

October 2008

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Forest Plan Draft Supplemental EIS to Analyze Bighorn Sheep Viability Released to the Public

The Payette NF issued the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) for Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep viability following three years of study. The DSEIS re-analyzes the effects of current and proposed management of bighorn sheep within the Payette NF.

This DSEIS is a supplemental analysis to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Payette Revised Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) or Forest Plan. This document is intended to provide additional information and analysis to comply with the Chief's appeal decision of March 9, 2005.

The public is encouraged to comment as the Payette NF attempts to validate the conclusions found in the DSEIS on the viability of bighorn sheep on the Payette NF. The Payette NF also wishes to balance public comment with scientific information and analysis as it eventually moves towards a Record of Decision (ROD) and final SEIS that amends the Payette NF's Forest Plan. "Much work remains to be done between draft and final and the public review of this draft is the first step toward that goal," said Forest Supervisor Suzanne Rainville. "I look forward to receiving comments and working with a variety of individuals and organizations on this complex land management issue."

The public will have 90 days to comment from the day after the Notice of Availability appears in the Federal Register, which is expected to occur on October 3. The DSEIS document is available for download on the Payette website at

http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/payette/publications/big_horn/big_h orn_sheep_documents_index.shtml and a CD or hard copy can be requested by calling (208)634-0700.

Visit the Payette National Forest's Web Site http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/payette



46 Projects Under NEPA Analysis

Payette National Forest personnel are analyzing 46 proposed projects. We invite your comments on any of them. There are 2 new project proposals this quarter. The enclosed map shows the locations, and the enclosed table summarizes project information.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and its regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508) require the Forest Service to analyze each proposed project before approval. Congress enacted NEPA in 1969 to ensure that all federal agencies *study* the impacts of a proposed action and *disclose* those impacts to the public.

Each *Quarterly Schedule* (January, April, July, and October) is posted on the Payette's website and provides the same information as this printed version. (It also gives you access to the Quarterly Schedule for every National Forest and to back issues.)

If you are interested in a proposal in this Schedule, contact the person assigned to the project. If web access meets your needs, and you wish to stop receiving the paper copy of the Quarterly Schedule, please let us know. For questions or an address correction, please contact us to: Quarterly Schedule of Proposed Actions, Payette National Forest, 800 W. Lakeside Ave., McCall ID 83638 or call Sylvia Clark at (208) 634-0700.

Payette Addresses - For information on these projects, please contact the office listed below.

Forest Supervisor's Office 800 West Lakeside Avenue McCall ID 83638 (208) 634-0700; Fax (208) 634-0744

Council Ranger District P.O. Box 567, 2092 Highway 95 Council ID 83612 (208) 253-0100; Fax (208) 253-0109

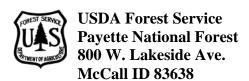
Weiser Ranger District 851 East 9th Street Weiser ID 83672 (208) 549-4200; Fax (208) 549-4209 New Meadows Ranger District P.O. Box J, 3674 Highway 95 New Meadows ID 83654 (208) 347-0300; Fax (208) 347-0309

*McCall Ranger District 102 West Lake Street McCall ID 83638 (208) 634-0400; Fax (208) 634-0433

*Krassel Ranger District 500 N. Mission Street McCall ID 83638 (208) 634-0600; Fax (208) 634-0634

*Mail via US Postal Service should be mailed to the Forest Supervisors Office at 800 W. Lakeside Ave., McCall, ID 83638

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