

draft EIS in the **Federal Register** at that time. The comment period on the draft EIS will extend for 45 days from the date the EPA notice appears in the **Federal Register**. At that time, copies of the draft EIS will be mailed to potentially interested and affected agencies, organizations, and individuals for their review and comment and to those who provided comment during the scoping period. It is very important that those interested in the Cottonwood Fire Vegetation Management Project participate by providing comment at that time.

The final EIS would be completed in April 2003. In the final EIS, the Forest Service is required to respond to substantive comments received during the comment period that pertain to the environmental consequences discussed in the draft EIS, as well as applicable laws, regulations, and policies considered in making the decision regarding this proposal.

The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, it is important to give reviewers notice of several court ruling related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of Draft Environmental Impact Statement 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 FEIS, 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 two-week 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 FEIS.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the DEIS 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 DEIS 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 of 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points.

Comments received, including the names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposal and will be available for public inspection.

Dated: October 30, 2002.

Steven T. Eubanks,

Forest Supervisor, Tahoe National Forest.

[FR Doc. 02-28051 Filed 11-4-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Madera County Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Resource Advisory Committee meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the authorities in the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (Public law 92-463) and under the secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-393) the Sierra National Forest's Resource Advisor Committee for Madera County will meet on Monday, November 18, 2002. The Madera Resource Advisory Committee will meet at the Yosemite Sierra Visitor Bureau, 40637 Highway 41, Oakhurst, CA. The purpose of the meeting is an update about the RAC presentation at the Madera County Board of Supervisor's meeting September 17, 2002, update RAC committee outreach, discuss a subject for a news article and develop a planning schedule for projects and project reviews.

DATES: The Madera Resource Advisory Committee meeting will be held Monday, November 18, 2002. The meeting will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The Madera County RAC meeting will be held at the Yosemite Sierra Visitor Bureau, 40637 Highway 41, Oakhurst, CA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dave Martin, U.S.D.A., Sierra National Forest, 57003 Road 225, North Fork, CA, 93643 (559) 877-2217 ext. 3100; e-mail: dmartin05@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Review Clover Meadow road project, (2) update on RAC committee outreach, and, (3) follow up on newspaper article, (4) have evaluation of past projects. The meeting is open to the public. Public input

opportunity will be provided and individuals will have the opportunity to address the Committee at that time.

Dated: October 31, 2002.

David W. Martin,

District Ranger.

[FR Doc. 02-28053 Filed 11-4-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Notice of Resource Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Crook County Resource Advisory Committee, Sundance, Wyoming, USDA, Forest Service

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the authorities in the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463) and under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106-393) the Black Hills National Forest's Crook County Resource Advisory Committee will meet Monday, November 18, 2002 in Sundance, Wyoming for a business meeting. The meeting is open to the public.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The business meeting on November 18, begins at 6:30 PM, at U.S. Forest Service, Bearlodge Ranger District office, 121 South 21st Street, Sundance, Wyoming. Agenda topics will include reviewing the response of the community to a call for project proposals, discussion of selection criteria and procedures and scheduling future meetings. A public forum will begin at 8:30 p.m. (MT).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steve Kozel, Bearlodge District Ranger and Designated Federal Officer, at (307) 283-1361.

Dated: October 29, 2002.

Steve Kozel,

Bearlodge District Ranger.

[FR Doc. 02-28136 Filed 11-4-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

East Prong Little Pigeon River Watershed, Sevier County, TN

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service.

ACTION: Notice of a finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR part 1500); and the Natural Resources Conservation Service Guidelines (7 CFR part 650); the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, gives notice that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared for the East Prong Little Pigeon River watershed, Sevier County, Tennessee.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James W. Ford, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 675 U.S. Courthouse, 801 Broadway, Nashville, Tennessee 37203, telephone (615) 277-2531.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The environmental assessment of this federally assisted action indicates that the project will not cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. As a result of these findings, James W. Ford, State Conservationist, has determined that the preparation and review of an environmental impact statement is not needed for this project.

East Prong Little Pigeon River Watershed, Sevier County, TN; Notice of a Finding of No Significant Impact

The project purpose is watershed protection. The planned works of improvement include best management practices to reduce streambank erosion and nutrient loading from livestock access to streams, and measures to reduce erosion and sedimentation from eroding pastureland. Federal financial assistance will be provided to accelerate financial and technical assistance for land treatment.

The Notice of a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been forwarded to the Environmental Protection Agency and to various Federal, State and local agencies and interested parties. A limited number of copies of the FONSI are available to fill single copy requests at the above address. Basic data developed during the environmental assessment are on file and may be reviewed by contacting James W. Ford.

No administrative action on implementation of the proposal will be taken until 30 days after the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

(This activity is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.904, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention, and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials.)

Dated: October 21, 2002.

James W. Ford,
State Conservationist.

[FR Doc. 02-28067 Filed 11-4-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Cane Creek Remedial Plan, Lauderdale County, Tennessee.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the U.S. Department of Agriculture—Natural Resources Conservation Service will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement to assess potential environmental impacts associated with proposed structural measures to control the widening and degradation of the channel of Cane Creek. The project sponsor is the Cane Creek Watershed District. The actions proposed in the Cane Creek Remedial Plan address the continuing degradation and widening of the channel of Cane Creek and its tributaries resulting from modification of the main channel in 1970. The sponsor's objective is to stabilize the main channel bottom and limit head-cutting of two major tributaries. Six alternatives to address the concerns were addressed in the Plan. The sponsor's preferred alternative includes installation of five low head riprap chutes in the main channel and one structure each in two large tributaries to Cane Creek. Benefits of the sponsor's preferred plan are the protection of five main channel bridges and two county bridges; four previously installed repair structures will also be protected. Approximately 84,000 cubic yards of sediment will be prevented from annually entering the Hatchie River. Ten acres of riparian forest and 9.2 acres of recreational fishing area will be created. No federally listed threatened or endangered species are known from the watershed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James W. Ford, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 675 U.S. Courthouse, 801 Broadway, Nashville, Tennessee 37203, telephone (615) 277-2531.

(This activity is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under NO. 10.904, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention, and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials.)

Dated: October 21, 2002.

James W. Ford,
State Conservationist.

[FR Doc. 02-28068 Filed 11-4-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Owen Electric Cooperative; Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) has made a finding of no significant impact with respect to a request from Owen Electric Cooperative for financing assistance from RUS to finance the construction of a new headquarters facility in Owen County, Kentucky.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Quigel, Environmental Protection Specialist, Engineering and Environmental Staff, RUS, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone (202) 720-0468, e-mail at bquigel@rus.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Owen Electric Cooperative proposes to construct a new headquarters facility in Owen County, Kentucky. The site of the new facility is located south of the unincorporated community of Bromley less than 1/2 mile south intersection of U.S. Highway 127 and State Route 35 on the western side to U.S. Highway 127. The new headquarters facility will be located on a 46-acre parcel of property. Approximately 13 acres of the property will be used for the facility. The facility will consist of a 31,900 square-foot, one story office building, a 27,900 square-foot service building, 95 employee and 35 visitor parking spaces, a pole storage yard, a metal utility building, a lattice radio tower, and a 175-kilowatt standby electric generator with a 500-gallon diesel fuel storage tank. Access to the facility will be via a paved driveway from U.S. Highway 127.

Copies of the Finding of No Significant Impact are available from RUS at the address provided herein or from Mr. William T. Prather of Owen Electric Cooperative, PO Box 400,