Stamp Program, ongoing households must apply for recertification using an application, which is very similar to the above-mentioned application for initial certification. The average certification period is 10 months in length although the length of the certification period may range from 1-month to 24-months depending on household circumstances. Based on FY 2006 data, we estimate that the burden associated with the application for recertification at 3,205,217 hours for households (10,121,739 applications × 19 minutes (0.32 hrs) to complete the application). We estimate the burden for State agencies at 3,205,217 hours (10,121,739 applications × 19 minutes (0.32 hrs) to review the application).

Monthly Report. Three State agencies require a portion of their caseload to report changes in household circumstances through monthly reports. Because the household does not submit a separate monthly report when it submits the application for recertification, households are required to submit monthly reports 11 times a year. We estimate a total annual household reporting burden of 182,883 hours for the monthly report (142,506 households × 11 reports per year × 7 minutes or 0.12 hrs per report). We estimate a State agency burden of 287,387 hours (142,506 households × 11 reports per year × 11 minutes or 0.18 hrs per report).

Quarterly Report. Currently, only one State, California, requires households to report changes in circumstances on a quarterly basis. Since households are not required to submit a separate quarterly report when they submit an application for recertification, the report is submitted three times a year. We estimate a household reporting burden of 319,787 hours for the quarterly report (799,469 households × 3 reports per year × 8 minutes or 0.13 hrs per report). We estimate a State agency burden of 479,681 hours (799,469 households × 3 reports per year × 12 minutes or 0.2 hrs per report).

Semiannual or Simplified Reporting. Under the simplified reporting option, adopted by 47 States, most households report changes in their circumstances through a report that they normally submit every six months. In addition to the semiannual report, a household in a simplified reporting system must report when its gross income exceeds 130 percent of the poverty threshold. Based on recent information regarding State choices, we estimate that 10,788,683 households are currently subject to simplified reporting. Under simplified reporting, households submit one report annually (these households submit an application for recertification at least once every 12 months), and we estimate a household burden of 1,438,491 hours (10,788,683 reports × 8 minutes or .133 hrs per report) and a State agency burden of 1,977,925 hours (10,788,683 reports × 11 minutes or .18 hrs per report).

Change Reporting. Households not subject to monthly, quarterly reporting or semiannual reporting must report most changes in household circumstances with 10 days of the date that the change becomes known to the household. Most households subject to change reporting are statutorily exempt from periodic reporting, primarily are those households with no earned income in which all adult members are elderly or disabled. We estimate a total household burden for change reporting at 138,737 hours per year (1,664,843 households submitting an average of 1 report per year at 5 minutes or 0.08 hrs per report). We estimate the annual State agency burden to process the reports at 305,221 hours (1,664,843 households submitting an average of 1 report per year with an agency processing time of 11 minutes or 0.18 hrs per report).

Notice of Eligibility or Denial. Based on an estimated 21,089,658 notices issued annually, we estimate a total State agency burden of 632,690 hours based on 2 minutes (.03 hrs) to generate each report.

We estimate a total annual burden of 367,412 hours to issue the following notices: Notice of Late/Incomplete Report, Adequate Notice (notice of reduction or termination based on information reported by the household), Notice of Adverse Action, Notice of expiration of Certification, Request for Contact, and Notice of Missed Interview. The total is based on total 3,365,104 responses with an average burden of 3 minutes or .03 hrs per response for the first five notices and 953,915 responses with an average burden of 1 minute or 0.167 hrs for the Notice of Missed Interview.

Recertifying households must submit an application for recertification at least once every 12 months, and we estimate a household burden of 1,438,491 hours (10,788,683 reports × 8 minutes or .133 hrs per report) and a State agency burden of 1,977,925 hours (10,788,683 reports × 11 minutes or .18 hrs per report).

Notice of Eligibility or Denial. Based on an estimated 21,089,658 notices issued annually, we estimate a total State agency burden of 632,690 hours based on 2 minutes (.03 hrs) to generate each report.

