

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service****Bussel 484, Idaho Panhandle National Forests, Idaho, Shoshone County**

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a supplemental environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The USDA Forest Service will prepare a supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) for the Bussel 484 Project. The Notice of Availability of the Draft EIS for the Bussel 484 Project was published in the **Federal Register** (73 FR 12413) on March 7, 2008, and the notice for the Final EIS (73 FR 24279) was published on May 2, 2008. The Record of Decision (ROD) for this project was signed on May 21, 2008. It was administratively appealed to the Regional Forester per 36 CFR part 215. The Regional Forester affirmed the decision on July 31, 2008. A complaint was filed in the United States District Court for the District of Idaho on April 9, 2009. On August 6, 2010 the United States District Court for the District of Idaho set aside the Bussel 484 decision and remanded it to the Forest Service. The proposed action is unchanged from the final EIS. A supplemental EIS will be prepared to address analysis for wildlife, fire management direction, recently designated critical habitat for bull trout, and newly designated Sensitive species.

DATES: Scoping is not required for supplements to environmental impact statements (40 CFR 1502.9(c)(4)). There was extensive public involvement in the development of the proposed action, the 2008 Draft EIS, and the 2008 Final EIS. The Forest Service is not inviting comments at this time. The draft supplemental EIS is expected May 2011, and the final supplemental EIS is expected July 2011. The comment period for the draft SEIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA publishes the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: St. Joe Ranger District, 222 South 7th Street, Suite 1, St. Maries, Idaho 83861.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wade Sims, District Ranger, USDA Forest Service, St. Joe Ranger District, 208-245-2531. 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 Time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Forest Supervisor selected Alternative B with

modifications as documented in the May 2008 Bussel 484 Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD authorized approximately 2,137 acres of timber harvest, fuel treatment resulting from the timber harvest, tree planting in regeneration harvest units, pocket gopher control, 575 acres of precommercial thinning which also included 309 acres of white pine pruning, approximately 4.5 miles of system road construction on National Forest System lands, 0.2 miles of road construction across lands owned by Potlatch Corporation as part of a cost-share agreement, 0.5 miles of temporary road construction, 5.4 miles of road reconstruction, installing effective motorized vehicle restriction devices throughout the project area, removing a gate, 0.2 miles of new trail construction for motorized vehicles less than 50 inches wide, the conversion of Bussel Creek Trail 258 to non-motorized use, designation of Lines Creek Historical Trail for motorized vehicles less than 50 inches wide, repair and designation of 2.9 miles of the Norton Railroad Grade for motorized vehicles less than 50 inches wide, storage or decommissioning of approximately 32 miles of existing road, planting native trees and shrubs along riparian areas, large woody debris placement in stream channels, elimination of two human-created fish migration barriers, and reallocation of approximately 120 acres of Management Area 9 to Management Area 1. The supplemental EIS will contain additional information about wildlife, fire management direction, recently designated critical habitat for bull trout, and newly designated Sensitive species.

The mailing list for this project will include those individuals, agencies and organizations on the mailing list for the March 2008 Draft EIS. The comment period for the draft SEIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA publishes the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**. The Idaho Panhandle National Forests Supervisor will make a decision on this project after considering comments, environmental consequences, and applicable laws, regulations, and policies.

Purpose and Need for Action

The project is needed to maintain or improve resilience of the vegetative resources to disturbances such as insects, disease, and fire; provide wood products for local communities; work toward full support of designated beneficial uses in the Bussel Creek Watershed; and manage access to provide for multiple uses.

Proposed Action

The proposed action as described in the FEIS includes timber harvest and associated fuels treatment on approximately 2,137 acres; approximately 5.1 miles of system road construction, 0.5 miles of temporary road construction, and 6.7 miles of road reconstruction to facilitate the timber harvest; repairing the Norton Creek Railroad Grade then designating it open to vehicles less than 50 inches wide; 29 miles of road decommissioning and storage; 367 acres of planting after timber harvest; 367 acres of pocket gopher control; 821 acres of precommercial thinning and pruning; changes in access management including installing effective restrictive devices on some roads, removing a gate, constructing 0.2 miles of new trail for ATV use, converting Bussel Creek Trail 258 to non-motorized use, designating Lines Creek Historical Trail for motorized vehicles less than 50 inches wide; planting some portions of riparian areas; placing large woody debris in streams; and correcting two fish migration barriers.

