained in software applications, and some information is also stored in file folders.

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USDA/OIG-7

SYSTEM NAME:

Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act Request Records, USDA/OIG.

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ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH:

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16. To appropriate agencies, entities, and persons when (1) OIG suspects or has confirmed that the security or confidentiality of information in the system of records has been compromised; (2) USDA has determined that as a result of the suspected or confirmed compromise there is a risk of harm to economic or property interests, identity theft or fraud, or harm to the security or integrity of this system or other systems or programs (whether maintained by USDA or another agency or entity) that rely upon the compromised information; and (3) the disclosure made to such agencies, entities, and persons is reasonably necessary to assist in connection with USDA's efforts to respond to the suspected or confirmed compromise and prevent, minimize, or remedy such harm.

STORAGE:

Records are maintained in software applications, and some information is also stored in file folders.

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[FR Doc. E8-17052 Filed 7-24-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-23-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

2008-Crop Marketing Assistance Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments for Cotton and Peanuts

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: As announced by this notice, the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) is implementing provisions of the

Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill) regarding Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL) and Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) for 2008 crop cotton and peanuts. The 2008 Farm Bill authorizes the continuation of the MAL and LDP programs for the 2008 through 2012 crops. This notice specifies how CCC will administer 2008 crop MAL and LDP provisions.

DATES: *Effective Date:* July 25, 2008

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Candace Thompson, Director, Price Support Division, Farm Service Agency, USDA, STOP 0512, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0512; telephone: (202) 720-7901 or fax: (202) 690-3307; e-mail:

candy.thompson@wdc.usda.gov.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: CCC

administers a loan program, including MAL and LDP, that provides short-term financing to allow farmers to pay their bills soon after harvest and to facilitate orderly marketing throughout the rest of the year. The loan program also provides significant income support when market prices are below statutory loan rates. Currently, regulations in 7 CFR parts 1421, 1425, and 1427 cover MAL and LDP provisions for the 2002 through 2007 crop years.

The 2008 Farm Bill (Pub. L. 110-246) authorizes the continuation of MAL and LDP for cotton and peanuts for the 2008 through 2012 crops.

With the pending harvest of 2008-crop cotton and peanuts, this notice announces that CCC will, with the exceptions noted below, immediately implement MAL and LDP provisions for 2008-crop cotton and peanuts based on the regulations that applied to the 2007 crop and appeared in:

- 7 CFR part 1421, Grains and Similarly Handled Commodities—Marketing Assistance Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments for the 2002 through 2007 Crop Years;
- 7 CFR part 1425, Cooperative Marketing Associations; and
- 7 CFR part 1427, Cotton.

To address the 2008 exceptions and for the 2009 through 2012 crops, CCC will amend the applicable regulations to reflect changes required by the 2008 Farm Bill including the fine count adjustment, storage credit rates, and transportation costs. The 2008 exceptions are as follows. For cotton, the calculation of the prevailing world market price, for repayment purposes, will continue to be calculated as

specified in the current regulations. Also, for cotton, storage payments will be allowed to the extent permitted in the current regulations. For peanuts, handling and storage costs will be allowed to the extent permitted in the current regulations. These three 2008 exceptions will be changed later to implement the requirements of the 2008 Farm Bill through rulemaking instead of being made effective now because the software development required to implement the changes is not immediately available.

Additionally, CCC revised regulations, effective on May 23, 2008 (73 FR 30274-30277, final rule published May 27, 2008) providing that Far East prices will be used instead of Northern Europe prices in determining the upland cotton adjusted world price (AWP). The revised AWP calculation applies to the 2007 through the 2012 crops of upland cotton.

Environmental Review

FSA has determined that these changes would not constitute a major Federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment. Therefore, in accordance with the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321-4347, the regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), and FSA regulations for compliance with NEPA (7 CFR part 799), no environmental assessment or environmental impact statement will be prepared.

Signed at Washington, DC on July 21, 2008.

Teresa C. Lasseter,

Executive Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. E8-17001 Filed 7-24-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Genesis Inc. 2009 Exploration Drilling Project; Kootenai National Forest, Lincoln County, MT

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Kootenai National Forest will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to document the analysis and disclose the environmental impacts of the proposed action to conduct a helicopter-assisted exploration drilling project near Troy, Montana. Genesis, Inc. submitted a

proposed Plan of Operations on June 19, 2008, pursuant to Forest Service locatable mineral regulations 36 CFR 228, Subpart A. A single EIS, evaluating all components of the proposed project will be prepared.

