

amend Forest Plan guidelines established for riparian areas.

The public was first notified of this proposal and the intention to prepare an environmental impact statement in February 2002. Initially, two areas were under consideration. In addition to the Deerfoot Ridge area, similar activities were proposed in the Two-Mile watershed (north of Silverton, Idaho). Based on additional information gathered, it was determined that these areas are sufficiently different to warrant separate analyses. The Deerfoot Ridge area was selected as the first priority; opportunities to restore ponderosa pine stands in the Two-Mile area will be evaluated under a separate assessment later in the year.

Comments provided by the public and other agencies will be used to develop strategies for management of natural resources in the project area. The public is encouraged to visit with Forest Service officials during the analysis and prior to the decision. The Forest Service is also seeking information, comments, and assistance from federal, state and local agencies and other individuals or organizations who may be interested in or affected by the proposed actions.

The draft environmental impact statement is expected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and available for public review in October 2002. At that time, the EPA will publish a Notice of Availability of the draft environmental impact statement in the **Federal Register**. The comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will be 45 days from the date the EPA publishes the Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**.

The Forest Service believes 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 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 scoping 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 regarding 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 environmental impact 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 in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments may not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR part 215. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requester of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within a specified number of days.

I am the responsible official for this environmental impact statement. My address is 3815 Schreiber Way, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815. Comments should be sent to the Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District, Attn: Ponderosa Pine Restoration Project, 2502 E. Sherman Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814.

Dated: May 21, 2002.

Ranotta McNair,
Forest Supervisor.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Southeast Galena Restoration, Malheur National Forest, Grant County, OR

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Cancellation notice.

SUMMARY: July 15, 1999, a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an environmental impact statement for the Southeast Galena Restoration on the Long Creek Ranger District of the Malheur National Forest, was published in the **Federal Register** (64 FR 38176). Since the project proposed action is being redesigned, the date of any further environmental analysis is unknown. The 1909 NOI is hereby rescinded.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jan Fauntleroy, Project Leader, PO Box 909, John Day, Oregon 97845, phone 541-3446.

Dated: May 20, 2002.

Bonnie J. Wood,
Forest Supervisor.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Central Idaho Resource Advisory Committee Salmon-Challis National Forest Butte, Custer, and Lemhi Counties, ID

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA Forest Service.

ACTION: Notice of meeting of the Resource Advisory Committee.

SUMMARY: The Central Idaho Resource Advisory Committee will meet at 2:00 p.m., June 6, 2002 at the Challis Ranger District Office, Highway 93 North, Challis, Idaho. The 15-member committee will evaluate proposed resource projects for recommendation to Salmon-Challis National Forest for the year 2002. The meeting is open to the public and time will be scheduled for public comments.

The Central Idaho Resource Advisory Committee was established by the Secretary of Agriculture under Title II of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 to work collaboratively with the Salmon-Challis National Forest to