

refined. Your input is especially valuable here. It will help us determine which of these merit detailed analysis. It will also help identify additional issues related to the proposed action that may not be listed here.

Issue 1—Effects of grazing on vegetation.

Issue 2—Effects of grazing on watershed condition and function.

Issues 3—Effects of livestock on big horn sheep.

Issue 3—Effects of grazing on the Colorado cutthroat trout habitat.

Comment Requested

This notice of intent initiates the scoping process that guides the development of the environmental impact statement.

Early Notice of Importance of Public Participation in Subsequent Environmental Review

The Draft EIS (DEIS) is proposed to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and to be available for public comment in the Spring of 2003. At that time, the EPA will publish a notice of availability for the DEIS in the **Federal Register**. The comment period on the DEIS will be 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 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 1909.15, Section 21)

Dated: April 3, 2003.

Greg Clark,

District Forest Ranger.

[FR Doc. 03-8630 Filed 4-8-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Olympic Peninsula Resource Advisory Committee (RAC)

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Olympic Peninsula Resource Advisory Committee will hold its next meeting on May 7, 2003. The meeting will be held at Washington State University Extension Learning Center, 201 W Pattison, Port Hadlock, Washington. The meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at approximately 3:30 p.m. Agenda topics are: Introductions; Approval of minutes of previous meeting; Update on Title II and III Projects; Presentation of project proposals; Selection of recommended projects and priorities; Public comments; and Identify next meeting date and location.

All Olympic Peninsula Resource Advisory Committee Meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct questions regarding this meeting to Ken Eldredge, RAC Liaison, USDA, Olympic National Forest Headquarters, 1835 Black Lake Blvd., Olympia, WA 98512-5623, (360) 956-2323 or Dale Hom, Forest Supervisor and Designated Federal Official, at (306) 956-2301.

Dated: April 3, 2003.

Dale Hom,

Forest Supervisor, Olympic National Forest.

[FR Doc. 03-8615 Filed 4-8-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Grays Harbor Resource Advisory Committee (RAC)

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Grays Harbor Resource Advisory Committee will hold its next meeting on May 8, 2003. The meeting will be held at the Aberdeen Timberland Library, 121 E Market Street, Aberdeen, Washington. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and end at 8:30 p.m. Agenda topics are: Approval of minutes of previous meeting; Update on Title II Projects; Presentation of FY 2003 Title II project proposals; Selection of recommended projects and priorities; Public comments; and Identify next meeting date and location.

All Grays Harbor Resource Advisory Committee Meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct questions regarding this meeting to Ken Eldredge, RAC Liaison, USDA, Olympic National Forest Headquarters, 1835 Black Lake Blvd., Olympia, WA 98512-5623, (360) 956-2323 or Dale Hom, Forest Supervisor and Designated Federal Official, at (306) 956-2301.

Dated: April 3, 2003.

Dale Hom,

Forest Supervisor, Olympic National Forest.

[FR Doc. 03-8616 Filed 4-8-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Notice of Appointment to the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notification of appointment to the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Secretary of Agriculture announces members appointed to the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics, in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App.