

Notice by District Rangers of Availability for Comment and Decisions: Laramie District: Laramie Daily Boomerang, published daily in Laramie, Albany County, Wyoming.

Douglas District: Casper Star-Tribune, published daily in Casper, Natrona County, Wyoming.

Brush Creek—Hayden District: Rawlins Daily Times, published daily in Rawlins, Carbon County, Wyoming.

Shoshone National Forest, Wyoming

Notice by Forest Supervisor of Availability for Comment and Decisions: Cody Enterprise, published twice weekly in Cody, Park County, Wyoming.

Notice by District Rangers of Availability for Comment and Decisions: Clarks Fork District: Powell Tribune, published twice weekly in Powell, Park County, Wyoming.

Wapiti and Greybull Districts: Cody Enterprise, published twice weekly in Cody, Park County, Wyoming.

Wind River District: The Dubois Frontier, published weekly in Dubois, Fremont County, Wyoming.

Washakie District: Lander Journal, published twice weekly in Lander, Fremont County, Wyoming.

Dated: August 9, 2006.

Richard C. Stem,

Deputy Regional Forester, Resources, Rocky Mountain Region.

[FR Doc. E6-13949 Filed 8-22-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Black Hills National Forest, Northern Hills Ranger District, South Dakota and Bearlodge Ranger District, Wyoming—North Zone Range 05 Proposal and Analysis

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Revised notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: This project will revise Rangeland Allotment Management Plans (RAMP) for eight allotments comprising about 79,634 acres within two Ranger Districts of the Black Hills National Forest, and analyze continued grazing within the constraints of the Revised Black Hills National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, as amended (BHNF LRMP). A Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for this project was published August 17, 2005 (70 FR 48369). More than six months have elapsed since the projected FEIS date in

that original NOI. This revised NOI is being issued to update the project schedule.

DATES: The Notice of Availability of the draft environmental impact statement was published in the **Federal Register** on July 7, 2006 (71 FR 38641). The final environmental impact statement is expected in September, 2006. No further formal public comment opportunities will be offered on this project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alice Allen, Project Coordinator, Black Hills National Forest, Hell Canyon Ranger District, at 330 Mt. Rushmore Rd., phone (605) 673-4853.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose and Need for Action: The purpose of the project is to authorize livestock grazing in an environmentally acceptable manner. The EIS will determine current conditions, analyze environmental consequences of grazing management actions on those conditions, and assist the decision maker in selecting management/monitoring strategies consistent with meeting desired conditions in the BHNF LRMP, including Goals 1, 2 and 3. The need for the action is to revise allotment management plans, reverse any existing undesirable conditions, and ensure that authorized uses and associated management activities move them towards desired BHNF LRMP conditions. There is also a need to respond to requests for grazing permits on lands not currently being grazed.

Proposed Action: The Northern Hills and Bearlodge Ranger Districts propose to implement best management practices and activities with adaptive management and monitoring strategies to allow livestock grazing consistent with Forest Plan desired conditions, standards and guidelines. The Proposed Action is Alternative A in the EIS.

Issues: Key issues include impacts of the proposal to soil and water quality; vegetative diversity; wildlife and wildlife habitat; economic efficiency of the proposal; timeframe for achieving desired conditions; and management of the recently acquired Besant Park, Tilson and Gonzales parcels.

Alternatives: Alternative B is similar to Alternative A, but would authorize livestock grazing on three additional recently acquired parcels and add these to adjacent existing allotments. Alternative D, the No Action Alternative, is the No Grazing Alternative and would eliminate any livestock grazing on the project area. Alternative E proposes the use of rest periods to achieve faster recovery of riparian areas. Alternative F would move the area toward desired

conditions by means of reduced stocking rates, mandatory use of range riders, or other non-structural adaptive management actions. No new range improvements are proposed. Alternative C, current management, was dismissed from detailed consideration.

Responsible Official

The Responsible Official for the allotments on the Bearlodge Ranger District is Steve Kozel, District Ranger, Black Hills National Forest, Bearlodge Ranger District, 121 S. 21st Street, Sundance, Wyoming 82729. The Responsible Official for the allotments on the Northern Hills Ranger District is the District Ranger, Black Hills National Forest, Northern Hills Ranger District, 2014 N. Main St., Spearfish, South Dakota 57783.

