

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service****Iron Honey Resource Area, Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District, Idaho Panhandle National Forests, Kootenai and Shoshone Counties, ID**

AGENCY: Forest Services, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: The USDA Forest Service will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to disclose the potential environmental effects of implementing aquatic, vegetative, and wildlife habitat improvement activities in the Iron Honey Resource Area on the Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District, Idaho Panhandle National Forests.

DATES: Written comments and suggestions should be received on or before April 20, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments and suggestions on the proposal, or requests to be placed on the project mailing list, to Glenn Truscott, Project Team Leader, Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District, 2502 E. Sherman Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Glenn Truscott, Project Team Leader, Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District, (208) 769-3000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The objectives of the proposal are to improve water quality, fish habitat, and riparian habitat by reducing sediment and increasing large woody debris in streams; to trend vegetative species composition toward historical levels, which included species more resistant to insects and disease; and to improve old-growth habitat.

The Forest Service will consider a range of alternatives. One of these will be the "no action" alternative, under which there would be no change from current management of the area. Additional alternatives will represent a range of strategies to manage natural resources in the Iron Honey Resource Area. The Idaho Panhandle National Forests Land and Resource Management Plan provides guidance for management objectives within the potentially affected area through its goals, objectives, standards and guidelines, and management area direction. Approximately 88% of National Forest System lands in the area have been allocated to Management Area 1, to provide for long-term growth and production of commercially valuable wood products on those lands that are suitable for timber production. Approximately 6% of the area is

allocated to Management Area 6, to provide high quality elk summer habitat and wood products, through road management and scheduling of harvest activities. Approximately 4% is allocated to Management Area 9 to maintain and protect existing improvements and resource productive potential. Another 4% is allocated to Management Area 19, to manage for a semi-primitive recreation setting while providing low levels of timber harvest with minimum standard roads. Management Area 16 addresses streamside (riparian) areas, with primary goals of managing those areas to feature riparian-dependent resources (fish, water quality, certain vegetation and wildlife communities) while producing other resource outputs at levels compatible with the objectives for dependent resources. Inland Native Fish Strategy guidelines (USDA Forest Service, 1995) supersede Forest Plan guidelines established for riparian areas.

The public was first notified of this proposal and the intention to prepare an environmental assessment in October, 1996. Comments provided by the public and other agencies have been used to develop strategies for management of natural resources in the Iron Honey Resource Area. Based on information gathered during the environmental assessment process, it has been determined that an environmental impact statement will be prepared instead. Comments provided to date by the public will be used in preparation of the environmental impact statement. The public is encouraged to visit with Forest Service officials during the analysis and prior to the decision. The Forest Service is also seeking information, comments, and assistance from federal, state and local agencies and other individuals or organizations who may be interested in or affected by the proposed actions.

The draft environmental impact statement is expected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and available for public review in May 1998. At that time, the EPA will publish a Notice of Availability of the draft environmental impact statement in the **Federal Register**. The comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will be 45 days from the date the EPA publishes the Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**.

The Forest Service believes it is important to give reviewers notice 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 proposal 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 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 scoping 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 regarding 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 environmental impact 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.

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 may not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Part 215. 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 very 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 resubmitted with or without name and address within a specified number of days.

I am the responsible official for this environmental impact statement. My address is Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District, 2502 E. Sherman Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814.

Dated: February 19, 1998.

Susan Jehheber-Matthews,
District Ranger.

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COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Addition and Deletion

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed addition to and deletion from Procurement List

SUMMARY: The Committee has received proposals to add to the Procurement List a service to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and to delete a service previously furnished by such agencies.

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE: April 6, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Gateway 3, Suite 310, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-4302.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Milkman (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 47(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the possible impact of the proposed actions.

Addition

If the Committee approves the proposed addition, all entities of the Federal Government (except as otherwise indicated) will be required to procure the service listed below from nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the service to the Government.

2. The action does not appear to have a severe economic impact on current contractors for the service.

3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the service to the Government.

4. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the service proposed for addition to the Procurement List. Comments on this certification are invited. Commenters should identify the statement(s) underlying the certification on which they are providing additional information.

The following service has been proposed for addition to Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agency listed:

Janitorial/Custodial

Walnut Creek National Wildlife Refuge,
9981 Pacific Street, Prairie City, Iowa
NPA: Progress Industries, Newton, Iowa

Deletion

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities.

2. The action does not appear to have a severe economic impact on future contractors for the service.

3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the service to the Government.

4. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the service proposed for deletion from the Procurement List.

The following service has been proposed for deletion from the Procurement List:

Janitorial/Custodial

U.S. Army Reserve Center, 547
Philadelphia Avenue, Reading,
Pennsylvania

Beverly L. Milkman,
Executive Director.

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COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Deletions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Deletions from the Procurement List.

SUMMARY: This action deletes from the Procurement List services previously furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 6, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Gateway 3, Suite 310, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-4302.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Milkman (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: After consideration of the relevant matter presented, the Committee has determined that the services listed below are no longer suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 46-48c and 41 CFR 51-2.4.

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities.

2. The action will not have a severe economic impact on future contractors for the services.

3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the services to the Government.

4. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the services deleted from the Procurement List.

Accordingly, the following services are hereby deleted from the Procurement List:

Disposal Support Services

Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office
(DRMO), Alameda, California

Janitorial/Custodial

Building 243 "A-G" Bay, McClellan AFB,
California

Janitorial/Custodial

Border Station, Chateaugay, New York