

approximately 11 to 12 days and older larvae spin a loose web of silk on leaves of the weed and pupate. Research suggests that the moth is host specific to only a few *Lygodium* species. Alternatives to issuing the permit were also examined in the environmental assessment, and included no action, herbicides, mechanical control, and flooding.

We solicited comments on the environmental assessment for 30 days ending on August 2, 2004. We received five comments by that date. Four of the commenters supported the recommendations of the environmental assessment. The fifth commenter objected to APHIS' performance and programs in general, but did not address the environmental assessment. Therefore, we are making no changes to the environmental assessment in response to this comment.

The environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact may be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/>. In the middle of that page, click on "Document/Forms Retrieval System." At the next screen, click on the triangle beside "Permits—Environmental Assessments." A list of documents will appear; the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact for Old World climbing fern are document number 0038. You may request paper copies of the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact by calling or writing to the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Please refer to the title of the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact when requesting copies. The environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact are also available for review in our reading room (information on the location and hours of the reading room is listed under the heading **ADDRESSES** at the beginning of this notice).

The environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact have been prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), (2) regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1), and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

Done in Washington, DC, this 28th day of September 2004.

Elizabeth E. Gaston,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. E4–2472 Filed 10–1–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Payette National Forest, ID; Revision of Travel Plan

AGENCY: USDA, Forest Service.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service gives notice of the intent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to revise the Payette National Forest Travel Plan. The proposed action would designate a site-specific transportation system and prohibit indiscriminate cross-country traffic. The EIS will analyze the effects of the proposed action and alternatives. The Payette National Forest invites written comments and suggestions on the scope of analysis and the issues to address. The agency gives notice of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis and decision-making process on the proposal so interested and affected members of the public may participate and contribute to the final decision.

DATES: Comments need to be received in writing by December 7, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to: Travel Plan Revision, Forest Supervisor's Office, Payette National Forest, P.O. Box 1026, McCall, ID 83638, fax (208) 634–0744.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions about the proposed project and scope of analysis should be directed to Ana Egniew, Land Management Planner, Payette National Forest, P.O. Box 1026, McCall, ID 83638, or by phone to (208) 634–0624.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose and Need

The need for revision of the Travel Plan was identified in the 2003 Payette National Forest Land and Resource Plan (Forest Plan) (p. III–63), and in the Forest Service proposed rule (for Travel Management (July 15, 2004); specifically, to establish a system of roads and trails and areas designated for motor vehicle use and to prohibit the use of motor vehicles off the designated system. The purpose of the revision is to (1) meet Forest Plan and national

direction, (2) designate a reasonable system of roads, trails, and over-snow use areas, (3) balance management considerations with recreation demands, (4) reduce impacts to Forest resources, and (5) reduce recreation user conflicts. The analysis will be conducted across the 13 Management Areas that comprise the 1,583,681 acres of the Payette National Forest outside designated Wilderness.

The Proposed Action

The proposed action would revise the current Travel Plan by designating a site-specific transportation system for snow-free and over-snow travel. Motorized snow-free travel off the transportation system would be prohibited on 1,583,681 acres (an increase of 544,863 acres).

The transportation system for snow-free travel would include:

- 1,505 miles of open roads (reduction of 14 miles)
- 612 miles of seasonally open roads (reduction of 28 miles)
- 76 miles of trail open to All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) (increase of 22 miles)
- 546 miles of trail open to 2-wheel motorized use (reduction of 98 miles)
- 621 miles of trail open to non-motorized travel (increase of 87 miles)
- 2.7 miles of undetermined road added to the system.

The transportation system for over-snow travel would include:

- 183 miles of open road (unchanged)
- 1,106,480 acres open to motorized activities (reduction of 17,400 acres)
- 477,801 acres reserved for non-motorized over-snow activities

Responsible Official

The responsible official is the Forest Supervisor of the Payette National Forest.

Decision To Be Made

The decision to be made is: whether to adopt the proposed revision to the Travel Plan, in whole, or in part, or to adopt another alternative, and with what mitigation measures and management requirements.