Nature of Decision To Be Made

The decision to be made is whether to continue to permit livestock grazing on all, part, or none of these allotments and, if so, under what terms and conditions to ensure that desired condition objectives are met, or that movement occurs toward those objectives. The Northern Hills District Ranger will also decide whether or not to allow livestock grazing on three recently acquired parcels and one vacant grazing unit, and if so, under what conditions.

Public Comment

Comments and input regarding the proposal were requested from the public, other groups and agencies via direct mailing on March 21, 2005. Additional comments were solicited during August and September 2005 via public notices and an additional direct mailing. The Draft EIS was issued for a 45-day public comment in July, 2006. No further formal public comment opportunities will be offered on this project.

Early Notice of Importance of Public Participation in Subsequent

Environmental Review: The following was published as part of the original Notice of Intent. A draft environmental impact statement will be prepared for comment. The comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency published the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**. The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, 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 impact 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 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 on 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 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, 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.

(Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7 and 1508.22; Forest Service Handbook 1900.15, Section 21)

Dated: August 17, 2006.

Craig Bobzien,

Forest Supervisor, Black Hills National Forest.
[FR Doc. 06-7104 Filed 8-22-06; 8:45am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Notice of Public Meeting, Davy Crockett National Forest Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act of 2000 (Pub. L. No. 106-393) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Davy Crockett National Forest Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting will meet on September 21, 2006.

DATES: The Davy Crockett National Forest RAC meeting will be held on September 21, 2006.

ADDRESSES: The Davy Crockett National Forest RAC meeting will be held at the Davy Crockett Ranger Station located on State Highway 7, approximately one-quarter mile west of FM 227 in Houston County, Texas. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. and adjourn at approximately 9 p.m. There will be a public comment period.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Raoul Gagne, District Ranger, Davy Crockett National Forest, Rt. 1, Box 55 FS, Kennard, Texas 75847; Telephone 936-655-2299 or e-mail at rgagne@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Davy Crockett National Forest RAC proposes projects and funding to the Secretary of Agriculture under section 203 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act of 2000. The purpose of the September 21, 2006 meeting is to review the status of approved projects and discuss and approve additional project proposals to submit to the Forest Supervisor for the National Forests and Grasslands in Texas. These meetings are open to the public. The public may present written comments to the RAC. Each formal RAC meeting will also have time allocated for hearing public comments. Depending on the number of persons wishing to comment and time available, the time for individual oral comments may be limited.

Dated: August 17, 2006.

Raoul W. Gagne,

Designated Federal Officer, Davy Crockett National Forest RAC.

[FR Doc. 06-7098 Filed 8-22-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Notice of Proposed Change to Section IV of the Virginia State Technical Guide

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of proposed changes in the Virginia NRCS State Technical Guide for review and comment.

SUMMARY: It has been determined by the NRCS State Conservationist for Virginia that changes must be made in the NRCS State Technical Guide specifically in practice standards: #328, Conservation Crop Rotation, #329, Residue and Tillage Management No Till/Strip Till/Direct Seed, #345, Residue and Tillage Management Mulch Till, #528, Prescribed Grazing and #612, Tree/Shrub Establishment. These practices will be used to plan and install conservation practices on cropland, pastureland, woodland, and wildlife land.

DATES: Comments will be received for a 30-day period commencing with the date of this publication.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Inquire in writing to M. Denise Doetzer, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), 1606 Santa Rosa Road, Suite 209, Richmond, Virginia 23229-5014; Telephone number (804) 287-1665; Fax number (804) 287-1736. Copies of the practice standards will be made available upon written request to the address shown above or on the Virginia NRCS Web site: <http://www.va.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/draftstandards.html>.

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 Virginia will receive comments relative to the proposed changes. Following that period, a determination will be made by the NRCS in Virginia regarding disposition of those comments and a final determination of change will be made to the subject standards.

W. Ray Dorsett,

Assistant State Conservationist (Operations), Natural Resources Conservation Service, Richmond, Virginia.

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