

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 74, No. 131

Friday, July 10, 2009

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

Proposed Amendment of Rogue River, Umpqua and Winema National Forest (NF) Land and Resource Management Plans for the Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for Land and Resource Management Plan amendments—Extension of Scoping Period.

SUMMARY: The USDA Forest Service is proposing to amend the Land and Resource Management Plans (LRMP) of the Rogue River (administered as the Rogue River-Siskiyou NF), Umpqua, and Winema (administered as the Fremont-Winema NF) National Forests to make provision for the proposed Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline (PCGP). The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is the lead agency for the environmental analysis of the construction and operation of the proposed natural gas pipeline (FERC Docket No. CP07-441-000). The FERC has prepared an environmental impact statement (EIS) that discusses the environmental impacts that could result from the construction and operation of the PCGP. FERC issued the FEIS for the PCGP on May 1, 2009.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service is a Cooperating Agency with the FERC in environmental analysis and preparation of the EIS for the PCGP. Certain features of the PCGP Project could not be made consistent with the LRMPs of the Rogue River, Umpqua and Winema National Forests because of the nature of pipeline construction. Therefore, in order to comply with the requirements of the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) the Forest Service must amend these LRMPs to make provision for the

PCGP. This notice is extending the scoping period.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis were originally requested 30 days from the date the original notice was published in the **Federal Register**, which was June 15, 2009 (FR Volume 74, No. 113, pg. 28214). Comments are now requested by July 31, 2009. The draft environmental impact statement for amendment of forest plans is expected to be published in August, 2009 and the final environmental impact statement is expected in December, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to: Pam Sichtung, Umpqua National Forest, 2900 NW., Stewart Parkway, Roseburg, OR 97471. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to: *comments-pacificnorthwest-umpqua@fs.fed.us*, or via facsimile to 541-957-3495. Comments may be hand-delivered to the above address Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. till 4:30 p.m., excluding legal holidays.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be part of the public record for this proposed action. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, anonymous comments will not provide the respondent with standing to appeal the subsequent decision.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pam Sichtung at 541-957-3342 or by e-mail at *psichtung@fs.fed.us*. 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 Time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Extension of Scoping Period

Several requests were received during the initial scoping period for an extension of the scoping period because of the nature of the project. The Responsible Officials have decided it is in the best interest of the public to extend the time during which scoping comments are received.

Lead Agency

The Forest Service is the Lead Agency for amendments of Forest Plans.

Responsible Official

The Responsible Officials for amendments of the Rogue River, Umpqua and Winema LRMPs are respectively Forest Supervisors, Scott D. Conroy, Clifford J. Dils and Karen Shimamoto.

Nature of Decision To Be Made

The nature of the decision to be made is whether the respective LRMPs would be amended if the FERC authorizes the PCGP.

Scoping Process

This notice of intent extends the scoping process, which guides the development of the environmental impact statement. With this extension, the Forest Service is requesting public comments on the proposed amendments of the Rogue River, Umpqua and Winema NF LRMPs.

It is important that reviewers provide their comments at such times and in such manner that they are useful to the agency's preparation of the environmental impact statement. Therefore, comments should be provided prior to the close of the comment period, now July 31, 2009, and should clearly articulate the reviewer's concerns and contentions. The submission of timely and specific comments can affect a reviewer's ability to participate in subsequent administrative appeal or judicial review.

Dated: June 30, 2009.

Gina Freel.

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. E9-16384 Filed 7-9-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

PL83-566 Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act Pocasset River Watershed, Providence County, RI

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2) (C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; the Council of Environmental Quality Guidelines (40 CFR part 1500); and the Natural

Resources Conservation Service Guidelines (7 CFR part 650): The Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, gives notice that an environmental impact statement is being prepared for Pocasset River Watershed, Providence County, Rhode Island.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Phoukham Vongkhamdy, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 60 Quaker Lane, Suite 46, Warwick, RI 02886, telephone: (401) 828-1300.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The environmental assessment of this federally assisted action indicates that the project may cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. As a result of these findings, Phoukham Vongkhamdy, State Conservationist, has determined that the preparation and review of an environmental impact statement is needed for this project.

