

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service****Environmental Statements; Notice of Intent: Salmon-Challis National Forest, ID**

AGENCY: USDA-Forest Service, Intermountain Region, Salmon-Challis National Forest.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to extend the comment period on the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the programmatic wilderness plan.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service will extend the comment period for the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Frank Church—River Of No Return Wilderness management plan for one month. The comment period was set to expire on February 1, 2000. The comment period will be extended to March 1, 2000. The Notice of Intent to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Frank-Church River Of No Return Wilderness was published in the **Federal Register** December 7, 1994. The Forest Service prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Frank-Church River Of No Return Wilderness and released it for public comment in January 1998. Following a lengthy public comment period the Forest Service prepared a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The supplement was released in September 1999 with a comment period to end February 1, 2000. Because of requests from various interested parties and individuals the Forest Service will extend the comment period until March 1, 2000. Written comments will be used in developing the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Frank Church—River Of No Return Wilderness management plan.

Written comments concerning this extension or the supplemental analysis described in this Notice should be received by March 1, 2000 to ensure timely consideration. Additional public meetings are not planned at this time.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 1, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions concerning the supplement and the Frank Church-River Of No Return Wilderness management plan should be directed to Ken Wotring, Wilderness Coordinator, Salmon-Challis National Forest, RR 2, Box 600, Salmon, Idaho 83467, telephone 208-756-5100.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Forest Service is seeking information and comments from the Federal, State, and local agencies, as well as individuals

and organizations who may be interested in, or affected by, the proposed action. The Forest Service invites written comments and suggestions on the issues related to the analysis and the area being analyzed. Information received will be used in preparation of the Final EIS. For the most effective use, comments should be submitted to the USDA-Forest Service by March 1, 2000. The Responsible Official is George Matejko, Forest Supervisor, Salmon-Challis National Forest. 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 preparing their responses. Comments received in response to this solicitation, 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. 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 215 or 217. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service 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 submitted with or without name and address within 10 days.

George Matejko,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 00-2317 Filed 2-2-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Natural Resources Conservation Service****Notice of Proposed Changes to Section IV of the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) of the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Indiana**

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), DOA.

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed changes in Section IV of the FOTG of the NRCS in Indiana for review and comment.

SUMMARY: It is the intention of NRCS in Indiana to issue a new conservation practice standard in Section IV of the FOTG. The new standard is Land Reconstruction of Brine Damaged Areas (Code 773). This practice may be used in conservation systems that treat highly erodible land.

DATES: Comments will be received on or before March 9, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Address all requests and comments to J. Chris Tippie, Acting State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), 6013 Lakeside Blvd., Indianapolis, Indiana 46278. Copies of this standard will be made available upon written request. You may submit electronic requests and comments to joe.gasper@in.usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: J. Chris Tippie, 317-290-3200.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 343 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 states that revisions made after enactment of the law, to NRCS state technical guides used to carry out highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the law, shall be made available for public review and comment. For the next 30 days, the NRCS in Indiana will receive comments relative to the proposed changes. Following that period, a determination will be made by the NRCS in Indiana regarding disposition of those comments and a final determination of changes will be made.

Dated: January 18, 2000.

J. Chris Tippie,

Acting State Conservationist, Indianapolis, Indiana.

[FR Doc. 00-2344 Filed 2-2-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Rural Telephone Bank, USDA****Staff Briefing for the Board of Directors**

TIME AND DATE: 2:00 p.m., Thursday, February 10, 2000.

PLACE: Room 5030, South Building, Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC.

STATUS: Open.

MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED:

1. Current telecommunications industry issues.