

application of retardant approximately 300 feet before reaching the waterway. When flying over a waterway, pilots shall wait one second after crossing the far bank or shore of a waterway before applying retardant. Pilots shall make adjustments for airspeed and ambient conditions such as wind to avoid the application of retardant within the 300-foot buffer zone.

**Single Engine Airtankers:** When approaching a waterway visible to the pilot, the pilot shall terminate application of retardant or foam approximately 300 feet before reaching the waterway. When flying over a waterway, the pilot shall not begin application of foam or retardant until 300 feet after crossing the far bank or shore. The pilot shall make adjustments for airspeed and ambient conditions such as wind to avoid the application of retardant within the 300-foot buffer zone.

**Helicopters:** When approaching a waterway visible to the pilot, the pilot shall terminate the application of retardant or foams 300 feet before reaching the waterway. When flying over a waterway, pilots shall wait five seconds after crossing the far bank or shore before applying the retardant or foam. Pilots shall make adjustments for airspeed and ambient conditions such as wind to avoid the application of retardant or foam within the 300-foot buffer zone.

#### Exceptions:

When alternative line construction tactics are not available due to terrain constraints, congested area, life and property concerns or lack of ground personnel, it is acceptable to anchor the foam or retardant application to the waterway. When anchoring a retardant or foam line to a waterway, use the most accurate method of delivery in order to minimize placement of retardant or foam in the waterway (e.g., a helicopter rather than a heavy airtanker).

Deviations from these guidelines are acceptable when life or property is threatened and the use of retardant or foam can be reasonably expected to alleviate the threat.

When potential damage to natural resources outweighs possible loss of aquatic life, the unit administrator may approve a deviation from these guidelines.

#### Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species:

The following provisions are guidance for complying with the emergency section 7 consultation procedures of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) with respect to aquatic species. These provisions do not alter or diminish an

action agency's responsibilities under the ESA.

Where aquatic T&E species or their habitats are potentially affected by aerial application of retardant or foam, the following additional procedures apply:

1. As soon as practicable after the aerial application of retardant or foam near waterways, determine whether the aerial application has caused any adverse effects to a T&E species or their habitat. This can be accomplished by the following:

a. Aerial application of retardant or foam outside 300 feet of a waterway is presumed to avoid adverse effects to aquatic species and no further consultation for aquatic species is necessary.

b. Aerial application of retardant or foam within 300 feet of a waterway requires that the unit administrator determine whether there have been any adverse effects to T&E species within the waterway.

These procedures shall be documented in the initial or subsequent fire reports.

2. If there were no adverse effects to aquatic T&E species or their habitats, there is no additional requirement to consult on aquatic species with Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) or National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

3. If the action agency determines that there were adverse effects on T&E species or their habitats then the action agency must consult with FWS and NMFS, as required by 50 CFR 402.05 (Emergencies). Procedures for emergency consultation are described in the Interagency Consultation Handbook, Chapter 8 (March 1998) [*U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service 1998*]. In the case of a long duration incident, emergency consultation should be initiated as soon as practical during the event. Otherwise, post-event consultation is appropriate. The initiation of the consultation is the responsibility of the unit administrator.

Each agency will be responsible for ensuring that the appropriate guides and training manuals reflect these guidelines.

Additionally, the proposed action includes the reasonable and prudent alternatives for aerial application of fire retardant on national forest system lands developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service available at <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/retardant/index.html>. Forest Service reports on applying the reasonable and prudent alternatives are also included on this Web site.

#### Responsible Official and Lead Agency

The USDA Forest Service is the lead agency for this proposal. The Chief of the Forest Service is the responsible official.

#### Nature of Decision To Be Made

The decision to be made is whether to continue aerial application of fire retardant and if so, under the 2000 Guidelines or under some other guidance.

#### Scoping Process

The publication of this notice of intent starts the scoping process, which guides preparation of the environmental impact statement. There will be further opportunities for public involvement and information sharing about the proposed action, including a comment period on the draft environmental impact statement. Public information and involvement opportunities and documents will be posted at <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/retardant/index.html>. The site presently contains information such as a 2007 environmental assessment and associated comments that are also being used to prepare the draft environmental impact statement.

It is important that reviewers provide their comments at such times and in such a way 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 and should clearly articulate the reviewer's concerns and contentions.

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.

Dated: August 24, 2010.