Responsible Official

The Forest Supervisor of the Idaho Panhandle National Forests is the Responsible Official.

Nature of Decision To Be Made

The decision for the Bussel 484 Project will identify the land management activities to be implemented in the project area including acres, types, and locations of vegetative treatments including timber harvest, fuel treatments, planting, and precommercial thinning; acres of pocket gopher control to protect regeneration; miles and locations of road construction, reconstruction, storage, and decommissioning; changes for public motorized access; areas and locations to place large woody debris in streams, and methods to correct fish migration barriers. The SEIS is intended to provide additional evaluation of wildlife, the Idaho Panhandle National Forests' fire management direction, recently designated critical habitat for bull trout, and newly designated Sensitive species and provide that information to the public.

Scoping Process

Scoping is not required for supplements to environmental impact statements (40 CFR 1502.9(c)(4)). There was extensive public involvement in the development of the proposed action, the 2008 Draft EIS, and the 2008 Final EIS. The Forest Service is not inviting comments at this time.

Comment Requested

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 state, 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 positions 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 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.

Dated: April 13, 2011.

Ranotta K. McNair,

Forest Supervisor.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service****Okanogan and Wenatchee National Forests Resource Advisory Committee**

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Wenatchee-Okanogan Resource Advisory Committee will meet on May 10, May 12, and May 17 at the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Headquarters Office, 215 Melody Lane, Wenatchee, WA. These meetings will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until 3 p.m. On May 10, committee members will review Kittitas County and Yakima County projects, on May 12, committee members will review Okanogan County projects, and on May 17, committee members will review Chelan County projects proposed for Resource Advisory Committee consideration under Title II of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

All Wenatchee-Okanogan Resource Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are welcome to attend.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Direct questions regarding this meeting to Robin DeMario, Public Affairs Specialist, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, 215 Melody Lane, Wenatchee, Washington 98801, (509) 664-9200.

Dated: April 14, 2011.

Rebecca Lockett Heath,

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Forest Supervisor.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service****Gogebic Resource Advisory Committee**

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Gogebic Resource Advisory Committee will meet in Marenisco, Michigan. The committee is meeting as authorized under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (Pub. L. 110-343)(the Act) and operates in compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The purpose of the committee is to improve collaborative relationships and to provide advice and recommendations to the Forest Service concerning projects and funding consistent with title II of

the Act. The meeting is open to the public. The purpose of the meeting is to review and make recommendations on Title II Projects submitted by the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held on May 19, 2011, and will begin at 9:30 a.m. (CST).

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Marenisco Town Hall, Marenisco, Michigan. Written comments may be submitted as described under Supplementary Information.

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 Ottawa National Forest, E6248 U.S. Hwy. 2, Ironwood, MI 49938. Please call ahead to 906-932-1330 to facilitate entry into the building to view comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lisa Klaus, RAC coordinator, USDA, Ottawa National Forest, E6248 U.S. Hwy. 2, Ironwood, MI, (906) 932-1330, ext. 328; e-mail lklaus@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 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday. Requests for reasonable accommodation for access to the facility or proceedings may be made by contacting the person listed For Further Information.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following business will be conducted: (1) Review and approval of previous meeting minutes. (2) Review and make recommendations for Title II Projects submitted by the public. (3) Public comment. Anyone who would like to bring related matters to the attention of the Committee may file written statements with the Committee staff before or after the meeting. The agenda will include time for people to make oral statements of three minutes or less. Individuals wishing to make an oral statement should request in writing by May 1, 2011, to be scheduled on the agenda. Written comments and requests for time for oral comments must be sent to Lisa Klaus, Ottawa National Forest, E6248 US Hwy. 2, Ironwood, MI 49938. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to lklaus@fs.fed.us or via facsimile to 906-932-0122.

Dated: April 14, 2011.

Keith B Lannom,

Designated Federal Officer.

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