

December 2005 and April 2006 leases and to issue those that were sold but not issued from the June and August 2006 sales. To do so requires the analysis of new issues and information not available to the deciding officials at the time the leasing decision was made.

Possible Alternatives

The alternatives to be considered may include continuation of the current leasing decision contained in the Forest Plan, the no action alternative, and potentially others identified in scoping. The no action alternative would involve not issuing the leases that have been sold but not issued, and cancelling the leases that were sold. Additional alternatives may be identified once scoping is completed.

Lead and Cooperating Agencies

The Forest Service is the lead agency. The BLM and the State of Wyoming are cooperating agencies.

Responsible Official

The Forest Service responsible official for determining if and to what extent the analysis of new issues and information would alter the oil and gas leasing decision contained in the BTNF Forest Plan [36 CFR 228.102(d)] is Carol "Kniffy" Hamilton, Forest Supervisor, Bridger-Teton National Forest, 340 N. Cache (P.O. Box 1888), Jackson, Wyoming 83001. The BLM responsible official for final decision (43 CFR 3101.7) relative to the issuance or disposition of the leases and lease parcels is Robert A. Bennett, State Director, BLM, Wyoming State Office, 5353 Yellowstone (P.O. Box 1828), Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009.

Nature of Decision To Be Made

The Forest Service will determine if and how the current Forest Plan oil and gas leasing decision, as it relates to the 44,720 acres, should be changed based on new information. If a new decision is determined not to be needed following preparation of the supplemental environmental impact statement, that determination is not subject to appeal in accordance with 36 CFR 215.12. The BLM will then decide whether or not the revised Forest Service National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis is adequate, and subsequently whether to lift the suspension on the existing leases and whether to issue leases on the other lease parcels.

Scoping Process

Scoping for a supplemental statement is not required [40 CFR 1502.9(c)(4)], but due to the length of time since

scoping associated with the current leasing decision was conducted, the agencies are soliciting comments specific to new issues or information that was not considered. Letters will be sent to the Forest mailing list of known interested parties. Public meetings held in 2006 in association with Forest Plan revision efforts generated issues relative to oil and gas leasing. Comments received during those meetings will be considered in this supplemental analysis. The scoping process will assist the agencies in identifying specific issues to be addressed related to the purpose and need and the scope of the decision. Ongoing information related to the proposed action and related analysis will be posted on the BTNF Web site at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/btnf>.

Preliminary Issues

Preliminary issues associated with the proposed action include:

(1) The drilling and production of wells subsequent to leasing could impact air quality and air quality related values, with emphasis on cumulative effects due to extensive development in the Pinedale area.

(2) The T&E listed Canada lynx, or its habitat, could be impacted by subsequent exploration and development activities.

(3) Impacts to water quality due to subsequent surface disturbing activities could adversely affect the Colorado River cutthroat trout.

(4) The development of a transportation system to support field development could adversely affect mule deer migration routes in the area and fragment habitat.

Comment Requested

This revised notice extends the scoping process which guides the development of the supplemental environmental impact statement. Send written comments to the addresses given above for further information. No meetings are planned at this time.

Early Notice of Importance of Public Participation in Subsequent Environmental Review: A DSEIS will be prepared for comment. The comment period on the DSEIS will be for a period of 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency 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 a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) or a DSEIS 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 DEIS 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 the agency 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 DEIS 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 DEIS 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: March 19, 2008.

Carole "Kniffy" Hamilton,
Forest Supervisor, Bridger-Teton National Forest.

[FR Doc. E8-6229 Filed 3-27-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Notice of New Recreation Fee Site; Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, (Title VIII, Pub. L. 108-447)

AGENCY: National Forests in Mississippi, USDA Forest Service.

ACTION: Notice of Proposed Recreation Fees.

