DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Eastern Region Recreation Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.
ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Eastern Region Recreation Resource Advisory Committee (Recreation RAC) will meet in Baltimore, Maryland. The Recreation RAC is authorized pursuant with the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (the Act) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). Additional information concerning the Recreation RAC may be found by visiting the Recreation RAC’s Web site at: http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/r9/recreation/racs.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday, February 1, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday, February 2, 2018, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Fairfield Inn & Suites Downtown Baltimore Inner Harbor.

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

ADRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Fairfield Inn & Suites Downtown Baltimore Inner Harbor, 101 S. President Street, Baltimore, MD 21202. The meeting will also be available via teleconference at 888–844–9904, 8400659#.

Written comments may be submitted as described under SUPPLEMENTARY 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 Eastern Region, Regional Office located at 626 E. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Please call 541–860–8048 to facilitate entry into the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joanna Wilson, Eastern Region Recreation RAC Coordinator by phone at 541–860–8048, or by email at jwilson08@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 review the following fee proposals:

a. Regional fee consistency approach; b. Monongahela National Forest fee proposals which include the Hopskin Cabin; c. Wayne National Forest fee proposals reducing trail permit fees for off-highway vehicle (OHV) users and eliminating fees for horse and mountain bike users; d. Hiawatha National Forest fee proposals for Grand Island; e. Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest fee proposals including new fees at day use sites and one cabin rental, and fee increases for overnight sites; and f. Green Mountain Finger Lakes National Forest fee proposals including new fee at Silver Lake Campgrounds, Texas Falls Day Use Area Pavilion, Grout Pond Campground, Backbone Horse Camp and Potomac Group Camp and Pavilion and fee increases at Chittenden Brook, Moosalamoo Campground, Hagood Pond Campground, Hagood Pond Day Use, Hagood Pond Group Picnic sites, and Blueberry Patch Recreation Area.

Details on all fee proposals can be found at http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/r9/recreation/racs.

The meeting is open to the public. The agenda will include time for people to make oral statements of three minutes or less starting at 3:00 p.m. Individuals wishing to make an oral statement should request in writing by January 22, 2018, to be scheduled on the agenda. Anyone who would like to bring related matters to the attention of the Recreation RAC may file written statements with the Committee’s staff before or after the meeting. Written comments and time requests for time to make oral comments must be sent to Joanna Wilson, Eastern Region Recreation RAC Coordinator, 855 South Skylake Drive, Woodland Hills, Utah 84653; or by email to jwilson08@fs.fed.us.

Meeting Accommodations: If you require 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, please contact the person listed in the section titled FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT. All reasonable accommodation requests are managed on a case-by-case basis.

DATED: November 6, 2017.

Glenn Casamassa,
Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System.

BILLING CODE 3411–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Information Collection: Management of Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Forest Service is seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on the new collection of information request, Management of Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing on or before January 22, 2018 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Comments concerning this notice should be addressed to Director, Forest and Range Management and Vegetation Ecology, Mail Stop 1103, USDA Forest Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20024–1103.

Comments also may be submitted by email to: hdwoodward@fs.fed.us. The public may inspect comments received at the Office of the Director, Forest and Range Management and Vegetation Ecology, Third Floor SE., Sidney R. Yates Federal Building, 201 14th Street SW., Washington, DC, during normal business hours. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to 202–791–8489 to facilitate entry to the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Title: Management of Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros.
OMB Number: 0596–New.
Expiration Date of Approval: New.
Type of Request: New.
Abstract: This notice pertains to the collection of information that enables the Forest Service to administer its private maintenance (i.e., adoption) program for wild free roaming horses and burros located on U.S. Forest Service, Forests and Grasslands. The Forest Service uses the information to determine if applicants are qualified to provide humane care and proper treatment to wild horses and burros in compliance with the Wild Free-Roaming
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Idaho and Southwestern Montana (Beaverhead-Deerlodge, Boise, Caribou-Targhee, Salmon-Challis, and Sawtooth National Forests and Curlew National Grassland); Nevada (Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest); Utah (Ashley, Dixie, Fishlake, Manti-La Sal, and Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forests); Wyoming (Bridger-Teton National Forest); and Wyoming/Colorado (Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest and Thunder Basin National Grassland); Amendments to Land Management Plans for Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: This notice initiates the scoping process to solicit public comments on greater sage-grouse land management issues that could warrant land management plan amendments. Land management plans for National Forests in Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah, Colorado and Wyoming were amended in September 2015 to incorporate conservation measures to support the continued existence of the greater sage-grouse. New issues have been identified since 2015. The Forest Service intends to work cooperatively with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to address these issues and others to be identified through this scoping process. This notice also identifies the planning rule provisions likely to be directly related, and so applicable, to plan amendments that may be proposed.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by January 5, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Sage-grouse Amendment Comment, USDA Forest Service Intermountain Region, Federal Building, 324 25th Street, Ogden, UT 84401. Comments may also be sent via email to comments-intermtn-regional-office@fs.fed.us, or via facsimile to 801–625–5277.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Shivik at 801–625–5667 or email johnshivik@fs.fed.us.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 31, 2017, the United States District Court for the District of Nevada held that the Forest Service violated the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) by failing to provide the public with enough information to meaningfully participate in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process in the Nevada and Northeastern California Greater Sage-grouse Land Management Plan Amendment in Nevada. Specifically, the agencies designated Sagebrush Focal Areas (SFAs) between the draft and final Environmental Impact Statements. The court remanded the Records of Decision to the agencies to prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement. Western Exploration, LLC v. U.S. Dept. of Interior, 250 F.Supp.3d 718, 750–751. Similar claims were raised in other, pending lawsuits.

In order to comply with the court and to address issues identified by the BLM, the states, and various interested parties, the Forest Service is considering the possibility of amending some, all, or none of the Forest Service land management plans that were amended in 2015 regarding greater sage-grouse conservation in the states of Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Wyoming, Utah and Montana (“2015 Sage-Grouse Plans”). The Forest Service seeks comment on certain parts of the 2015 Sage-Grouse Plans that have been preliminarily identified, but also seeks input on other related issues. The specific topics already identified for consideration include: SFA designations; mitigation standards; disturbance and density caps; modification of habitat boundaries to reflect new information; variance of management approaches within Priority Habitat Management Areas and General Habitat Management Areas; causal factors; adaptive management; the land...