

and/or wetlands will be required for any road work in stream channels or riparian areas. A determination of effects on Canada lynx will be required from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Forest Service will request the U.S. Army Corps and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to cooperate in the environmental analysis, and may request cooperation from other State or Federal agencies.

The Deciding Official will be Tom Tidwell, Forest Supervisor, Wasatch-Cache National Forest, 8236 Federal Building, 125 South State Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84138.

A draft environmental impact statement is expected to be published in 2002, with public comment on the draft material requested for a period of 45 days, and completion of a final environmental impact statement later in 2002.

The 45 day public comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will commence on the day the Environmental Protection Agency publishes a "Notice of Availability" in the **Federal Register**.

The Forest Service believes it is important to give reviewers notice at this early stage 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 proposed 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 45-day 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.) Please note that comments you make on the draft environmental impact statement will be regarded as public information.

Dated: March 14, 2002.

Tom Tidwell,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 02-6677 Filed 3-19-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 34210-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area (SRA) Advisory Council; Meeting

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: An Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area Advisory Council meeting will convene in Stayton, Oregon on Monday, April 1, 2002. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m., and will conclude at approximately 8:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the South Room of the Stayton Community Center located on 400 West Virginia Street in Stayton, Oregon.

The Opal Creek Wilderness and Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area Act of 1996 (Opal Creek Act) (Pub. L. 104-208) directed the Secretary of Agriculture to establish the Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area Advisory Council. The Advisory Council is comprised of thirteen members representing state, county and city governments, and representatives of various organizations, which include mining industry, environmental organizations, inholders in Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area, economic development, Indian tribes, adjacent landowners and recreation interests. The council provides advice to the Secretary of Agriculture on preparation of a comprehensive Opal Creek Management Plan for the SRA, and consults on a periodic and regular basis on the management of the area. Tentative agenda items include the following topics:

Discussion of the decision for the Opal Creek SRA Environmental Analysis; Transition of the Council membership in accordance with provisions of the Council Charter; Creating a to-do list of future topics the Council will deal with;

A direct public comment period is tentatively scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. Time allotted for individual presentations will be limited to 3 minutes. Written comments are encouraged, particularly if the material cannot be presented within the time limits of the comment period. Written comments may be submitted prior to the April 1 meeting by sending them to Designated Federal Official Stephanie Phillips at the address given below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For more information regarding this meeting, contact Designated Federal Official Stephanie Phillips; Willamette National Forest, Detroit Ranger District, HC 73 Box 320, Mill City, OR 97360; (503) 854-3366.

Dated: March 14, 2002.

Y. Robert Iwamoto,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 02-6673 Filed 3-19-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Oregon Coast Provincial Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Oregon Coast provincial Advisory Committee (PAC) will meet on April 11, 2002. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m., in the Cape Perpetua Visitor's Center, 2400 Highway 101, Yachats, Oregon. Agenda items, with a theme of "aquatic issues," will include: FS/BLM process to establish priority watersheds; locations of priority watersheds; restoration results on the BLM Nestucca and FS Knowles Creek projects; pre-commercial thinning obstacles; barriers to upland restoration; local jobs created through thinning; and round robin information sharing. A fifteen-minute public comment period is scheduled at approximately 1:45 p.m. The committee welcomes the public's written comments on committee business at any time. The meeting should end around 3 p.m. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend. Lunch will be provided.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joni Quarnstrom, Public Affairs Specialist, Siuslaw National Forest, 541/750-7075 or write to Forest Supervisor, Siuslaw National Forest, P.O. Box 1148, Corvallis, OR 97339.