

regarding potential effects of the proposal to authorize mining on the Section 30 PLS Lode Mining Claims. 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 for 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 substantive 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: September 29, 2009.

Craig Bobzien,

Forest Supervisor, Black Hills National Forest.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Tri-County Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the authorities in the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463) and under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106-393) the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest's Tri-County Resource Advisory Committee will meet on Friday, October 15, 2009, from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m., in Deer Lodge, Montana. The purpose of the meeting is to review funding proposals for Title II funding.

DATES: Friday, October 15, 2009, from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the USDA building located 1002 Hollenback Road, Deer Lodge, Montana (MT 59722).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patty Bates, Committee Coordinator, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, 420 Barrett Road, Dillon, MT 59725 (406) 683-3979; E-MAIL pbates@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Agenda for this meeting include discussion about accomplishments, monitoring, priorities and funding for new project proposals. 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: September 28, 2009.

David R. Myers,

Designated Federal Official.

[FR Doc. E9-24028 Filed 10-6-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Announcement for the 2010 U.S. Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Cost-Share Grant Opportunity.

SUMMARY: The National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (Council) is charged, by law, to provide recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture on urban forestry related issues and opportunities. Part of the Council's role is to recommend the criteria for the U.S. Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry (U&CF) Challenge Cost-Share Grant Program.

The Council has revised their criteria for the U.S. Forest Service's U&CF Challenge Cost-Share Grant Program for 2010. The 2010 Grant Program will solicit innovative grant proposals. A total anticipated amount of \$900,000 would be available in 2010 for Innovation Grants.

Innovation Grants

Innovation grants are to focus on one of the Council's identified priority issues confronting the U&CF community: Energy Conservation, Climate Change, Public Health, and Green Infrastructure Assessment.

The Council will seek proposals from organizations and partnerships that demonstrate the reach, resources, and expertise to deliver meaningful, replicable results.

DATES: Applications are available electronically at the following Web site, <http://www.grants.gov>. Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m., December 15, 2010.

Those that do not have access to a computer may request a hardcopy of the application and instructions by contacting Nancy Stremple at the address below.

ADDRESSES: Written comments concerning this announcement should be addressed to Nancy Stremple, Executive Staff to National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council, 201 14th St., SW., Yates Building (1 Central) MS-1151, Washington, DC 20250-1151. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to nstremple@fs.fed.us, or via facsimile to 202-690-5792

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 201 14th St., SW., Yates Building (1 Central) MS-1151, Washington, DC. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to 202-205-1054 to facilitate entry into the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy Stremple, Executive Staff or the U&CF Staff Assistant to National Urban

and Community Forestry Advisory Council, 201 14th St., SW., Yates Building (1 Central) MS-1151, Washington, DC 20250-1151, phone 202-205-1054.

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, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 2010 U. S. Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Cost-Share Grant instructions and application are posted on <http://www.grants.gov>. The instructions only will be posted on the U.S. Forest Service Web site at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/ucf>.

If interested applicants are not already registered in Grants.gov, they are encouraged to register now. The process may take up to 2 weeks to collect the required information.

Dated: October 1, 2009.

Robin L. Thompson,
Associate Deputy Chief, State & Private Forestry.

[FR Doc. E9-24137 Filed 10-6-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XR39

Endangered and Threatened Species; Recovery Plans

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments and notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) announces availability for public review and comment of the Draft Central Valley Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan (Draft Plan). The Draft Plan addresses the Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU), the Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*) ESU, and the Distinct Population Segment (DPS) of Central Valley Steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*). NMFS is soliciting review and comment from the public and all interested parties on the Draft Plan. In addition, four public meetings will be held in October 2009 as opportunities for

providing comments on the Draft Plan (dates to be determined).

DATES: NMFS will consider and address all substantive comments received during the comment period. Comments must be received no later than 5 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on December 7, 2009. Public meetings will also be held (see Public Meetings below).

ADDRESSES: Please send written comments and materials to Brian Ellrott, National Marine Fisheries Service, 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 8-300, Sacramento, CA 95816. Comments may also be submitted by e-mail to: CentralValleyPlan.SWR@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line of the e-mail comment the following identifier: "Comments on Central Valley Salmon and Steelhead Draft Plan." Comments may be submitted via facsimile (fax) to (916) 930-3629.

Persons wishing to review the Draft Plan can obtain an electronic copy (i.e., CD-ROM) from Aimee Diefenbach by calling (916) 930-3600 or by e-mailing a request to aimee.diefenbach@noaa.gov with the subject line "CD-ROM Request for Central Valley Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Draft Plan." Electronic copies of the Draft Plan are also available online on the NMFS website <http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov/recovery/centralvalleyplan.htm>.

The specific dates, times, and locations of public meetings will be posted on this website as they become available.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian Ellrott at (916) 930-3612 or Howard Brown, NMFS Sacramento River Basin Branch Chief at (916) 930-3608.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Recovery plans describe actions beneficial to the conservation and recovery of species listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). The ESA requires that recovery plans incorporate: (1) objective, measurable criteria which, when met, would result in a determination that the species is no longer threatened or endangered; (2) site-specific management actions necessary to achieve the plan's goals; and (3) estimates of the time required and costs to implement recovery actions. The ESA requires the development of recovery plans for each listed species unless such a plan would not promote its recovery.

NMFS is responsible for developing and implementing ESA recovery plans for listed salmon and steelhead. In so doing, NMFS' goal is to restore

endangered and threatened Pacific salmonids to the point that they are again self-sustaining members of their ecosystems and no longer need the protections of the ESA.

Recovery Plans developed under the ESA are guidance documents, not regulatory documents. However, the ESA envisions Recovery Plans as the central organizing tool for guiding the recovery of listed species. Recovery Plans also guide Federal agencies in fulfilling their obligations under section 7(a)(1) of the ESA, which calls on all Federal agencies to "utilize their authorities in furtherance of the purposes of this Act by carrying out programs for the conservation of endangered species and threatened species." In addition to outlining proactive measures to achieve species recovery, Recovery Plans provide a context and framework for implementing other provisions of the ESA with respect to a particular species, including consultations on Federal agency activities under section 7(a)(2) and the development of Habitat Conservation Plans in accordance with section 10(a)(1)(B).

This Draft Plan serves as a guideline for achieving recovery criteria and goals by describing the criteria by which NMFS would measure species recovery, the strategy to achieve recovery, and the recovery actions necessary to achieve viable ESU's of Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon and Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon, and a viable DPS of Central Valley steelhead.

Recovery Criteria

Recovery criteria are built upon criteria recommended by the NMFS Technical Recovery Team (TRT) for the identification of viable anadromous salmonid populations and ESUs/DPSs. A viable population is defined as a population having a negligible risk (<5%) of extinction due to threats from demographic variation, non-catastrophic environmental variation, and genetic diversity changes over a 100-year time frame. A viable ESU/DPS is comprised of a sufficient number of viable populations sufficiently dispersed spatially, but well connected enough to maintain long-term (1,000-year) persistence and evolutionary potential (McElhany et al. 2000). The viability criteria are intended to describe characteristics of the species and its natural environments necessary for both individual populations and the ESU/DPS as a whole to be viable, i.e., persist over a specific period of time.

Recovery of winter-run Chinook salmon, spring-run Chinook salmon, and steelhead in the Central Valley will