We estimate a total annual burden of 367,412 hours to issue the following notices: Notice of Late/Incomplete Report, Adequate Notice (notice of reduction or termination based on information reported by the household), Notice of Adverse Action, Notice of expiration of Certification, Request for Contact, and Notice of Missed Interview. The total is based on total 3,365,104 responses with an average burden of 3 minutes or .03 hrs per response for the first five notices and 953,915 responses with an average burden of 1 minute or 0.167 hrs for the Notice of Missed Interview.
SUMMARY: The U.S. Forest Service (FS) will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) on a proposed action that implements certain aspects of the Pueblo de San Ildefonso Claims Settlement Act of 2005 (Pub. L. 109–286). Portions of the Act considered in this analysis include mandated transfer of certain National Forest System lands to the Pueblo de San Ildefonso (about 7,058 acres), the Pueblo of Santa Clara (about 740 acres), and Los Alamos County (about 631 acres). Lands would be conveyed in exchange for an appraised monetary value. The legislation also requires the Forest Service to offer for purchase six parcels of National Forest System lands to Los Alamos County near the community (totaling about 324 acres), and to reconstruct Forest Road (FR) 416v to a high-clearance, Level 2 standard. Although these proposed actions have been mandated by the Act, the Santa Fe National Forest will conduct a National Environmental Policy Act environmental analysis to disclose the impacts of these actions, and to fully describe any discretionary actions that may also be included as part of the land transfers called for in the Act. However, under the Act, discretion is limited. A map of the area is located at the following Forest Service Web site: http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/projects/.

DATES: Comments concerning the project must be received by July 23, 2007. The draft environmental impact statement is expected in September of 2007 and the final environmental impact statement is expected in November 2007.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Sandy Hurlocker, District Ranger, U.S. Forest Service, Española Ranger District, P.O. Box 3307, Española, New Mexico, 87533. Electronic mail (e-mail) may be sent to comments-southwestern-santafe espanolofe@fs.fed.us and FAX may be sent to (505) 753–9411.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sandy Hurlocker, District Ranger, Española, Española Ranger District, (505) 753–7331.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: On September 27, 2006, the Pueblo de San Ildefonso Claims Settlement Act of 2005 was signed into law. The purpose of the Act is to resolve title claims asserted against the United States by the San Ildefonso Pueblo under the proceedings of the Indian Claims Act (Docket No 354). Other purposes of the Act related to this analysis are (1) The authorization of the Pueblo to acquire and the Forest Service to convey National Forest System lands as identified in the San Ildefonso Settlement Agreement (Settlement Area Lands), and (2) the authorization for the Secretary of the Agriculture to convey other lands out of the National Forest System in order to comply with an inter-Pueblo Agreement and the Los Alamos Agreement, which has been incorporated by the San Ildefonso Settlement Agreement and ratified by the Act. These additional lands include the Water System Lands, the Northern Tier Lands (to be acquired by the Santa Clara Pueblo), and the Los Alamos Townsite Lands.

The Act provides that the Settlement Area Land and the Northern Tier Lands shall be held by the Secretary of the Interior in trust for the benefit of each Pueblo. Lands acquired by Los Alamos County as Water System Lands become San Ildefonso Pueblo tribal lands if they were no longer needed for Los Alamos County’s water facilities. Most of the Los Alamos Townsite lands are currently used for Los Alamos County water facilities, including Los Alamos Reservoir and dam, as well as water tanks. Except for the restrictions and reservations identified above, the Secretary of Agriculture does not propose to place any restrictions on future use of the Townsite lands, Settlement Area lands, Water System lands, or Northern Tier lands.

The Act also calls for reservation of a number of road easements to assure public access to lands that would otherwise be inaccessible to motorized vehicles once the conveyance takes place. For most of these reservations, existing roads provide adequate access and so only an administrative action is expected. However, as part of the Los Alamos Agreement, road improvement work must be completed to improve public access to the National Forest System lands adjoining the Settlement Area Lands prior to conveyance. The Act allows for reconstruction of FR 416v to a high clearance, Level 2 to provide this access.

Even though the Act requires these actions and so discretion is limited, the Santa Fe National Forest will study and disclose in an environmental impact statement the effects of the actions described in the Act that relate to the Secretary of Agriculture’s authority to transfer lands and reconstruct Road 416v. Other actions to be undertaken by the Department of the Interior, the Pueblo de San Ildefonso, or Los Alamos have not been included in the scope of this proposal because they can be accomplished separately. A map of the area is located at the following Forest Service Web site: http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/projects/.

Proposed Action: The Santa Fe National Forest proposes the following: • Convey the Settlement Area lands to the Pueblo de San Ildefonso (approximately 7,058 acres) located in: Township 20 north, Range 7 east, section 19, 20, 21, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33; and Township 19 north, Range 7 east, sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9; New Mexico Principal Meridian.

• Convey the Water System lands to Los Alamos County (approximately 631 acres) located in Township 20 north, Range 7 east, section 31; Township 19 north, Range 7 east, sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9; Township 19 north, Range 6 east, section 1; New Mexico Principal Meridian.

• Convey the Northern Tier Lands to the Pueblo of Santa Clara (approximately 740 acres) located in Township 20 north, Range 7 east, sections 17, 18; New Mexico Principal Meridian.

• Offer for conveyance the Los Alamos Townsite lands to Los Alamos County. These six parcels total approximately 324 acres of National Forest System lands located in: Township 19 north, Range 4 east, section 13; Township 19 north, Range 5 east, sections 3, 4, 5, 18; New Mexico Principal Meridian.

• Reconstruct FR 416v to a high clearance, Level 2, standard, following the existing route as much as practical. Reconstruction will require grading, culvert placement, and possible relocation of short segments.

• Ancillary actions that may be implemented along with the land transfers and road reconstruction. Examples include fence construction along boundary lines and road closures where roads no longer serve a purpose to the management of National Forests.

Lead Agency: The USDA Forest Service (FS) is the lead agency.

Responsible Official: The responsible Official is the Forest Supervisor, Santa Fe National Forest, 1474 Rodeo Road, P.O. Box 1689, Santa Fe, NM 87504–1689.

Decision Framework: The NEPA decision to be made is limited by the Act. Transfer or offering for sale of lands is mandated. Reconstruction of FR 416v is also mandated as an action that must be completed before the land conveyance can occur. However, the Forest will evaluate effects and develop mitigation measures and best management practices to implement during the road reconstruction and, where applicable, in the land conveyance.

Scoping Process: The scoping process will include appropriate public involvement activities during June/July...
2007. Appropriate activities will occur once the Draft EIS is available for review, which is expected to occur in the late summer of 2007.

Preliminary Issues: Because the conveyance of land will not significantly change the expected land use of the transferred lands, no significant issues have been identified. Reconstruction of FR 416v has the potential to affect known cultural resource sites located within the existing roadway. Because the sites and road occupy land between a canyon wall and steep ground, options to avoid these sites are limited, and so data recovery is the likely method for mitigating impacts. No threatened or endangered species—or Region 3 sensitive species—of animal or plant are known in the project area. Likewise, no Region 3 sensitive species are known. Because the National Forest System lands would be closed to the general public once conveyed to the Pueblos, a change in recreational use patterns is likely. A closed pomice mine exists on the land to be conveyed to the San Ildefonso Pueblo, with reclamation underway. Any unfinished reclamation will pass to the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to the Act, Section 7(f).

Comment Requested: This notice of intent initiates the scoping process that guides the development of the environmental impact statement. The Forest Service invites written comments and suggestions on the proposed action, including any issues to consider, as well as any concerns relevant to the analysis. 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 Heritage 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.

(Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7 and 1508.22; Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, Section 21)


Daniel J. Jiron, Forest Supervisor, Santa Fe National Forest.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Deschutes Provincial Advisory Committee (DPAC)

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Deschutes Provincial Advisory Committee will meet on July 11, 2007, starting at 8 a.m. at the Deschutes National Forest Supervisor’s Office at 1001 SW. Emkay Drive, Bend, Oregon, for a field trip to the Bend-Ft. Rock and Crescent Ranger Districts. The purpose of the trip is to monitor the Dilman and Five Buttes Projects to obtain feedback from members. The trip is scheduled to end at 5 p.m. in Bend. All Deschutes Province Advisory Committee Meetings are open to the public and an open public forum is scheduled from 3 to 3:30 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mollie Chaudet, Province Liaison, Deschutes NF, 1001 SW. Emkay Drive, Bend, Oregon, 97702, Phone (541) 383–5517.

Leslie A.C. Weldon, Deschutes National Forest Supervisor.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Del Norte County Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Del Norte County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet on June 26, 2007 in Crescent City, California. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the project submission and selection process for Title II proposals submitted under Public Law 106–393, H.R. 2389, the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, also called the “Payments to States” Act.

DATES: The meeting will be held on July 2, 2006, from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Del Norte County Unified School District Board Room, 301 West Washington, Crescent City, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie Ranieri, Committee Coordinator, USDA, Six Rivers National Forest, 1330 Bayshore Way, Eureka, CA 95501. Phone: (707) 441–3673.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Individuals, community-based organization, tribes and government agencies will present the Title II project proposals submitted to the RAC. The meeting is open to the public. Public input opportunity will be provided and individuals will have the opportunity to address the committee at that time.

Dated: June 18, 2007.

William D. Metz, Deputy Forest Supervisor.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

RIN 0596–AC68

USDA Forest Service Open Space Conservation Strategy

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of request for public input.