

draft EIS in the **Federal Register** at that time. The comment period on the draft EIS will extend for 45 days from the date the EPA notice appears in the **Federal Register**. At that time, copies of the draft EIS will be mailed to potentially interested and affected agencies, organizations, and individuals for their review and comment and to those who provided comment during the scoping period. It is very important that those interested in the Cottonwood Fire Vegetation Management Project participate by providing comment at that time.

The final EIS would be completed in April 2003. In the final EIS, the Forest Service is required to respond to substantive comments received during the comment period that pertain to the environmental consequences discussed in the draft EIS, as well as applicable laws, regulations, and policies considered in making the decision regarding this proposal.

The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, it is important to give reviewers notice of several court ruling related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of Draft Environmental Impact Statement 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 FEIS, 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 two-week 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 FEIS.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the DEIS 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 DEIS 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 of 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.

Dated: October 30, 2002.

**Steven T. Eubanks,**

*Forest Supervisor, Tahoe National Forest.*

[FR Doc. 02-28051 Filed 11-4-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-11-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Madera County Resource Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of Resource Advisory Committee meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the authorities in the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (Public law 92-463) and under the secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-393) the Sierra National Forest's Resource Advisor Committee for Madera County will meet on Monday, November 18, 2002. The Madera Resource Advisory Committee will meet at the Yosemite Sierra Visitor Bureau, 40637 Highway 41, Oakhurst, CA. The purpose of the meeting is an update about the RAC presentation at the Madera County Board of Supervisor's meeting September 17, 2002, update RAC committee outreach, discuss a subject for a news article and develop a planning schedule for projects and project reviews.

**DATES:** The Madera Resource Advisory Committee meeting will be held Monday, November 18, 2002. The meeting will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The Madera County RAC meeting will be held at the Yosemite Sierra Visitor Bureau, 40637 Highway 41, Oakhurst, CA.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Dave Martin, U.S.D.A., Sierra National Forest, 57003 Road 225, North Fork, CA, 93643 (559) 877-2217 ext. 3100; e-mail: [dmartin05@fs.fed.us](mailto:dmartin05@fs.fed.us).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Review Clover Meadow road project, (2) update on RAC committee outreach, and, (3) follow up on newspaper article, (4) have evaluation of past projects. 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: October 31, 2002.

**David W. Martin,**

*District Ranger.*

[FR Doc. 02-28053 Filed 11-4-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-11-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Notice of Resource Advisory Committee Meeting

**AGENCY:** Crook County Resource Advisory Committee, Sundance, Wyoming, USDA, Forest Service

**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 Black Hills National Forests' Crook County Resource Advisory Committee will meet Monday, November 18, 2002 in Sundance, Wyoming for a business meeting. The meeting is open to the public.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The business meeting on November 18, begins at 6:30 PM, at U.S. Forest Service, Bearlodge Ranger District office, 121 South 21st Street, Sundance, Wyoming. Agenda topics will include reviewing the response of the community to a call for project proposals, discussion of selection criteria and procedures and scheduling future meetings. A public forum will begin at 8:30 p.m. (MT).

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Steve Kozel, Bearlodge District Ranger and Designated Federal Officer, at (307) 283-1361.

Dated: October 29, 2002.

**Steve Kozel,**

*Bearlodge District Ranger.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Natural Resources Conservation Service

#### East Prong Little Pigeon River Watershed, Sevier County, TN

**AGENCY:** Natural Resources Conservation Service.

**ACTION:** Notice of a finding of no significant impact.