

Line Analysis Area. Endemic spruce beetle populations usually live in windthrown trees but as populations increase they may enter susceptible, large diameter trees. Spruce stands are highly susceptible to spruce beetle when they are on highly productive sites, have an average diameter at breast height greater than 16 inches, have a basal area greater than 150 square feet per acre, and are stands that are predominantly spruce.

The Count Line area contains these types of stands which are most susceptible to spruce beetle infestation. Significant spruce beetle activity was first observed in the County Line Analysis Area during the winter of 2003. Monitoring since then has shown spruce beetle infestations spreading through many of the stands in the analysis area at levels, which are resulting in significant spruce mortality. While spruce beetle epidemics cannot be stopped, stand management can reduce the adverse effects of beetle infestations and the resulting tree mortality.

The responsible Official is the forest Supervisor, Rio Grande National Forest, 1803 West Highway 160, Monte Vista, CO 81132. The NEPA decision to be made by the USFS official is whether to perform sanitation/salvage treatments to heavily impacted stands, whether to perform preventive thinning to susceptible stands, and whether to close 2.1 miles of open system road and convert it to a non-motorized trail.

No Action: The No Action Alternative is the current USFS management situation. Under this alternative, USFS would not treat stands currently infested with spruce beetle, would not perform preventative thinning in susceptible stands, and would not close 2.1 miles of open system road and convert it to a non-motorized trail.

Proposed Action: This alternative emphasizes forest health restoration activities by managing spruce stands to create conditions less favorable to the spread of spruce beetle, reducing the spruce beetle population in the analysis area. This alternative proposes to thin 715 acres of spruce-fir and to conduct sanitation/salvage harvest on 841 acres. Trap trees would be utilized in the preventative thinning areas. Following timber harvest activities 693 acres would be planted to spruce. This alternative requires 5.1 miles of pre-haul maintenance, 1.8 miles of dust abatement, 15.6 miles of road reconstruction, 0.3 miles of road re-alignment, and 2.1 miles of road closure and conversion to a non-motorized trail. From 24 to 29 MMBF of spruce

sawtimber would be harvested under this alternative.

Alternative C: This alternative addresses forest health restoration activities by reducing the spruce beetle population in the analysis area. This alternative proposes to conduct sanitation/salvage harvest on 841 acres. Following timber harvest activities 693 acres would be planted to spruce. This alternative requires 5.1 miles of pre-haul maintenance, 1.8 miles of dust abatement, 10.7 miles of road reconstruction and 0.3 miles of road re-alignment. From 22 to 25 MMBF of spruce sawtimber would be harvested under this alternative.

Comments Requested

This Notice of Availability initiates the public comment process that guides the development of the Final EIS. The USFS invites written comments and suggestions on the proposed action and alternatives, including any issues to consider, as well as any concerns relevant to the analysis. In order to be most useful, comments should be received by February 07, 2005. Comments received in response to this notice, 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. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law, but 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 USFS 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. All submissions from organizations and business, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Part 215. Upon completion of the Final EIS the document will be provided to the public

for review and comment. Comments and USFS responses will be addressed and contained in the Final EIS.

Dated: December 23, 2004.

Cindy Rivera,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 04-28691 Filed 12-30-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Tuolumne County Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Tuolumne County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet on January 24, 2005 at the City of Sonora Fire Department, in Sonora, California. The purpose of the meeting is to review the Five-Year Vegetation management Plan, considerations for the leveraging of funds, and environmental requirements for non-Forest Service projects.

DATES: The meeting will be held January 24, 2005, from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the City of Sonora Fire Department located at 201 South Shepherd Street, in Sonora, California (CA 95370)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pat Kaunert, Committee Coordinator, USDA, Stanislaus National Forest, 19777 Greenley Road, Sonora, CA 95370 (209) 532-3671; E-mail pkauner@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Five-Year Vegetation Management Plan overview; (2) leveraging of funds for projects; (3) field trip needs/desires as related to showcasing projects; (4) concept paper regarding fuels reduction projects; (5) CEQA/NEPA environmental requirements for non-forest Service projects; and (6) public comment on meeting proceedings. This meeting is open to the public.

Dated: December 22, 2004.

Jerome E. Perez,

Deputy Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 04-28657 Filed 12-30-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-ED-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Notice of Lincoln County Resource Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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 Kootenai National Forest's Lincoln County Resource Advisory Committee will meet on Wednesday January 12, 2005 at 6 p.m. at the Supervisor's Office in Libby, Montana for a business meeting. The meeting is open to the public.