The project concerns flood prevention. Alternatives under consideration to reach these objectives include: A. Construction of six floodwall structures and flood proofing. B. No Action alternative.

A draft environmental impact statement will be prepared and circulated for review by agencies and the public. The Natural Resources Conservation Service invites participation and consultation of agencies and individuals that have special expertise, legal jurisdiction, or interest in the preparation of the draft environmental impact statement. Further information on the proposed action may be obtained from Phoukham Vongkhamdy, State Conservationist, at the above listed address or telephone (401) 828-1300.

Signed in Warwick, RI on July 1, 2009.

Phoukham Vongkhamdy,
State Conservationist.

(This activity is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.904—Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention—and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372 which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials.)

[FR Doc. E9-16337 Filed 7-9-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2009-0049]

Pale Cyst Nematode; Update of Quarantined Areas

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of changes to quarantined area.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that we have made changes to the area in the State of Idaho that is quarantined to prevent the spread of pale cyst nematode. The description of the quarantined area was updated on April 8, 2009, when approximately 3,488 acres were removed from the quarantined area, and on May 8, 2009, when an additional 3,333 acres were removed from the quarantined area.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Eileen Y. Smith, National Program Manager, Emergency and Domestic Programs, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road, Unit 150, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236; (301) 734-5235.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The pale cyst nematode (PCN, *Globodera pallida*) is a major pest of potato crops in cool-temperature areas. Other solanaceous hosts include tomatoes, eggplants, peppers, tomatillos, and some weeds. The PCN is thought to have originated in Peru and is now widely distributed in many potato-growing regions of the world. PCN infestations may be expressed as patches of poor growth. Affected potato plants may exhibit yellowing, wilting, or death of foliage. Even with only minor symptoms on the foliage, potato tuber size can be affected. Unmanaged infestations can cause potato yield loss ranging from 20 to 70 percent. The spread of this pest in the United States could result in a loss of domestic or foreign markets for U.S. potatoes and other commodities.

The PCN quarantine regulations (§§ 301.86 through 301.86-9, referred to below as the regulations) set out procedures for determining the areas quarantined for PCN and impose restrictions on the interstate movement of regulated articles from quarantined areas.

Section 301.86-3 of the regulations sets out the procedures for determining the areas quarantined for PCN. Paragraph (a) of § 301.86-3 states that, in accordance with the criteria listed in § 301.86-3(c), the Administrator will

designate as a quarantined area each field that has been found to be infested with PCN, each field that has been found to be associated with an infested field, and any area that the Administrator considers necessary to quarantine because of its inseparability for quarantine enforcement purposes from infested or associated fields.

Paragraph (c) provides that the Administrator will designate a field as an infested field when PCN is found in the field. Paragraph (c) also provides that the Administrator will designate a field as an associated field when PCN host crops, as listed in § 301.86-2(b), have been grown in the field in the last 10 years and the field shares a border with an infested field; the field came into contact with a regulated article listed in § 301.86-2 from an infested field within the last 10 years; or, within the last 10 years, the field shared ownership, tenancy, seed, drainage or runoff, farm machinery, or other elements of shared cultural practices with an infested field that could allow spread of PCN, as determined by the Administrator.

Paragraph (b) describes the conditions for the designation of an area less than an entire State as a quarantined area. Less than an entire State will be designated as a quarantined area only if the Administrator determines that:

- The State has adopted and is enforcing restrictions on the intrastate movement of the regulated articles that are equivalent to those imposed by the regulations on the interstate movement of regulated articles; and
- The designation of less than the entire State as a quarantined area will prevent the interstate spread of PCN.

We have determined that it is not necessary to designate the entire State of Idaho as a quarantined area. Idaho has adopted and is enforcing restrictions on the intrastate movement of regulated articles from that area that are equivalent to those we are imposing on the interstate movement of regulated articles.

Paragraph (d) provides for the removal of fields from quarantine. An infested field will be removed from quarantine when a protocol approved by the Administrator as sufficient to support the removal of infested fields from quarantine has been completed and the field has been found to be free of PCN. An associated field will be removed from quarantine when the field has been found to be free of PCN according to a protocol approved by the Administrator as sufficient to support removal of associated fields from quarantine. Any area other than infested or associated fields which has been