Issues

Preliminary issues identified by the Forest Service interdisciplinary team include effects to: water quality and wetlands; threatened, endangered, sensitive, and management indicator fish species and habitat; threatened, endangered, sensitive, and management indicator wildlife species and habitat; rare plants; and recreation opportunities.

Range of Alternatives

A range of reasonable alternatives will be considered. The no-action alternative will serve as a baseline for comparison of alternatives. The proposed action will be considered along with additional alternatives developed that meet the purpose and need and address significant issues identified during scoping. Alternatives may allow different locations, types, and seasons of travel activities.

Public Participation

Public participation will be important at several points during the analysis. This notice of intent initiates the scoping process. The scoping process will identify issues to be analyzed in detail and lead to the development of alternatives to the proposal.

The Forest Service is seeking information and comments from other Federal, State, and local agencies; Tribal governments; organizations; and individuals who may be interested in or affected by the proposed action. Comments received in response to this notice, including the names and addresses of those who comment, will be part of the project record and available for public review.

Public meetings are scheduled during the 60-day scoping period and following issuance of the draft EIS. The public scoping meetings are: September 30, in Riggins, Salmon River High School; October 6 in Weiser, Vendome Conference Center; October 12 in McCall, Forest Supervisor's Office; October 14 in Council, Adams County Fairground Exhibit Hall; and October 21 in New Meadows, New Meadows Ranger District Office. All meetings are 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The second major opportunity for public input is with the draft EIS. The draft EIS will be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is anticipated to be available for public review during the summer of 2005. The comment period on the draft EIS will be 60 days. It is important that those interested in travel management on the Payette National Forest participate at that time.

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 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)). Also,

environmental objections that could be raised at the draft EIS stage, but that are not raised until completion of the final EIS, may be waived or dismissed by the courts (*City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1002 (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 important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the 60-day comment period so 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 EIS.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues raised by the proposed action, comments on the draft EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft EIS. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft EIS 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 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points.)

After the 60-day comment period ends on the draft EIS, the Forest Service will analyze comments received and address them in the final EIS. The final EIS is scheduled to be released in December 2005. In the final EIS, the Forest Service will respond to substantive comments received during the comment period. The Responsible Official (Forest Supervisor, Payette National Forest) will document the decision and rationale in a Record of Decision (ROD). The decision will be subject to review under Forest Service appeal regulations at 36 CFR part 215.

Dated: September 24, 2004.

Mark J. Madrid,

Forest Supervisor.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Meeting of the Land Between the Lakes Advisory Board

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Land Between the Lakes Advisory Board will hold a meeting on Thursday, October 28, 2004. Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal

Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2.

The meeting agenda includes the following:

- (1) Welcome/Introductions/Agenda;
- (2) Advisory Board Membership;
- (3) Land and Resource Management Plan Update;
- (4) Conservation Education;
- (5) Four Threats;
- (6) Tour of Turkey Bay;
- (7) Board Discussion of Comments Received;
- (8) LBL Updates.

The meeting is open to the public. Written comments are invited and may be mailed to: William P. Lisowsky, Area Supervisor, Land Between The Lakes, 100 Van Morgan Drive, Golden Pond, Kentucky 42211. Written comments must be received at Land Between The Lakes by October 20, 2004, in order for copies to be provided to the members at the meeting. Board members will review written comments received, and at their request, oral clarification may be requested at a future meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday, October 28, 2004, 8:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., c.s.t.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the USDA Forest Service Administrative Building, Land Between the Lakes, and will be open to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sharon Byers, Advisory Board Liaison, Land Between the Lakes, 100 Van Morgan Drive, Golden Pond, Kentucky 42211, (270) 924-2002.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: None.

Dated: September 24, 2004.

William P. Lisowsky,

Area Supervisor, Land Between the Lakes.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Notice of Southwest Idaho Resource Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the authorities in the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463) and under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-393), the Boise and Payette National Forests' Southwest Idaho Resource Advisory Committee will conduct a business meeting, which is open to the public.

DATES: Wednesday, October 20, 2004, beginning at 10:30 a.m.