

Total Burden Hours: 457.

Ruth Brown,

*Departmental Information Collection
Clearance Officer.*

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BILLING CODE 3710-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

The Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), approved a petition for trade adjustment assistance (TAA) that was filed on January 21, 2005, by the Olive Growers Council, Visalia, California. The certification date is March 14, 2005. Beginning on this date, California black olive producers who produce and market their olives will be eligible to apply for fiscal year 2005 benefits during an application period ending June 13, 2005.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Upon investigation, the Administrator determined that increased imports of processed olives contributed importantly to a decline in producer prices of black olives in California by 27.8 percent during January 2003 through December 2003, when compared with the previous 5-year average.

Eligible producers must apply to the Farm Service Agency for benefits. After submitting completed applications, producers shall receive technical assistance provided by the Extension Service at no cost and may receive an adjustment assistance payment, if certain program criteria are satisfied. Applicants must obtain the technical assistance from the Extension Service by September 12, 2005, in order to be eligible for financial payments.

Producers of raw agricultural commodities wishing to learn more about TAA and how they may apply should contact the Department of Agriculture at the addresses provided below for General Information.

Producers Certified as Eligible for TAA, Contact: Farm Service Agency service centers in California.

For General Information About TAA, Contact: Jean-Louis Pajot, Coordinator, Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers, FAS, USDA, (202) 720-2916, e-mail: trade.adjustment@fas.usda.gov.

Dated: February 16, 2005.

A. Ellen Terpstra,

Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.
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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Lassen National Forest, Almanor Ranger District, California, Creeks Forest Health Recovery Project

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service proposes to develop a network of defensible fuel profile zones (DFPZ's), establish group selection harvest units, and conduct area thinnings on the Almanor Ranger District in the Lassen National Forest. The DFPZ's, group selection harvest units, and area thinnings total an estimated 5,905, 1,245, and 3,285 acres respectively, and are spread over a 33,000 acre project area. Included in this proposal are the use of National Forest system roads, the use of temporary roads, and the decommissioning of some system and temporary roads. The project would be implemented through a combination of commercial timber sales, service contracts, and force account crews. These management activities were developed to implement and be consistent with the Lassen National Forest (LNF) Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP, 1993), as amended by the Herger-Feinstein Quincy Library Group Forest Recovery Act FEIS, FSEIS, and ROD's (1999, 2003), and the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment FEIS, FSEIS, and ROD's (2001, 2004).

Decision to Be Made: The decision to be made is whether to implement the proposed action as described above, to meet the purpose and need for action through some other combination of activities, or to take no action at this time.

Scoping Process: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis should be received in writing within 15 days of the date of publication of this Notice of Intent in the **Federal Register**.

The project was initially listed in the Forest's February 2004 quarterly edition of the Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA). Scoping letters were sent in June 2004 to those who responded to the SOPA and other identified interest and affected individuals and government agencies. In the SOPA, the mode of environmental documentation

was predicted as an environmental assessment.

At this time, the environmental analysis will be documented in an environmental impact statement. Since only minor changes are being made to the proposed action that was previously scoped, the scoping period at this time is brief. Those who responded during the June 2004 scoping period will be contacted again. In addition, scoping letters previously received by the Forest Service from the first scoping period will continue to be used for this process. A public scoping meeting is not anticipated at this time.

The scoping process will be used to identify issues regarding the proposed action. An issue is defined as point of dispute, debate, or disagreement related to a specific proposed action based on its anticipated effects. Significant issues brought to our attention are used during an environmental analysis to develop alternatives to the proposed action. Some issues raised in scoping may be considered non-significant because they are: (1) Beyond the scope of the proposed action and its purpose and need; (2) already decided by law, regulation, or the Land and Resource Management Plan; (3) irrelevant to the decision to be made; or (4) conjectural and not supported by scientific or factual evidence.

Alternatives: Alternatives proposed to date are the Proposed Action as described above and the No Action.

Identification of Permits or Licenses Required: No permits or licenses have been identified to implement the proposed action.

Lead, Joint Lead, and Cooperating Agencies: The USDA Forest Service is the lead agency for this proposal; there are no cooperating agencies.

Estimated Dates for Filing: The expected filing date with the Environmental Protection Agency for the draft EIS April 18, 2005. The expected filing date for the final EIS is June 27, 2005.

Person to Which Comments May be Mailed: Comments may be submitted to: Alfred Vazquez District Ranger, Almanor Ranger District, at P.O. Box 767, Chester, CA, 96020 or (530) 258-5194 (fax) during normal business hours. The Almanor Ranger District business hours are from 8 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday. Electronic comments, in acceptable plain text (.txt), rich text (.rtf), or Word (.doc) formats, may be submitted to: comments-pacificsouthwest-lassen-almanor@fs.fed.us using Subject: Creeks Forest Health Recovery Project.

Reviewer's Obligation to Comment: The comment period on the draft EIS