SUMMARY: The National Forests in Mississippi is proposing new fees for two horse trails. *Witch Dance Horse Trail* is located on the Tombigbee National Forest within Chickasaw County, MS. This trail is 18 miles long with multiple loops and 1 trailhead that provides a toilet, hitching posts, and designated developed parking. *Big Foot Horse Trail* is located on the De Soto National Forest, De Soto Ranger District within Harrison County, MS. This trail is 22 miles long trail with multiple loops and 1 trailhead that provides a toilet, hitching posts and designated developed parking. The Forest Service proposes to charge \$5 per rider per day for use of these trails. Funds received from these fees will be used for continued operation and maintenance of these trails and would allow additional amenities to be added in the future. The purpose of this notice is to solicit public input on this proposal. Please contact us or provide written comments (information below) within 6 months from the date of this publication.

DATES: These trails are available for public use now. However, fees will not be initiated until after public comments have been considered and reviewed by the Recreation Resource (citizen) Advisory Committee.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeff Gainey, Recreation Program Manager, 601-965-1617, National Forests in Mississippi, 100 West Capitol Street, Suite 1141, Jackson, MS 39269.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Recreation Lands Enhancement Act (Title VII, Pub. L. 108-447) directed the Secretary of Agriculture to publish advance notice in the **Federal Register** whenever new recreation fee areas are established. The National Forests in Mississippi currently manages two other horse trails. Comparable recreational use fees are currently charged at these sites.

Dated: March 10, 2008.

R.E. Vann III,

Acting Forest Supervisor, National Forest in Mississippi.

[FR Doc. E8-6191 Filed 3-27-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service****Notice of New Recreation Fee Site; Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, (Title VIII, Pub. L. 108-447)**

AGENCY: National Forests in Mississippi, USDA Forest Service.

ACTION: Notice of Proposed Recreation Fees.

SUMMARY: The National Forests in Mississippi is proposing new fees for two motorized trails. *Rattlesnake Bay ATV Trail* is located on the De Soto Ranger District, De Soto National Forest within Perry County, MS. This site has a trailhead with a restroom, designated improved parking, and bulletin board with trail map. This trail is 31 miles long. *Bethel Motorcycle Trail* is located on the De Soto Ranger District, De Soto National Forest within Harrison County, MS. This site has a trailhead with designated improved parking, picnic tables, grills, and bulletin board with trail map. This trail is 15 miles long. The Forest Service proposes to charge \$5 per operator per day for use of these trails. Funds received from these fees would be used for continued operation and maintenance of these trails and would allow additional amenities to be added in the future. The purpose of this notice is to solicit public input on this proposal. Please contact us or provide written comments (contact information below) within 6 months from the date of this publication.

DATES: These trails will be available for public use in summer, 2008. However, fees will not be initiated until after public comments have been considered and reviewed by the Recreation Resource (citizen) Advisory Committee.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeff Gainey, Recreation Program Manager, 601-965-1617, National Forests in Mississippi, 100 West Capitol Street, Suite 1141, Jackson, MS 39269.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Recreation Lands Enhancement Act (Title VII, Pub. L. 108-447) directed the Secretary of Agriculture to publish advance notice in the **Federal Register** whenever new recreation fee areas are established. The National Forests in Mississippi currently manages two other ATV/motorcycle trails. Comparable recreational use fees are currently charged at these sites.

Dated: March 10, 2008.

R.E. Vann III,

Acting Forest Supervisor, National Forest in Mississippi.

[FR Doc. E8-6192 Filed 3-27-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service****Woody Biomass Utilization Grant Award**

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of award.

SUMMARY: The USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, WI, awarded a grant to Flambeau River Papers, LLC, Park Falls, WI in the amount of \$1.925MIL for a project titled "Biomass-to-Fuel". This grant is being used by the grantee to support its ongoing effort in determining the potential technical and economic viability of constructing and operating a demonstration biomass-to-liquids biofuels facility, which would be co-located with the company's existing pulp and paper mill. If successful, the biomass-to-liquids facility would generate renewable energy to operate the pulp and paper mill, as well as producing a marketable liquid transportation fuel.

DATES: Grant award—March 17, 2008.

ADDRESSES: USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory, One Gifford Pinchot Drive, Madison, WI 53726-2398.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions regarding the grant award, contact William Clark, Grants and Agreements Specialist, (608) 231-9282, wclark@fs.fed.us.

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

Dated: March 24, 2008.

Ann M. Bartuska,

Deputy Chief for Research & Development.

[FR Doc. E8-6395 Filed 3-27-08; 8:45 am]

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