

### Scoping Process

The federal Forest Service is the lead agency for preparing this EIS. The EIS will be prepared through a third-party contractor. The Forest Service will consult with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service when making this decision. The scoping process will include, at a minimum, one public meeting, scoping mailings, and public notices in newspapers of record. The responsible official will make a decision on this proposal after considering comments, responses, environmental consequences, applicable laws, regulations, and policies. The decision and rationale for the decision will be documented in a Record of Decision (ROD).

### Permits or Licenses Required

A change to the Montana Snowbowl Ski and Summer Resort SUP would be required as part of the proposed action.

### Comment Requested

This notice of intent initiates the scoping process which guides the development of the environmental impact statement.

### 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 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 draft environmental impact statement

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: January 3, 2006.

**Gary Garthwait,**

*Acting Forest Supervisor.*

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**BILLING CODE 3410-11-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Del Norte County Resource Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Del Norte County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet on February 7, 2006 in Crescent City, California. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the selection of Title II projects under Public Law 106-393, H.R. 2389, the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, also called the "Payments to States" Act.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on February 7, 2006 from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Del Norte County Unified School District Board Room, 301 West Washington, Crescent City, California.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Laura Chapman, Committee Coordinator, USDA, Six Rivers National Forest, 1330 Bayshore Way, Eureka, CA

95501. Phone: (707) 441-3549. E-mail: [lchapman@fs.fed.us](mailto:lchapman@fs.fed.us).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The RAC will discuss the next steps for the Coast to Crest and Coast to Caves Trailway as well as the process for requesting proposals for fiscal year 2007 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: January 9, 2006.

**Jeff Walter,**

*Forest Supervisor.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

#### Notice of Request for New Information Collection

**AGENCY:** Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, USDA

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration's (GIPSA) intent to request approval for designated official agencies to complete FGIS Form 921-2, Inspection Report—Insects in Grain in order to facilitate the transfer of information to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for phytosanitary certification. Currently, FGIS field offices, delegated States, and designated agencies inspect and certify grain for insects. FGIS field offices and delegated States provide insect information for export grain vessels to APHIS on FGIS-921-2 for APHIS issuance of a phytosanitary certificate. This request will enable official agencies to provide similar insect information for export grain shipped in trucks, railcars, and containers loaded at interior locations to APHIS.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted by March 14, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** We invite you to submit comments on this notice. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- E-Mail: Send comments via electronic mail to [comments.gipsa@usda.gov](mailto:comments.gipsa@usda.gov).
- Mail: Send hardcopy written comments to Tess Butler, GIPSA, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 1647-S, Washington, DC 20250-3604.