

from the roadless inventory associated with ski areas.

Responsible Official

The Responsible Official for the rulemaking is the Secretary, USDA, or his designee.

Nature of Decision To Be Made

The Responsible Official, with concurrence of the State of Colorado, will select a management strategy to address the management of roadless areas on National Forest System Lands within the State of Colorado.

Scoping Process

As part of its scoping process, the Forest Service solicits public comment on the nature and scope of the environmental, social, and economic issues related to the rulemaking that should be analyzed in depth in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Comments collected during promulgation of the 2001 Roadless Rule and the extensive public involvement process used by the State and Task Force to craft their petition will be heavily relied upon. The nature and scope of the analysis for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will focus on the land management direction sought in the petition, and the alternatives to it.

Because of the extensive amount of public comment that has already been received on the issue of protecting roadless areas in Colorado, no public meetings are planned for this 60-day scoping effort. However, public meetings will be held after the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and proposed rule have been released, and the public has had a chance to take a careful look at the State site-specific proposed rule, alternatives, and effects.

Comment Requested

Reviewers should provide their comments during the comment period. Timely comments will enable the agency to analyze and respond to them at one time and to use them in the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement, thus avoiding undue delay in the decision making process. The submission of specific and substantive comments usually results in more effective use of public input and often results in better decisions. As a reminder, reviewers have an obligation to "structure their participation in the National Environmental Policy Act process so that it is meaningful and alerts the agency to the reviewer's position and contentions." *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 552 (1978). *Dept. of*

Transportation v. Public Citizen, 541 U.S. 752, 764 (2004).

Estimated Dates

The draft environmental impact statement is expected May, 2008, and the final environmental impact statement is expected December, 2008.

Dated: December 18, 2007.

Gloria Manning,

Associate Deputy Chief, NFS.

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BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Roadless Area Conservation National Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Roadless Area Conservation National Advisory Committee will meet in Washington, DC. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the proposed rule for the management of roadless areas on National Forest System lands in the State of Idaho and to discuss other related roadless area matters.

DATES: The meeting will be held January 16 to January 17, 2008, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Forest Service, Sidney R. Yates Building, 201 14th Street, SW., Washington, DC. Written comments concerning this meeting should be addressed to Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, EMC, Jessica Call, 201 14th Street, SW., Mailstop 1104, Washington, DC 20024. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to jessicacall@fs.fed.us, or via facsimile to 202-205-1012. 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 Forest Service, Sidney R. Yates Building, 201 14th Street, SW., Washington, DC. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to 202-205-1056 to facilitate entry into the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jessica Call, Roadless Area Conservation National Advisory Committee (RACNAC) Coordinator, at jessicacall@fs.fed.us or 202-205-1056.

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 and interested parties are invited to attend; building security requires you to provide your name to Jessica Call, RACNAC Coordinator by January 11, 2008. You will need photo identification to enter the building.

While meeting discussion is limited to Forest Service staff and Committee members, the public will be allowed to offer written and oral comments for the Committee's consideration. Attendees wishing to comment orally will be allotted a specific amount of time to speak during a public comment period at the end of the first day's agenda. To offer oral comment, please contact the RACNAC Coordinator at 202-205-1056.

Dated: December 17, 2007.

Gloria Manning,

Associate Deputy Chief, NFS.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Information Collection Activity; Comment Request

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended), the Rural Utilities Service, an agency delivering the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Rural Development Utilities Programs, hereinafter referred to as Rural Development and/or Agency, invites comments on this information collection for which the Agency intends to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by February 25, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michele L. Brooks, Acting Director, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., STOP 1522, Room 5174 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-1522. Telephone: (202) 690-1078, FAX: (202) 720-4120.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) regulation (5 CFR 1320) implementing provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) requires