

- S.N. 09/360,083, "Novel System for the Sequential, Directional Cloning of Multiple DNA Sequences"
- S.N. 09/364,447, "Recombinant Bacteria Which Produce Lipase and Poly (B-Hydroxyalkanoates)"
- S.N. 09/366,603, "Vaccines for the Protection of Cattle from Psoroptic Scabies"
- S.N. 09/376,755, "Process for the Enzymatic Conversion of Podophyllotoxin Beta-Glucopyranosides and other Podophyllum Blycosides to Their Corresponding Aglycons"
- S.N. 09/377,513, "Novel Cytoplasm for Maize"
- S.N. 09/378,441, "Biodegradable Films from Agricultural Polymers"
- S.N. 09/395,565, "Insulin Potentiating Compounds in Cinnamon"
- S.N. 09/400,799, "Process for the Production of Fatty Acid Esters"

June Blalock,

Technology Licensing Coordinator.

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BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Gunflint Corridor Fuels Reduction Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: On August 24, 1999, the Council on Environmental Quality granted alternative arrangements for the immediate actions needed to address public safety concerns within the Gunflint Trail Corridor as a result of the 4th of July Blowdown Event. These alternative arrangements are effective until close of business on Friday, December 24, 1999. Subsequent actions which the Agency (Forest Service) proposed to take over the "longer term" were to be addressed through the normal NEPA process. Therefore, the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to reduce the fire hazard and restore damaged components of the ecosystem within the Gunflint Corridor. The objectives of the project are to: (1) Reduce fuel and fire hazard, (2) Provide and improve land-based infrastructure needs for fire suppression or public evacuation, (3) Increase the acreage and component of longer lived species, particularly pine, (4) Improve long term visual quality, and (5) Reforest blown-down areas. The Record of Decision will disclose how

the Forest Service has decided to treat more than 11,000 acres of blowdown fuels. The proposed action is to treat an estimated 8400 acres with mechanical means such as commercial timber sales or service contract for piling and burning; treat 3000 acres with prescribed fire; and treat 100 acres with service contracts for hand treatment. A range of alternatives responsive to significant issues will be developed, including a no-action alternative. The proposed project is located on the Gunflint Ranger District, Grand Marais, MN, Superior National Forest. The Gunflint Ranger District is requesting the project be considered an emergency under CFR 215.10(d)(1).

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of this project should be received by December 6, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Please send written comments to: Gunflint Ranger District, Superior National Forest, Attn.: Gunflint Corridor Fuels Reduction EIS, P.O. Box 790, Grand Marais, MN 55604.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jo Barnier, District Ranger, or Becky Bartol, Team Leader, Gunflint Ranger District, Superior National Forest, P.O. Box 790, Grand Marais, MN 55604, telephone (218) 387-1750.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Public participation will be an integral component of the study process and will be especially important at several points during the analysis. The first is during the scoping process. The Forest Service will be seeking information, comments, and assistance from Federal, State and local agencies, individuals, and organizations that may be interested in, or affected by, the proposed activities. The scoping process will include: (1) Identification of potential issues, (2) identification of issues to be analyzed in depth, and (3) elimination of insignificant issues or those which have been covered by a previous environmental review. Written scoping comments will be solicited through a scoping package that will be sent to the project mailing list and to the local newspaper. For the Forest Service to best use the scoping input, comments should be received by December 6, 1999. Issues identified for analysis in the EIS include the potential effects of the project on and the relationship of the project to: Fuel hazard reduction, riparian areas and Shipstead Newton Nolan areas, reforestation, temporary roads, inventoried candidate special management complexes, roadless areas, and others.

Based on the results of scoping and the resource capabilities within the Project Area, alternatives, including a

no-action alternative, will be developed for the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS is projected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in February 2000. The Final EIS is anticipated in May 2000.

The comment period on the Draft EIS will be a minimum of 45 days from the date the EPA publishes 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 EISs 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)). Environmental objections that could have been raised at the Draft EIS stage 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 they can be meaningfully considered and responded to in the Final EIS.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns of the Proposed Action, comments during scoping and on the Draft EIS should be as specific as possible and refer to specific pages or chapters. Comments may address the adequacy of the Draft EIS or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed. In addressing these points reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act in 40 CFR 1503.3. 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. 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. Requesters should be aware that, under 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. If 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 seven days.