**Gloria Manning,**

*Associate Deputy Chief, NFS.*

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**BILLING CODE 3410-11-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Wrangell-Petersburg Resource Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Wrangell-Petersburg Resource Advisory Committee will meet in Kake, Alaska. The committee is

meeting as authorized under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (Pub. L. 110-343) and in compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The purpose of the meeting is to review project proposals and make project funding recommendations.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held Friday, September 10th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and on Saturday, September 11th from 8 a.m. to Noon.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Kake Community Hall Conference Room in Kake, Alaska. Written comments should be sent to Christopher Savage, Petersburg District Ranger, P.O. Box 1328, Petersburg, Alaska 99833, or Robert Dalrymple, Wrangell District Ranger, P.O. Box 50, Wrangell, AK 99929. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to [csavage@fs.fed.us](mailto:csavage@fs.fed.us), or via facsimile to 907-772-5995.

All comments, including names and addresses when provided, are placed in the record and are available for public inspection and copying. The public may inspect comments received at the Petersburg Ranger District office at 12 North Nordic Drive or the Wrangell Ranger District office at 525 Bennett Street during regular office hours (Monday through Friday 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Christopher Savage, Petersburg District Ranger, P.O. Box 1328, Petersburg, Alaska, 99833, phone (907) 772-3871, e-mail [csavage@fs.fed.us](mailto:csavage@fs.fed.us), or Robert Dalrymple, Wrangell District Ranger, P.O. Box 51, Wrangell, AK 99929, phone (907) 874-2323, e-mail [rdalrymple@fs.fed.us](mailto:rdalrymple@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 Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meeting is open to the public. The following business will be conducted: Evaluation of project proposals and recommendation of projects for funding. Persons who wish to bring related matters to the attention of the Committee may file written statements with the Committee staff before or after the meeting. A public input session will be provided beginning at 9 a.m. on September 11th.

Dated: August 19, 2010.

**Christopher S. Savage,**  
District Ranger.

[FR Doc. 2010-21338 Filed 8-26-10; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-11-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Ashley Resource Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Ashley Resource Advisory Committee will meet in Vernal, Utah. The committee is meeting as authorized under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (Pub. L. 110-343) and in compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The purpose of the meeting is to conduct "welcomes" and introductions, review the Federal Advisory Committee Act requirements, brief participants on Payments to States legislative history, discuss the guidelines for Title II and Title 111 funding and proposals, capture and record preliminary project ideas and receive public comment on the meeting subjects and proceedings.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held September 16, 2010, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Ashley National Forest Supervisor's Office, 355 North Vernal Avenue in Vernal, Utah. Written comments should be sent to Ashley National Forest, 355 North Vernal Avenue, Vernal, UT 84078. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to [ljhaynes@fs.fed.us](mailto:ljhaynes@fs.fed.us), or via facsimile to 435-781-5142.

All comments, including names and addresses when provided, are placed in the record and are available for public inspection and copying. The public may inspect comments received at Ashley National Forest, 355 North Vernal Avenue, Vernal, UT.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Louis Haynes, RAC Coordinator, Ashley National Forest, (435) 781-5105; e-mail: [ljhaynes@fs.fed.us](mailto:ljhaynes@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 Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meeting is open to the public. The following business will be conducted: (1) Welcome and Committee introductions; (2) Federal Advisory Committee Act overview; (3) review of Payments to States legislative history and discussion of requirements related to Title II and Title III funding; (4) discussion of Committee member roles and operational guidelines; (5) discussion of preliminary project ideas;

(6) election of committee chairperson, (7) review of next meeting purpose, location, and date; (8) and receive public comment. Persons who wish to bring related matters to the attention of the Committee may file written statements with the committee staff before or after the meeting. Public input sessions will be provided and individuals who made written requests by September 14, 2010 will have the opportunity to address the committee at those sessions.

Dated: August 20, 2010.

**Kevin B. Elliott,**

Forest Supervisor.

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Southern Arizona Resource Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Southern Arizona Resource Advisory Committee will meet in Tucson, Arizona. The purpose of the meeting is for the committee members to discuss committee protocols, operating guidelines, and project proposal requirements.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held September 14, 2010, beginning at 10 a.m. to approximately 4 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the National Advanced Fire and Resource Institute (NAFRI) at 3265 E. Universal Way, Tucson, Arizona 85756. Send written comments to Jennifer Ruyle, RAC Coordinator, Southern Arizona Resource Advisory Committee, c/o Coronado National Forest, 300 W. Congress, Tucson, Arizona 85701 or electronically to [jruyle@fs.fed.us](mailto:jruyle@fs.fed.us).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jennifer Ruyle, Coronado National Forest, (520) 388-8351.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meeting is open to the public and opportunity for public input will be provided. Committee discussion is limited to Forest Service staff and Committee members. However, persons who wish to bring Public Law 110-343 related matters to the attention of the Committee may file written statements with the Committee staff before or after the meeting.