DATES: January 12, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Kootenai National Forest, Supervisor's Office, 1101 U.S. Hwy 2 West, Libby, Montana.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barbara Edgmon, Committee Coordinator, Kootenai National Forest at (406) 293-6211, or e-mail bedgmon@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Agenda topics include status of approved projects, plan for receiving and approving proposals for FY2006, and receiving public comment. If the meeting date or location is changed, notice will be posted in the local newspapers, including the Daily Interlake based in Kalispell, Montana.

Dated: December 22, 2004.

Cami Winslow,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 04-28658 Filed 12-30-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Southwest Oregon Provincial Advisory Committee; Notice of Meeting

SUMMARY: The Southwest Oregon Provincial Advisory Committee will meet on Tuesday, January 11th, 2005 to discuss topics including the Josephine County Fire Plan, Northern Spotted Owl Five Year Review, and fire plan working group report. The meeting will be held at the Josephine County Fairgrounds Art Building, 1451 Fairgrounds Road, Grants Pass, Oregon. It begins at 9 a.m., ends at 5 p.m.; the open public forum begins at 11:30 a.m. Written comments may be submitted prior to the meeting and delivered to Designated Federal Official, Scott Conroy at the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, PO Box 520, Medford, OR 97501.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest Public affairs Officer Patty Burel at (541) 858-2211, e-mail: pburel@fs.fed.us, or

USDA Forest Service, PO Box 520, 333 West 8th Street, Medford, OR, 97501.

Dated: December 23, 2004.

Nancy Rose,

Acting Forest Supervisor, Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest.

[FR Doc. 04-28656 Filed 12-30-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Southwest Washington Province Advisory Committee Meeting Notice

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Southwest Washington Province Advisory Committee will meet on Thursday, January 27, 2005, at the Gifford Pinchot National Forest Headquarters, 10600 NE 51st Circle, Vancouver, WA 98682. The meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. and continue until 3:30 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to share information on the following programs: The status and plans for Forest bridges; effects to the Forest of recent and planned Federal Energy Regulatory Commission dam re-licensing actions; Forest monitoring activities; the proposed expansion of the White Pass Ski Area, and to share information among members.

All Southwest Washington Province Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend. The "open forum" provides an opportunity for the public to bring issues, concerns, and discussion topics to the Advisory Committee. The "open forum" is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Interested speakers will need to register prior to the open forum period. The committee welcomes the public's written comments on Committee business at any time.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tom Knappenbeger, Public Affairs Officer, at (360) 891-5005, or write Forest Headquarters Office, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, 10600 NE 51st Circle, Vancouver, WA 98682.

Dated: December 27, 2004.

Lynn Burditt,

Deputy Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 04-28710 Filed 12-30-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

ARCHITECTURAL AND TRANSPORTATION BARRIERS COMPLIANCE BOARD

Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board.

SUMMARY: The Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (Access Board) has scheduled its ad hoc committee and board meetings to take place in Washington, DC on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 11-12, 2005 as noted below.

DATES: The schedule of events is as follows:

Tuesday, January 11, 2005

1:30-5 p.m. Ad Hoc Committee on Public Rights-of-Way (Closed)

Wednesday, January 12, 2005

10-11 a.m. Technical Programs

11-Noon Planning and Budget

1:30-3 p.m. Board Meeting

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Marriott at Metro Center Hotel, 775 12th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information regarding this meeting, please contact Lawrence W. Roffee, Executive Director, (202) 272-0001 (voice) and (202) 272-0082 (TTY).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: At the open portions of the Board meeting, the Access Board will consider the following agenda items: (a) Approval of the November 10, 2004 draft meeting minutes; (b) Technical Programs committee report; (c) Planning and Budget committee report; (d) new agency Web site; and, (e) appointment of the 2005 Nominating Committee Members. The Board meeting will be closed to the public for the Public Rights-of-Way rulemaking item.

This meeting is accessible to persons with disabilities. If you plan to attend and require a sign language interpreter or similar accommodation, please make your request with the Board by January 5, 2004. Persons attending Board meetings are requested to refrain from using perfume, cologne, and other fragrances for the comfort of other participants.

Lawrence W. Roffee,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 04-28706 Filed 12-30-04; 8:45 am]

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