Scoping Comment Date: Comments concerning the proposed action must be postmarked by August 25, 2008, to be considered in the draft EIS.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments concerning the Proposed Action to Mike Herrin, Three Rivers District Ranger, Genesis Exploration Project, Kootenai National Forest, 12858 U.S. Hwy. 2, Troy, MT 59935, or e-mail your comments to: *comments-northern-kootenai-threerivers@fs.fed.us*. All comments received must contain: Name of commenter, postal service mailing address, and date of comment. Comments sent as an e-mail message should be sent as an attachment to the message. A copy on computer-generated disc should accompany all comments over one page in length.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dick Harlow, Project Coordinator, Three Rivers Ranger Station, 12858 U.S. Hwy. 2, Troy, Montana 59935. Phone (406) 293-7773, or e-mail at *dharlow@fs.fed.us*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Proposed Action

The Three Rivers District Ranger of the Kootenai National Forest has received a plan of operations proposing to access three (3) helicopter-supported drill sites on NFS lands in sections 7, 17, & 18, T28N, R33W, MT. P.M., southwest of Bull Lake, in Lincoln and Sanders Counties. These sites were previously drilled in 1999 and this additional exploration drilling is needed to further define ore reserves on the unpatented mining claims. The proposal is to drill 8 core holes from 3 separate locations, utilizing existing openings from previous helicopter drill sites. The holes will vary from 100' to 1600' in depth.

The Drilling Plan for the drill sites is to use a pre-constructed metal landing/drill platform (approx. 30' long x 15' wide). The platform will be flown to the sites in sections and assembled. The drill will be mounted on the drill platforms on the south side of Ross Creek.

A helicopter staging site will be located near the junction of FR 4628 and FR 4628A. Some site maintenance will be required. This work will include removal of brush and short trees.

Design features and mitigations to maintain and protect resource values would be included.

The proposed implementation period would be June 16, 2009, through November 15, 2009.

Lead and Cooperating Agencies

Montana Department of Environmental Quality, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, and Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, have either jurisdiction or interest and will participate as cooperating agencies or government entities in the preparation of this EIS. Other governmental agencies and any public that may be interested in or affected by the proposal are invited to participate in the scoping process, which is designed to obtain input and to identify potential issues relating to the proposed project.

Responsible Official

As the District Ranger of the Three Rivers Ranger District, Kootenai National Forest, I am the Responsible Official. As the Responsible Official, I will decide if the proposed project will be implemented. I will document the decision and reasons for the decision in the Record of Decision.

Range of Alternatives

The Forest Service will consider a range of alternatives. One of these will be the "no action" alternative in which none of the proposed activities will be implemented. Additional alternatives will examine varying levels and locations for the proposed activities to achieve the proposal's purposes, as well as to respond to the issues and other resource values.

Nature of Decision To Be Made

The nature of the decision to be made is to select an action that meets the legal rights of the proponent, while protecting the environment in compliance with applicable laws, regulations and policy. The District Ranger will use the EIS process to develop the necessary information to make an informed decision as required by 36 CFR 228 Subpart A. Based on the alternatives developed in the EIS, the following are possible decisions:

- (1) An approval of the Plan of Operations as submitted;
- (2) An approval of the Plan of Operations with changes, and the incorporation of mitigations and stipulations that meet the mandates of applicable laws, regulations, and policy;
- (3) Denial of the Plan of Operations if no alternative can be developed that is in compliance with applicable laws, regulations and policy.

Permits or Licenses Required

Various permits and licenses are needed prior to implementation of this project. Permits or licenses required by the issuing agencies identified for this proposal are:

- Approval of Plan of Operations from the Kootenai National Forest
- Exploration License from the Montana Department of Environmental Quality

Public Involvement and Scoping: This Notice of Intent initiates the scoping process, which guides the development of the EIS. At this stage of the planning process, site-specific public comments are being requested to determine the scope of the analysis, and identify significant issues and alternatives to the Proposed Action. Comments concerning the proposed action must be postmarked by August 25, 2008, to be considered in the draft EIS. The public is encouraged to take part in the process and to visit with Forest Service officials at any time during the analysis and prior to the decision. The Forest Service will be seeking information, comments, and assistance from Federal, State, and local agencies, Tribal governments, and other individuals or organizations that may be interested in, or affected by, the proposed action. This input will be used in preparation of the draft and final EIS. The scoping process will include:

1. Identifying potential issues.
2. Identifying major issues to be analyzed in depth.
3. Identifying alternatives to the proposed action.
4. Exploring additional alternatives that will be derived from issues recognized during scoping activities.
5. Identifying potential environmental effects of this proposal (i.e. direct, indirect, and cumulative effects and connected actions).

