

### Responsible Official

Bernard Weingardt, Regional Forester, Pacific Southwest Region, U.S. Forest Service, 1323 Club Drive, Vallejo, California 94592, is the Responsible Official.

### Nature of Decision To Be Made

The Responsible Official will decide whether to amend by adopting a common list of MIS and associated monitoring strategies for each of the 10 LRMPs as proposed, to amend with an alternative MIS list and associated strategies, or retain the existing MIS lists and associated monitoring strategies. Although non-significant Forest Plan amendments are normally signed by Forest Supervisors, the Regional Forester for the Pacific Southwest Region will be the Deciding Officer for this decision.

### Scoping Process

The analysis of this proposed action was originally expected to be documented in an Environmental Assessment (EA). Formal scoping for this analysis began on February 21, 2007 when a scoping letter was sent to over 4,000 addresses. The Forest Service used the last known distribution list of the 2004 Sierra Nevada Forests Plan Amendment Record of Decision because the current amendment covers roughly the same area and communities of interest. An open house was held on March 23, 2007. The proposed action was first published in the Schedules of Proposed Actions for each of the ten Forests for the Second Quarter of Fiscal Year 2007. An Internet Web site (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/snfmisa>) displays comprehensive information about the project. This notice of intent offers the opportunity to comment to a larger audience.

### Preliminary Issues

Comments about implementing the existing monitoring requirements in the Sierra Nevada Forests Plan Amendment and concerns that those requirements should not be weakened will drive development of an alternative as described above in the Possible Alternatives section.

### Comment Requested

This notice of intent continues the scoping process which now guides the development of an environmental impact statement.

*Early Notice of Importance of Public Participation in Subsequent Environmental Review:* A draft environmental impact statement will be prepared for comment. The comment period on the draft environmental

impact statement will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, 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. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft environmental impact statement stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement 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 comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final environmental impact statement.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the draft environmental impact statement should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft environmental impact statement or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. 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: April 24, 2007.

**Beth G. Pendleton,**

*Deputy Regional Forester, Pacific Southwest Region.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Notice of New Fee Site; Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (Title VIII, Pub. L. 108-447)

**AGENCY:** Tonto National Forest, USDA Forest Service

**ACTION:** Notice of new fee site (Reference to previously published **Federal Register** document, Vol. 772, No. 12, Page 2490, January 19, 2007).

**SUMMARY:** The Tonto National Forest plans to implement a \$6 per vehicle fee for overnight camping and day-use at Haigler Canyon Recreation Site. This site is undergoing major improvements which will increase facilities and services available to the public once completed. Fees paid at similar recreation sites on the Tonto National Forest demonstrate that the public appreciates and enjoys the availability of developed recreation sites and is willing to pay reasonable fees for use of such sites. Funds from the fee revenue will be used for the continued operation and maintenance of Haigler Canyon Recreation Site.

**DATES:** Haigler Canyon will become available for recreation use in August, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Forest Supervisor, Tonto National Forest, 2324 E. McDowell Road, Phoenix, AZ 85006

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dave Killebrew, Recreation Fee Coordinator, 602-225-5239

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Federal Recreation Lands Enhancement Act (Title VIII, Pub. L. 108-447) directed the Secretary of Agriculture to publish a six month advance notice in the **Federal Register** whenever new recreation fee areas are established.

This new fee will be reviewed by a Recreation Resource Advisory Committee prior to a final decision and implementation. The Arizona Bureau of Land Management Resource Advisory Council serves as the Recreation Resource Advisory Committee for this project.

The Tonto National Forest currently has over 50 recreation sites where use fees are charged. A business analysis has shown that people desire having this sort of recreation experience on the Tonto National Forest. A market analysis indicates that the \$6 per vehicle fee is both reasonable and acceptable for camping and day-use at Haigler Canyon. Once the site is complete, visitors wanting to use facilities at Haigler Canyon Recreation

Site can obtain self-validating passes at more than 150 commercial vendors in central Arizona including at least three locations in Payson, Arizona or at any Tonto National Forest administrative office including the Payson and Pleasant Valley ranger stations. An on-site fee payment option may also be provided. Details about the Tonto fee program can be found at the Tonto National Forest Web site, <http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/tonto> or by calling 602-225-5200.

Dated: April 24, 2006.

**Gene Blankenbaker,**

*Forest Supervisor.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Housing Service

#### Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Section 515 Rural Rental Housing Program for New Construction in Fiscal Year 2007

**AGENCY:** Rural Housing Service (RHS), USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This NOFA announces the timeframe to submit applications for Section 515 Rural Rental Housing (RRH) loan funds, including applications for the nonprofit set-aside for eligible nonprofit entities, the set-aside for the most Underserved Counties and Colonias (Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act), and the set-aside for Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities (EZ/ECs) and Rural Economic Area Partnership (REAP) zones, and a designated reserve for states with rental assistance programs. This document describes the methodology that will be used to distribute funds, the application process, submission requirements, and areas of special emphasis or consideration.

**DATES:** The deadline for receipt of all applications in response to this NOFA is 5 p.m., local time for each USDA Rural Development State Office on June 29, 2007. The application closing deadline is firm as to date and hour. The Agency will not consider any application that is received after the closing deadline. Applicants intending to mail applications must provide sufficient time to permit delivery on or before the closing deadline date and time. Acceptance by the United States Postal Service or private mailer does not constitute delivery. Facsimile (FAX) and postage due applications will not be accepted.

