

# 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

### Research, Education, and Economics; Research Program on Health and Nutrition Effects of Popular Weight-Loss Diets: Notice of Public Meeting

**AGENCY:** Department of Agriculture, REE.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Agriculture (USDA) (a) provides notice of a public meeting on the Research Program on Health and Nutrition Effects of Popular Weight-loss Diets (Program) (b) solicits written comments on the Program, and (c) solicits oral comments on the Program. The meeting will be held at the Jefferson Auditorium of the South Agriculture Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, near the Smithsonian Metro Station. No registration is required to attend the public meeting, but pre-registration is required to provide oral comments at the public meeting. There is no fee to attend or to provide oral comments at the public meeting.

**DATES:** (a) Written comments can be submitted in hard copy by mail or by fax and must be received by the Agency on or before January 15, 2001. (b) The public meeting to solicit oral comments will be held on January 11, 2001, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. E.S.T.

For further information contact: Shanthy A. Bowman, Ph.D., USDA, Agricultural Research Service, 10300 Baltimore Boulevard, Building 005, BARC-West, Beltsville, MD 20705-2350, (301) 504-0619.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### General Information

##### A. Agenda

The agenda includes, (1) Reporting of Phase I of the USDA research, (2)

Prototype of research protocols for Phase II, and (3) Oral testimony.

#### B. How and to Whom Do I Submit Written Comments?

You may submit written comments in hard copy by January 15, 2001, 5:00 p.m. E.S.T., to Shanthy A. Bowman, Ph.D., USDA, Agricultural Research Service, BHNRC/CNRG, 10300 Baltimore Boulevard, Building 005, Room 125, BARC-West, Beltsville, MD, 20705-2350, (301) 504-0619 (phone), 301-504-3225 (fax).

#### C. How Do I Register To Present Oral Testimony?

Registration is required to provide oral input at the public meeting on January 11, 2001. Requests to provide oral input at the meeting should be submitted by 5:00 p.m. E.S.T., January 9, 2001, to Shanthy A. Bowman, Ph.D., USDA, Agricultural Research Service, BHNRC/CNRG, 10300 Baltimore Boulevard, Building 005, Room 125, BARC-West, Beltsville, MD, 20705-2350, (301) 504-0619 (phone), 301-504-3225 (fax). Name of the presenter, organization affiliation (if applicable), source of funding (if applicable), and contact phone number are required for registration. There is no fee to attend the meeting and to provide oral testimony. One person per organization will be selected on first come basis. Presentations should be limited to three (3) minutes or less. Registration will also be accepted at the meeting, if time slots are available.

Dated: November 28, 2000.

**Eileen T. Kennedy,**

*Deputy Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics, Department of Agriculture.*

[FR Doc. 00-30896 Filed 12-8-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-03-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### North Elkhorns Project; Including Timber Harvest and Prescribed Fire. Helena National Forest, Jefferson County, Montana.

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice; intent to prepare environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** The USDA, Forest Service is gathering information and preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the North Elkhorns Vegetation Project located approximately 9 air miles southeast of Helena, Montana.

The Forest Service proposes to thin, using commercial timber harvest, approximately 745 acres in the E-4 Management Area of the Elkhorn Wildlife Management Unit.

The biggest and healthiest trees would remain on the site, and the many scattered aspen stands would be revitalized through a combination of treatments, including some fence construction. The thinning treatment would require construction of about 1 mile of temporary road and reconstruction of about 6.5 miles of existing road. Following thinning, the area would be treated with low intensity fire and the temporary and reconstructed road segments would be returned to contour and revegetated.

The proposal is designed to help restore the full range of wildlife habitats in the Elkhorn Wildlife Management Unit. The project will have other benefits including the reduction of wildfire risk in the urban interface.

The project also would authorize the construction of 1500 feet of non-motorized trail to connect two existing non-motorized trails and formally designate 3.5 miles of existing road which is currently closed to motorized use as part of the non-motorized trail system.

**COMMENTS:** Comments concerning the proposal should be submitted to the responsible official and received in writing on or before January 25, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** The responsible official is Thomas J. Clifford, Forest Supervisor, Helena National Forest, Supervisor's Office, 2880 Skyway Drive, Helena, MT, 59601. Phone: (406) 449-5201.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jodie Canfield, Wildlife Biologist and Interagency Elkhorn Coordinator, Townsend Ranger District, 415 South Front, Townsend, MT 59644. Phone: (406) 266-3425.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The project would occur on National Forest lands of the Helena Ranger District. The activities would take place within portions of Sections 1, 2 and 12 of T.8N., R.3W. and Sections 5, 6 and 7 of T.8N., R.3W., and a portion of Section