Permits/Authorizations

The proposed action includes prescribed burning in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. An amendment to the Superior National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan would be needed for such burns. James W. Sanders, Forest Supervisor, Superior National Forest, would be the responsible official for the plan amendment.

Responsible Official

Jo Barnier, Gunflint District Ranger, Superior National Forest, is the responsible official. In making the decision, the responsible official will consider the comments, responses, disclosure of environmental consequences, and applicable laws, regulations, and policies. The responsible official will state the rationale for the chosen alternative in the Record of Decision.

Dated: October 27, 1999.

Jo Barnier,

District Ranger.

[FR Doc. 99-28699 Filed 11-2-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

John Day/Snake Resource Advisory Council, Hells Canyon Subgroup

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Hells Canyon Subgroup of the John Day/Snake Resource Advisory Council will meet on November 22 and 23, 1999 at the Baker Ranger District of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, 3165 10th Street, Baker City, Oregon. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue until 5:00 p.m. the first day and will begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue until 4:00 p.m. on the second day. Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Review draft CMP alternatives and, (2) Open public forum. All meetings are open to the public. Public comments will be received at 1:00 p.m. on November 22.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Direct questions regarding this meeting

to Kendall Clark, Area Ranger, USDA, Hells Canyon National Recreation Area, 88401 Highway 82, Enterprise, OR 97828, 541-426-5501.

Dated: October 28, 1999.

Kurt R. Wiedenmann,

Acting Deputy Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 99-28701 Filed 11-2-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Sunshine Act Meeting; Notice

AGENCY: Rural Telephone Bank, USDA.

ACTION: Staff briefing for the Board of Directors.

TIME AND DATE: 2:00 p.m., Monday, November 8, 1999.

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.
2. Fiscal year 2000 agency budget.
3. Status of PBO planning and general discussion on privatization of the Bank.
4. Options relating to the conversion of B stock to C stock.
5. Current method for allocating patronage refunds to class B stockholders.
6. Administrative issues.

ACTION: Board of Directors Meeting.

TIME AND DATE: 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, November 9, 1999.

PLACE: The Williamsburg Room, Room 104-A, Jamie L. Whitten Building, Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC.

STATUS: Open.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: The following matters have been placed on the agenda for the Board of Directors meeting:

1. Call to order.
2. Action on Minutes of the August 6, 1999, board meeting.
3. Report on loans approved in FY 1999.
4. Summary of financial activity for FY 1999.
5. Privatization committee report.
6. Consideration of resolution of appreciation for former Governor Wally Beyer.
7. Establish dates and locations for Year 2000 board meetings.
8. Adjournment.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Roberta D. Purcell, Assistant Governor, Rural Telephone Bank, (202) 720-9554.

Dated: October 27, 1999.

Christopher A. McLean,

Acting Governor, Rural Telephone Bank.

[FR Doc. 99-28841 Filed 11-1-99; 9:50 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

August 1999 Sunset Reviews: Termination of Review, Final Results of Reviews and Revocation and Termination

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of termination of five-year ("Sunset") review of the antidumping duty order on kiwifruit from New Zealand (A-614-801); Final Results of Sunset Reviews: Revocation of Antidumping Duty Order on Tungsten Ore Concentrates from the People's Republic of China (A-570-811) and termination of the suspended antidumping duty investigation on uranium from Krygyzstan (A-835-802).

SUMMARY: On August 2, 1999, the Department of Commerce ("the Department") initiated sunset reviews of the antidumping duty orders on kiwifruit from New Zealand and tungsten ore concentrates from the People's Republic of China ("PRC"), and of the suspended antidumping duty investigation of uranium from Krygyzstan. The Department is terminating the sunset review of the order on kiwifruit from New Zealand on the basis that, on September 17, 1999, the Department issued the final results of a changed circumstances review and revoked this order. Further, because no domestic party responded to the sunset review notice of initiation by the applicable deadline, the Department is revoking the order on tungsten ore concentrates from the PRC and terminating the suspended investigation on uranium from Krygyzstan.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Martha V. Douthit or Melissa G. Skinner, Office of Policy, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone: (202) 482-5050 or (202) 482-1560, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Department issued antidumping duty orders on kiwifruit from New