

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

October 9, 2012.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received by April 3, 2013. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8681.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to

the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Rural Housing Service

Title: 7 CFR Part 1924-A, Planning and Performing Construction and Other Development.

OMB Control Number: 0575-0042.

Summary of Collection: The Rural Housing Service (RHS) is the credit agency for rural housing and community development within the Rural Development mission area of the United States Department of Agriculture. RHS offers a supervised credit program to build modest housing and essential community facilities in rural areas. Section 501 of Title V of the Housing Act of 1949, authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to extend financial assistance to construct, improve, alter, repair, replace, or rehabilitate dwellings, farm buildings and/or related facilities to provide decent, safe sanitary living conditions and adequate farm building and other structures in rural areas.

Need and Use of the Information: RHS provides several forms to assist in the collection and submission of information. The information will be used to determine whether a loan/grant can be approved; to ensure that RHS has adequate security for the loans financed; to monitor compliance with the terms and conditions of the agency loan/grant and to monitor the prudent use of Federal funds. If the information is not collected and submitted, RHS would have no control over the type and quality of construction and development work planned and performed with Federal funds.

Description of Respondents: Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Farms; State, Local and Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 16,000.

Frequency of Responses: Recordkeeping; Report: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 74,297.

Charlene Parker,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2013-04830 Filed 3-1-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XV-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

Notice of Appointment of Members to the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board

AGENCY: Research, Education, and Economics, USDA.

ACTION: Appointment of members.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App 2, the United States Department of Agriculture announces the appointments made by the Secretary of Agriculture to fill 10 vacancies on the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

DATES: Appointments by the Secretary of Agriculture are for 2-, or 3-year terms effective October 1, 2012.

ADDRESSES: National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board; Research Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office, Room 3901, South Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture; STOP 3401; 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-2255

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Burk, Executive Director, Research, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office, Room 3901, South Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture; STOP 3401; 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-2255 Telephone: 202-720-3684. Fax: 202-720-6199, or email: robert.burk@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 802 of the Federal Agricultural Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 authorized the creation of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board. The Board is composed of 25 members, each representing a specific category related to agriculture. The Board was first appointed in September 1996 and at the time one-third of the original members were appointed for one, two, and three-year term, respectively. Due to the staggered appointments, the terms for 9 of the 25 members expired September 30, 2012. One additional member position was

vacated mid-term. Each member is appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture to a specific category on the Board, including farming or ranching, food production and processing, forestry research, crop and animal science, land-grant institutions, non-land grant college or university with a historic commitment to research in the food and agricultural sciences, food retailing and marketing, rural economic development, and natural resource and consumer interest groups, among many others. Appointees by vacancy category of the 10 appointments are as follows:

Category A. "National Farm Organization," Ralph Paige, Executive Director, Federation of Southern Cooperatives Land Assistance Fund, East Point, GA; Category C. "Food Animal Commodity Producer," Wathina M. Luthi, Owner/Manager, Luthi Farms, LLC., Fargo, OK; Category E. "National Aquaculture Association," Jeremy Liley, President/Aquatic Biologist, Liley Fisheries and Aquatic Consulting, Windsor, CO; Category I. "National Human Health Association," Patsy Brannon, Professor/Nutritionist, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY; Category N. "Non-Land Grant College or University w/historic commitment to research in food and agricultural sciences," Charles Boyer, Dean, Jordan College of Agriculture and Technology, California State University-Fresno, Fresno, CA; Category O. "Hispanic-serving Institutions," Agnes Mojica, Chancellor, Inter American University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, PR; Category Q. "Transportation of Food and Agricultural Products to domestic and foreign markets," Leo Holt, President, Holt Logistics Corporation, Gloucester City, NJ; Category R. "Food Retailing and Marketing Interests," Nancy Childs, Professor of Food Marketing, Saint Joseph's University, Haub School of Business, Philadelphia, PA; Category S. "Food and Fiber Processors," Julia Sabin, Vice President, J.M. Smucker, Akron, OH; and Category X. "Private Sector Organization involved in International Development," Steven Hamburg, Chief Scientist, Environmental Defense Fund, New York, NY.

