

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Six Rivers National Forest Supervisor's Office, 1330 Bayshore Way, Eureka.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Phebe Brown, Committee Coordinator, USDA, Mendocino National Forest, 825 N. Humboldt Avenue, Willows, CA 95988, (503) 934-1137; E-MAIL [pybrown@fs.fed.us](mailto:pybrown@fs.fed.us).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Regional Exosystem Office (REO) update; (2) Provincial Interagency Executive Committee (PIEC) feedback to the PAC regarding their recommendations on watershed analyses and Healthy Forest Restoration Act projects; (3) Report on the Province 2004 Implementation Monitoring activity held in September; (4) Continue panel discussion concerning options for silvicultural treatments on federal lands; (5) Presentation on the NWFP 10-year monitoring program; (6) Presentation on Bureau of Land Management/ Department of Fish and Game research on impacts of fall, winter and spring prescribed burning on avian and terrestrial species; and (7) Public comment. The meeting is open to the public. Public input opportunity will be provided and individuals will have the opportunity to address the Committee at that time.

Dated: November 9, 2004.

**Phebe Y. Brown,**

*Committee Staff Coordinator.*

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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 (Pub. L. 92-463) and under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 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, December 1, 2004, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Idaho Counties Risk Management Program Building, 3100 South Vista Avenue, Boise, Idaho.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Agenda topics will include review and approval of project proposals, and is an open public forum.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Doug Gochmour, Designated Federal Officer, at 208-392-6681 or e-mail [dgouchmour@fs.fed.us](mailto:dgouchmour@fs.fed.us).

Dated: November 12, 2004.

**Bruce A. Waite,**

*Acting Forest Supervisor, Boise National Forest.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Utilities Service

#### Household Water Well System Program; Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of finding of no significant impact.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) has made a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) for a new grant program that will implement the Household Water Well System Program (HWWSP) lending program.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Mark S. Plank, Senior Environmental Scientist, RUS, Water and Environmental Programs, Engineering and Environmental Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone: (202) 720-1649 or email: [mark.plank@usda.gov](mailto:mark.plank@usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On May 13, 2002, the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Farm Bill) was signed into law as Public Law 107-171. Section 6012 of the Farm Bill amended Section 306E of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (CONACT) by adding a grant program to establish a lending program. The program will provide grants to private nonprofit organizations for the purpose of providing loans to eligible individuals for the construction, refurbishing, and servicing of individual household water well systems in rural areas that are or will be owned by the eligible individuals. The program is called the Household Water Well System Program (HWWSP). This program was authorized to appropriate up to \$10,000,000 for Fiscal Years (FY) 2003 through 2007. There was no funding appropriated in FY 2003. However, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004 (Pub. L. 108-

199), includes \$1,000,000 for the program.

The USDA, Rural Utilities Service issued proposed regulations to implement the HWWSP (69 FR 59836, October 6, 2004). The final rule outlines the procedures for providing grants to eligible applicants to establish a revolving loan fund and to pay reasonable administrative expenses. The revolving loan fund will be used to make loans to eligible applicants for the construction, refurbishing, and servicing of individual household water well systems in rural areas that are or will be owned by the eligible individuals. The CONACT defines an "eligible individual" as a person who is a member of a household in which all members have a combined income that is 100 percent or less of the median non-metropolitan household income for the State or territory in which the person resides. The combined household income must be for the most recent 12-month period for which the information is available, according to the most recent decennial census of the United States. The maximum statutory limit per loan per household water well system is \$8,000.

Due to similar project activities and a limited area of potential effect of most HWWSP loan approval actions, RUS prepared and published, on September 30, 2004 (69 FR 58389), a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) to evaluate two Federal actions related to the HWWSP:

(1) Grants awarded by RUS to eligible grant recipients; and (2) Loans made by the grant recipient to eligible loan recipients using the direct or indirect proceeds of a HWWSP grant awarded under this program.

The PEA was available for a 30-day review and comment period; only one comment was received. The comment related to loan recipients and potential construction (as defined in the HWWSP) in special flood hazard areas identified as Zone A or V by the Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Insurance Rate Maps. The commenter was concerned whether loan proceeds could be used in conjunction with the construction of new homes and, if so, that the construction should be evaluated in accordance with Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management and other applicable requirements. The HWWSP's authorizing legislative is clear that eligible individuals are limited by definition to the following: 7 CFR 1776.3, "Construction means building or assembling a water well system or portion thereof that is *not a water well system or portion thereof being constructed in connection with a*