**ADDRESSES:** Applicants wishing to apply for assistance must contact the USDA Rural Development State Office serving the place in which they desire to submit an application for rural rental housing to receive further information and copies of the application package. USDA Rural Development will date and time stamp incoming applications to evidence timely receipt, and, upon request, will provide the applicant with a written acknowledgment of receipt. A listing of USDA Rural Development State Offices, their addresses, telephone numbers, and person to contact follows:

**Note:** Telephone numbers listed are not toll-free.

Alabama State Office, Suite 601, Sterling Centre, 4121 Carmichael Road, Montgomery, AL 36106-3683, (334) 279-3618, TDD (334) 279-3495, Van McCloud.

Alaska State Office, 800 West Evergreen, Suite 201, Palmer, AK 99645, (907) 761-7740, TDD (907) 761-8905, Debbie Andrys.

Arizona State Office, Phoenix Courthouse and Federal Building, 230 North First Ave., Suite 206, Phoenix, AZ 85003-1706, (602) 280-8768, TDD (602) 280-8706, Carol Torres.

Arkansas State Office, 700 W. Capitol Ave., Room 3416, Little Rock, AR 72201-3225, (501) 301-3250, TDD (501) 301-3063, Greg Kemper.

California State Office, 430 G Street, #4169, Davis, CA 95616-4169, (530) 792-5821, TDD (530) 792-5848, Debra Moretton.

Colorado State Office, 655 Parfet Street, Room E100, Lakewood, CO 80215, (720) 544-2923, TDD (800) 659-2656, Mary Summerfield.

Connecticut, Served by Massachusetts State Office.

Delaware and Maryland State Office, 1221 College Park Drive, Suite 200, Dover, DE 19904, (302) 857-3615, TDD (302) 857-3585, Pat Baker.

Florida & Virgin Islands State Office, 4440 N.W. 25th Place, Gainesville, FL 32606-6563, (352) 338-3465, TDD (352) 338-3499, Elizabeth M. Whitaker.

Georgia State Office, Stephens Federal Building, 355 E. Hancock Avenue, Athens, GA 30601-2768, (706) 546-2164, TDD (706) 546-2034, Wayne Rogers.

Hawaii State Office, (Services all Hawaii, American Samoa Guam, and Western Pacific), Room 311, Federal Building, 154 Waiianuenue Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720, (808) 933-8305, TDD (808) 933-8321, Thao Khamoui.

Idaho State Office, Suite A1, 9173 West Barnes Dr., Boise, ID 83709, (208) 378-5630, TDD (208) 378-5644, Miriam Haylett.

Illinois State Office, 2118 West Park Court, Suite A, Champaign, IL 61821-2986, (217) 403-6222, TDD (217) 403-6240, Barry L. Ramsey.

Indiana State Office, 5975 Lakeside Boulevard, Indianapolis, IN 46278, (317) 290-3100 (ext. 423), TDD (317) 290-3343, Stephen Dye.

Iowa State Office, 210 Walnut Street Room 873, Des Moines, IA 50309, (515) 284-4685, TDD (515) 284-4858, Julie Sleeper.

Kansas State Office, 1303 SW First American Place, Suite 100, Topeka, KS 66604-4040, (785) 271-2721, TDD (785) 271-2767, Virginia M. Hammersmith.

Kentucky State Office, 771 Corporate Drive, Suite 200, Lexington, KY 40503, (859) 224-7325, TDD (859) 224-7422, Paul Higgins.

Louisiana State Office, 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, LA 71302, (318) 473-7962, TDD (318) 473-7655, Yvonne R. Emerson.

Maine State Office, 967 Illinois Ave., Suite 4, PO Box 405, Bangor, ME 04402-0405, (207) 990-9110, TDD (207) 942-7331, Bob Nadeau.

Maryland, Served by Delaware State Office.

Massachusetts, Connecticut, & Rhode Island State Office, 451 West Street, Amherst, MA 01002, (413) 253-4333, TDD (413) 253-4590, Donald Colburn.

Michigan State Office, 3001 Coolidge Road, Suite 200, East Lansing, MI 48823, (517) 324-5192, TDD (517) 337-6795, Julie Putnam.

Minnesota State Office, 375 Jackson Street Building, Suite 410, St. Paul, MN 55101-1853, (651) 602-7820, TDD (651) 602-7830, Rodney Jackson.

Mississippi State Office, Federal Building, Suite 831, 100 W. Capitol Street, Jackson, MS 39269, (601) 965-4325, TDD (601) 965-5850, Darnella Smith-Murray.

Missouri State Office, 601 Business Loop 70 West, Parkade Center, Suite 235, Columbia, MO 65203, (573) 876-0990, TDD (573) 876-9480, Colleen James.

Montana State Office, 900 Technology Blvd., Suite B, Bozeman, MT 59718, (406) 585-2515, TDD (406) 585-2562, Deborah Chorlton.

Nebraska State Office, Federal Building, Room 152, 100 Centennial Mall N, Lincoln, NE. 68508, (402) 437-5734, TDD (402) 437-5093, Linda Anders.

Nevada State Office, 1390 South Curry Street, Carson City, NV 89703-5146, (775) 887-1222 (ext. 25), TDD (775) 885-0633, Angilla Denton.

New Hampshire State Office, Concord Center, Suite 218, Box 317, 10 Ferry Street, Concord, NH 03301-5004, (603) 223-6050, TDD (603) 229-0536, Robert McCarthy.