Done at Washington, DC, this 25th day of February 2013.

Catherine Woteki,

Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics.

[FR Doc. 2013-04884 Filed 3-1-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Trestle Forest Health Project, Eldorado National Forest, El Dorado County, CA

AGENCY: USDA Forest Service.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The USDA Forest Service, Eldorado National Forest will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a proposal to modify vegetation on approximately 7,000 acres of National Forest System land. The purpose of the project is to modify the forest vegetation in order to put it on a trajectory toward the desired conditions for: (1) Reduced tree density; (2) sustained old forest conditions; (3) enhanced wildlife habitat; (4) reduced wildfire risk; (5) improved long-term scenic sustainability; (6) increased recreational opportunities; (7) enhanced riparian conservation areas; and, (8) maximized revenue derived from commercial products to perform essential and costly biomass removal, and to support the retention of local industrial infrastructure. The project area is located south-east of the community of Grizzly Flat, including the area surrounding Leoni Meadows, west of Caldor, and north of Big Mountain. The project is located entirely in El Dorado County, California in T.8N., R.13 E., in all or portions of Sections 1 and 2; T.8N., R.14 E., in all or portions of Sections 4-6; T.9N., R.13E., in portions of Section 1-3, 11-16, 19-30, 33-36; T.9N., R.14E., in all or portions of Sections 5-10, 14-22, 28-33; and T.10 N, R.13E., in all or portions of Sections 35 and 36; M.D.B & M.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis should be received by April 8, 2013.

The draft environmental impact statement is expected November 2013 and the final environmental impact statement is expected May 2014.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Placerville Ranger District, 4260 Eight Mile Road, Camino, CA 95709. Attention: Trestle Forest Health Project. Comments may also be sent via email to comments-pacificsouthwest-eldorado-placerville@fs.fed.us, or via facsimile to (530) 647-5311.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tim Howard, Project Leader, Placerville Ranger District, 4260 Eight Mile Road, Camino, California 95709, or telephone at (530) 647-5382. 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:

Purpose and Need for Action

The purpose and need is to: (1) Improve the forest health across the project area; (2) reduce the fuel loading to reduce the threat of large high intensity wildfire and threats to Grizzly Flat, Leoni Meadows, and other landowners; (3) maintain and enhance the existing hardwood and late seral conifer component; (4) maintain and enhance scenic integrity and recreation opportunities; (5) treat hazardous fuels in a cost-effective manner to optimize treatment acres under a limited budget while fulfilling the role the Forest Service has in providing a wood supply for local manufacturers; (6) provide a maintainable level of forest access while closing unneeded roads and motorized trails to enhance wildlife habitat and reduce wildlife harassment; (7) enhance and maintain strategically placed area fuels treatments designed to slow the spread of wildfire; (8) enhance watershed conditions; (9) remove impediments to deer/wildlife movement; and, (10) improve winter range for the Grizzly Flat deer herd through reducing disturbance, improving forage to enhance winter survival, particularly that of pregnant does and fawns, providing thermal and security cover and utilizing updated deer management plan guidance.

Proposed Action

Conduct prescribed understory burning on approximately 15,287 acres. Activities would include construction of firelines by hand or tractor, and hand cutting ladder fuels around large old growth conifers, and oak trees.

Hand cut understory vegetation, pile and burn the piles on approximately 1,196 acres within 300 feet of private property boundaries in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) defense zones and within the threat and defense zones of the Steely Fork Cosumnes River drainage south of the community of Grizzly Flat. Hand treatments would still occur if mechanical treatment units are dropped from implementation.

Conduct danger tree removal adjacent to system roads and motorized trails open to the public, including landings, dispersed camping areas, and within treatment units, for public, woods workers, and Forest Service employee safety. Dead and unstable live trees that do not present a hazard would be retained.

Remove competing conifers from the understory and within 30 feet of the