Estimated Dates for Filing: The draft EIS is expected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and to be available for public review in December 2008. At that time EPA will publish a Notice of Availability of the draft EIS in the **Federal Register**. The comment period on the draft EIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA publishes the Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**. It is very important that those interested in the management of this area participate at that time.

The final EIS is scheduled to be completed in February 2009. In the final EIS, the Forest Service is required to respond to comments and responses received during the comment period that pertain to the environmental consequences discussed in the draft EIS and to applicable laws, regulations, and

policies considered in making a decision regarding the proposal.

Reviewer's Obligations: The Forest Service believes 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. NRD*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft 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 these court 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 and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider and respond to them in the final EIS.

To be most helpful, comments on the draft EIS should be as specific as possible and may address the adequacy of the statement or the merit of the alternatives discussed. 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, including the names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposal, and will be available for public inspection.

Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7 and 1508.22; Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, Section 21.

Dated: July 18, 2008.

Mike Herrin,

District Ranger, Three Rivers Ranger District, Kootenai National Forest.

[FR Doc. E8-17063 Filed 7-24-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Forest Service Manual 2360 for Heritage Program Management

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability of final directive.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service is issuing a new directive to Forest Service Manual 2360 for Heritage Program Management. The Forest Service Manual for the Heritage Program was last amended in 1991. The new directive addresses laws, amendments, and Executive orders passed since 1991 and issues that are increasingly important to the Forest Service Heritage Program including increased Tribal coordination on a variety of issues from re-burial of human remains to tourism, growth of educational travel and heritage tourism, emphasis on use of historic properties, and increased theft of American antiquities.

The directive provides Heritage Program guidance to Forest Service land managers. It does not change management direction, but rather clarifies responsibilities, authorities, and internal procedures to improve the management and protection of cultural resources on National Forest System lands.

DATES: This directive is effective July 25, 2008.

ADDRESSES: The directive is available at http://www.fs.fed.us/cgi-bin/Directives/get_dirs/fsm?2300/. Single paper copies of the directive are also available by contacting April Thorne, Recreation and Heritage Resources (Mail Stop 1125), Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250, telephone 202-205-3562.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Kaczor, Federal Preservation Officer, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 201 14th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20250, e-mail: mkaczor@fs.fed.us, telephone 202-205-1427.

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In addition to legislation and regulation passed prior to 1991, this directive incorporates laws, regulations, and Executive orders passed since 1991 that affect Heritage Program management, including:

1992—Amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

2000—E.O. 13175—Consultation with Indian Tribal Governments.

2003—43 CFR 10—Native American Graves and Repatriation Regulations.

2003—E.O. 13287—Preserve America

2004—Amendments to the 36 CFR 800 regulations implementing the National Historic Preservation Act.

2004—E.O. 13327—Federal Real Property Asset Management.

2004—Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act.

2005—Forest Service Facility Realignment and Enhancement Act.

Goals of FSM 2360—Heritage Program Management

The goals of the updated direction in Forest Service Manual 2360 are to:

1. Improve cultural resource stewardship on National Forest System lands.

2. Establish consistent Heritage program implementation across Forest Service units.

3. Increase efficiency in Heritage Program support to other Forest Service programs.

4. Improve and expand Forest Service partnerships with the public and with Indian tribal communities in the interest of historic preservation.

5. Improve and expand the delivery of Heritage programs and products to the American public.

FSM 2360 Sections

2361—Consultation and Coordination describes consultation and coordination with State, Tribal, and local governments, other Federal agencies, and the public in all facets of Heritage Program management.

2362—Planning includes guidance on the integration of heritage issues in agency planning efforts and development of management plans for the Heritage Program and for individual historic properties.

2363—Identification, Evaluation, and Allocation to Management Categories describes the process to identify cultural resources that are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and recommend management that protects the value of cultural resources and maximizes their benefit to the agency and the public.

2364—Protection and Stewardship describes requirements to protect cultural resources from environmental damage, effects of agency or agency-authorized undertakings, and illegal activity or unauthorized use. It provides guidance on conservation, study, and formal designations of historic properties.

2365—Public Education and Outreach provides guidelines for the delivery of heritage values to the public through the Forest Service Windows on the Past program.

2366—Management of Heritage Collections describes types of collections and curation standards.

2367—Permits, Agreements, and Contracts provides guidance for the