application submitted by the applicant to the BLM on April 5, 2016 to construct, operate, maintain, and eventually decommission a new 42-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline across approximately 3.4 miles of lands managed by the USFS and about 125 feet of federal lands managed by the USACE.

The USFS’s purpose and need for the proposed action is to evaluate the following amendments to the LRMP for the Jefferson National Forest and to consider issuing a concurrence to the BLM for the right-of-way grant. The first type of LRMP amendment would be a “plan-level amendment” that would change land allocations. This would change future management direction for the lands reallocated to the new management prescription (Rx) and is required by LRMP Standard FW–248.

Proposed Amendment 1: The LRMP would be amended to reallocate 186 acres to the Management Prescription 5C–Designated Utility Corridors from these Rxs: 4J–Urban/Suburban Interface (56 acres); 6C–Old Growth Forest Communities-Disturbance Associated (19 ac); and 6A1–Mix of Successional Habitats in Forested Landscapes (111 acres). Rx 5C–Designated Utility Corridors contain special uses which serve a public benefit by providing a reliable supply of electricity, natural gas, or water essential to local, regional, and national economies. The new Rx 5C land allocation would be 500 feet wide (250 feet wide on each side of the pipeline), with two exceptions: (1) The area where the pipeline crosses Rx 4A–Appalachian National Scenic Trail Corridor would remain in Rx 4A; and (2) the new 5C area would not cross into Peters Mountain Wilderness so the Rx 5C area would be less than 500 feet wide along the boundary of the Wilderness.

The second type of amendment would be a “project-specific amendment” that would apply only to the construction and operation of this pipeline. The following standards would require a temporary “waiver” to allow the project to proceed. These amendments would not change LRMP requirements for other projects or authorize any other actions.

Proposed Amendment 2: The LRMP would be amended to allow construction of the Mountain Valley Pipeline to exceed restrictions on soil conditions and riparian corridor conditions as described in LRMP standards FW–5, FW–9, FW–13, FW–14 and 11–017, provided that mitigation measures or project requirements agreed upon by the Forest Service are implemented as needed.

Proposed Amendment 3: The LRMP would be amended to allow the removal of old growth trees within the construction corridor of the Mountain Valley Pipeline. (Reference LRMP Standard FW–77)

Proposed Amendment 4: The LRMP would be amended to allow the Mountain Valley Pipeline to cross the Appalachian National Scenic Trail on Peters Mountain. The Scenic Integrity Objective for the Rx 4A area and the Trail will be changed from High to Moderate. This amendment also requires the SIO of Moderate to be achieved within five to ten years following completion of the project to allow for vegetation growth. (Reference LRMP Standards 4A–021 and 4A–028).

The decision for a right-of-way grant across federal lands would be documented in a Record of Decision (ROD) issued by the BLM. The BLM’s decision to issue, condition, or deny a right of way would be subject to BLM administrative review procedures established in 43 CFR 2881.10 and the procedures established in section 313(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The USFS concurrence to BLM to issue the right-of-way grant would not be a decision subject to the NEPA and therefore would not be subject to USFS administrative review procedures. The USFS would issue its own draft ROD for the LRMP amendments that would be subject to administrative review prior to final decision. Proposed Amendment 1 was developed in accordance to 36 CFR part 219 (2012 version) regulations and would be subject to the administrative review procedures under 36 CFR part 219 subpart B. Proposed Amendments 2, 3 and 4 were developed in accordance to 36 CFR part 219 (2012) regulations but would be subject to the administrative review procedures under 36 CFR part 218 regulations subparts A and B, per 36 CFR 219.59(b). Refer to the applicable administrative review regulations for eligibility requirements.

The BLM is requesting public comments on the issuance of a right-of-way grant that would allow the MVP to be constructed on Federal lands managed by the USFS and USACE. The USFS is requesting public comments on the consideration of submitting a concurrence to BLM and the draft amendments of the LRMP to allow for the MVP Project on the Jefferson National Forest. All comments must be submitted to the FERC, the Lead Federal Agency within the timeframe stated in FERC’s Notice of Availability for their draft EIS. Refer to Docket CP16–10–000 (Mountain Valley Pipeline) in all correspondence to ensure that your comments are correctly filed in the record. You may submit comments to the FERC using one of the methods listed in the ADDRESSES section above. Only those who submit timely and specific written comments regarding the proposed project during a public comment period are eligible to file an objection with the USFS. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, you should be aware that the entire text of your comments—including your personal identifying information—would be publicly available through the FERC eLibrary system, if you file your comments with the Secretary of the FERC.


Authority: 40 CFR 1506.6, 40 CFR 1506.10, 43 CFR 1610.2.

Dated: September 21, 2016.

Karen Mortensen,
State Director, Eastern States.

Dated: September 13, 2016.

Johy P. Timm,

[FR Doc. 2016–24833 Filed 10–13–16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3411–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail Advisory Council

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail Advisory Council (Council) will meet in Sandpoint, Idaho. The Council is authorized under Section 5(d) of the National Trails System Act of 1968 (Act) and operates in compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). Additional information concerning the Council, including the meeting summary/minutes, can be found by visiting the Council’s Web site at: http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/pnw/working-together/advisory-committees.

DATES: The meeting will be held on the following dates and times:

• Wednesday, October 14, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. PDT
• Thursday, October 15, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. PDT

All meetings are subject to cancellation. For updated status of meeting prior to attendance, please contact the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. All comments, including names and addresses, when provided, are placed in the record and available for public inspection and copying. The public may inspect comments received at the Pacific Northwest Regional Office of the United States Forest Service; 1220 SW 3rd Avenue, Portland, OR 97204. Please call ahead at 503–808–2468 to facilitate entry into the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Matt McGrath, Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail Program Manager, by phone at 425–583–9304, or by email at mtm McGrath@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 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the meeting is to provide:

1. Overview of legislation, policy, and interagency planning requirements for National Scenic Trails;
2. Discussion of planning approach, process, and schedule for the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail comprehensive plan; and
3. Recommendations regarding the work, priorities, and schedule for the Advisory Council.

The meeting is open to the public. The agenda will include time for people to make oral statements of three minutes or less. Individuals wishing to make an oral statement should submit a request in writing by October 2, 2015, to be scheduled on the agenda. Anyone who would like to bring related matters to the attention of the Council may file written comments with the Council’s staff before or after the meeting. Written comments and time requests for oral comments must be sent to Matt McGrath, Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail Program Manager, 2930 Wetmore Avenue, Suite 3A, Everett, Washington 98201, or by email to mtm McGrath@fs.fed.us.

Meeting Accommodations: If you are a person requiring reasonable accommodation, please make requests in advance for sign language interpreting, assistive listening devices or other reasonable accommodation for access to the facility or proceedings by contacting the person listed in the section titled FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT. All reasonable accommodation requests are managed on a case by case basis.

Dated: September 26, 2016.

Dianne C. Guidry,
Deputy Regional Forester.

For additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Erica Filipke, U.S. Census Bureau, MCD, CENHQ Room 7K057, 4600 Silver Hill Road, Washington, DC 20233, telephone (301) 763–5161 (or via the Internet at Erica.Mary.Filipek@census.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: