

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service****California Recreation Resource Advisory Committee**

AGENCY: Pacific Southwest Region, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Request for applications.

SUMMARY: Applications are being sought for certain positions on the California Recreation Resource Advisory Committee. New members will be appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture and serve three year terms. Appointments will begin July 2010 when current member appointments expire. One member is being sought to represent each of the following interests: (1) Winter Non-Motorized Recreation, (2) Summer Motorized Recreation, (3) Summer Non-Motorized Recreation, (4) Non-Motorized Outfitters and Guides, (5) Local Environmental Groups, (6) State Tourism, (7) Indian Tribes, and (8) Local Government.

The public is invited to submit applications for these positions. Current members who have only served one term may reapply. Application packages can be obtained at <http://www.fs.fed.us/passespermits/rrac-application.shtml> or by e-mailing R5rrac@fs.fed.us. Interested parties may also contact Frances Enkoji, US Forest Service, at 707-562-8846.

DATES: All applications must be received by December 11, 2009. This timeframe can be extended if officials do not receive applications for the needed positions.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties may submit applications by mail to Frances Enkoji, US Forest Service, 1323 Club Drive, Vallejo, CA 94592.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Anyone wanting further information regarding the California Recreation Resource Advisory Committee may contact Marlene Finley, Designated Federal Official, Pacific Southwest Region Recreation RAC, 1323 Club Drive, Vallejo, CA 94592; 707-562-8856.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (REA), signed December 2004, requires that the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management provide Recreation RACs with an opportunity to make recommendations to the two agencies on implementing or eliminating standard amenity fees; expanded amenity fees; and noncommercial special recreation

permit fees; expanding or limiting the recreation fee program; and fee level changes. Each Recreation RAC consists of 11 members appointed by the Secretary.

Nomination Information: Applicants must complete an AD-755 form (Advisory Committee or Search and Promotion Background Information) and provide a narrative that addresses the following:

(1) What group or perspective they represent and how they are qualified to represent that group;

(2) Why they want to serve on the committee and what they can contribute;

(3) Their past experience in working successfully as part of a collaborative group.

Letters of recommendation are welcome but not required. Applicants do not need to live in a state within a particular Recreation RAC's area of jurisdiction nor live in a state in which Forest Service managed lands are located. Application packages, including evaluation criteria and AD-755 are available at <http://www.fs.fed.us/passespermits/rracapplication.shtml> or by contacting the Pacific Southwest Region as identified in this notice. Completed application packages must be received by December 11, 2009. Additional information about the California Recreation RAC can be found at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/passes/rrac> or about recreation fees at <http://www.fs.fed.us/passespermits/about-rec-fees.shtml>. The Forest Service will also work the Governor and local officials to identify potential applicants. The Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management will review applications and prepare a list of qualified applicants from which the Secretary shall appoint both members and alternates. The alternate will become a participating member of the Recreation RAC only if the member for whom the alternate is appointed to replace leaves the committee permanently. Recreation RAC members serve without pay but are reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses for regularly scheduled meetings. All Recreation RAC meetings are open the public and an open public forum is part of each meeting. Meeting dates and time will be determined by agency officials in consultation with the Recreation RAC members.

Dated: October 21, 2009.

Marlene Finley,

Designated Federal Official, Recreation RAC, Pacific Southwest Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Rural Utilities Service****Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc.: Notice of Intent To Hold Public Scoping Meetings and Prepare an Environmental Assessment**

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to hold public scoping meetings and prepare an Environmental Assessment.

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) intends to hold public scoping meetings and prepare an Environmental Assessment with Scoping (EA) to meet its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 7 CFR part 1794 in connection with potential impacts related to a proposed project by Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc. (Minnkota). The proposed Center to Grand Forks Transmission Line Project (proposed action) consists of: the construction of approximately 260 miles of 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from Center to Grand Forks, North Dakota; upgrades at the Center 345 kV substation; upgrades at the Square Butte 230 kV Substation; an additional 230 kV tie line; and upgrades at the Prairie Substation and fiber optic regeneration stations. Minnkota is requesting that RUS provide financial assistance for the proposed action.

DATES: RUS will conduct public scoping meetings in an open house format to provide information and solicit comments for the preparation of the EA. Scoping meetings will be held on the following dates: Grand Forks, ND, Alerus Center, Eagle Room 10, 1200 S. 42nd St., Monday, November 16, 2009, 5-8 p.m.; Cooperstown, ND, Cooperstown City Hall, 611 9th St., Tuesday, November 17, 2009, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; Carrington, ND, Chieftain Conference Center, Tee Pee Room 60, 4th Avenue S., Tuesday, November 17, 2009, 5:00-8:00 pm; McClusky, ND, McClusky Community Hall, 117 Avenue B North, Wednesday, November 18, 2009, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; Wilton, ND, City of Wilton Memorial Hall, 105 Dakota Avenue, Wednesday, November 18, 2009, 5-8 p.m.; and Center, ND, Center Civic Center Building, 312 N Lincoln Ave., Thursday, November 19, 2009, 5-8 p.m.

ADDRESSES: To send comments or request additional information, contact: Mr. Dennis Rankin, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA, Rural Utilities Service, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone: (202) 720-1953 or e-mail: