

may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the average reporting burden per response.)

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Done in Washington, DC, this 27th day of October 2000.

Bobby R. Acord,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 00-28006 Filed 10-31-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-U

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

National Drought Council

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of interim meeting.

SUMMARY: The National Drought Policy Commission recommended that a National Drought Council (Council) be established to coordinate activities between and among Federal Agencies, States, local governments, tribes and others. The Council was established through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The first meeting of the Council will be held November 9, 2000. All meetings are open to the public; however, seating is limited and available on a first-come basis.

DATES: The Council will meet on November 9, 2000, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in Room 221-A, Jamie L. Whitten Building, 12th and Jefferson Drive, SW, Washington, D.C. and from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. in Room 4960-S of the United States Department of Agriculture South Building at 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. All times noted are Eastern Standard Time. The first part of the meeting will be devoted to the organization of the Council. The remainder of the meeting will be dedicated to establishing a work plan and other Council business.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leona Dittus, Executive Director, Interim National Drought Council, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 6701-S, Stop 0501, Washington, D.C., 20250-0501 or telephone (202) 720-3168; FAX (202) 720-9688; internet leona.dittus@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the MOU is to establish a more comprehensive, integrated, coordinated approach toward reducing

the impacts of drought through better preparedness, monitoring and prediction, risk management, and response to drought emergencies in the United States. The Council will encourage cooperation and coordination between and among Federal, State, local, and tribal governments and others, relative to preparation for and response to serious drought emergencies. The Council is not a source of consensus advice and therefore is not subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Activities of the Council include providing coordination to: (a) resolve drought related issues, (b) exchange information about lessons learned, and (c) improve public awareness of the need for drought planning and mitigation measures. The Council will be co-chaired by the Secretary of Agriculture or his designee, and a non-Federal co-chair shall be selected from among the members who are not Federal officers or employees. Administrative staff support essential to the execution of the Council's responsibilities shall be provided by USDA. The Council will continue in effect for 5 years or until Congress establishes a permanent National Drought Council.

If special accommodations are required, please contact Leona Dittus, at the address specified above, by COB November 7, 2000.

Signed at Washington, DC on October 26, 2000.

George Arredondo,

Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. 00-27988 Filed 10-31-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Hoosier National Forest; Brown, Crawford, Dubois, Jackson, Lawrence, Martin, Monroe, Orange, and Perry Counties, Indiana

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare environmental impact statement (EIS).

SUMMARY: The USDA Forest Service intends to prepare an environmental impact statement for revising the Hoosier National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 1604(f)(5) and USDA Forest Service National Forest System Land and Resource Management Planning regulations. The revised Forest Plan will supersede the

current Forest Plan, which the regional forester approved September 17, 1985, and has been amended 4 times. This notice describes the focus areas of change, the estimated dates for filing the EIS, the information concerning public participation, and the names and addresses of the responsible agency official and the individual who can provide additional information.

DATES: We need to receive your comments on this Notice of Intent in writing by January 31, 2001. The Draft EIS should be available for public review by December 2003. The Final EIS and revised Forest Plan should be completed by December 2004.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to: NOI-FP Revision, Hoosier National Forest, 811 Constitution Avenue, Bedford, IN 47421, or direct electronic mail to: "r9 hoosier website"@fs.fed.us. ATTN: Forest Plan Revision

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Regis Terney, Forest Planner, at 812-275-5987. TDD 812-275-7817; or direct electronic mail to: "r9 hoosier website"@fs.fed.us, or access the forest web page at www.fs.fed.us/r9/hoosier

Responsible Official: Robert T. Jacobs, Regional Forester, Eastern Region, 310 W. Wisconsin Ave, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Regional Forester for the Eastern Region gives notice of the agency's intent to prepare an EIS to revise the Hoosier National Forest Plan. The Regional Forester approved the original Hoosier National Forest Plan in September 1985. In April 1991, the Regional Forester approved a significant amendment that substantially replaced the 1985 Forest Plan. This plan guides the overall management of the Hoosier National Forest. We make six primary decisions in the Forest Plan:

1. Forest-wide multiple-use goals and objectives
2. Forest-wide management requirements
3. Management area direction
4. Lands suited and not suited for resource use and production (timber management *etc.*)
5. Monitoring and evaluation requirements
6. Recommendations to Congress (such as wilderness), if any

By the requirements of the National Forest Management Act, national forests must revise the Forest Plan at least every 15 years (U.S.C. 1604[f][5]). At this time, there are two reasons to revise the 1991 Forest Plan: (1) It is nearly 15 years since the Regional Forester approved the original plan, and (2)