

# Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Notice of Meeting

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**SUMMARY:** The Forest Service will hold a meeting to gather public comments on the development of a new fee system for ski areas on National Forest System lands on Wednesday, February 1, 1995, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., in Washington, DC. The purpose of the meeting is to obtain comments from interested persons regarding methods other than the current graduated rate fee system for determining the fair market value of the use of National Forest System lands for ski areas.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held Wednesday, February 1, 1995, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the J.W. Marriott Hotel, 1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

To request information about the meeting or a compilation of valuation methods under consideration, contact Lyle Laverty, Director, Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness Resources Staff (2300), USDA Forest Service, PO Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090, (202) 205-1706, FAX (202) 260-6510.

Persons who wish to make a brief oral presentation at the meeting should contact Lyle Laverty no later than January 27, 1995, in order to have time reserved on the agenda. In general, oral presentations will be limited to a total time of 3 minutes. Written comments may be submitted at the meeting; they also may be mailed to Lyle Laverty prior to the meeting and will be accepted up to February 10, 1995.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Forest Service issues permits to more than 120 ski areas for use and occupancy of

National Forest System lands. The current ski area permit fee system, the graduated rate fee system, has been the subject of several audits in the last five years, as well as administrative appeals and litigation concerning decisions as to how the fees are calculated. In response, the Forest Service is developing a new fee system for ski area permits based on fair market value. The purpose of this meeting is to gain public input on whether the Forest Service has identified pertinent methods for determining the fair market value of the use of National Forest System land by ski areas. Lyle Laverty will chair the meeting. The Forest Service will provide a compilation of the methods under consideration upon request.

Dated: January 13, 1995.

David G. Unger,

*Associate Chief.*

[FR Doc. 95-1350 Filed 1-18-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

### Rural Utilities Service

#### Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) To Fund Design and Construction of a Wastewater Collection and Treatment System in La Grange County, Indiana

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announces its intent to prepare an EIS pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (U.S.C. 4231 et seq.) in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508) and Farmers Home Administration Instruction 1940-G. The USDA invites comment on the alternatives to be addressed in the EIS.

**DATES:** Comments will be accepted until February 21, 1995.

**ADDRESSES:** Please send written comments concerning this EIS to: Mr. Paul Neumann, State Environmental Coordinator, USDA—Rural Economic and Community Development, 5975 Lakeside Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46278, (219) 290-3100, (219) 290-3011 FAX.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

La Grange County occupies 380 square miles in northeastern Indiana on the Michigan/Indiana border. La Grange County is a rural county with a population of 30,000. With the exception of the towns of La Grange, Wolcottville, and Topeka, La Grange County relies on septic systems for the treatment and disposal of domestic waste water. The surficial geology of La Grange County is typical of glacial till and outwash regions and contains numerous natural lakes. These areas are usually level to nearly level. Soil types in the area typically have seasonal high water tables and contain a high percentage of sand sized particles; conditions which create a poor filter for the treatment of septic effluent. Beginning in the 1960's, recreational housing development began around the lakes in the county. Originally, this development consisted of weekend and summer cottages with septic systems of minimal treatment capacities. More recently, many of these houses have been converted to year around use. Improperly sized septic systems and unsuitable soil types have contributed to surface and ground water quality degradation in the areas surrounding the lakes. Water quality studies indicate that phosphorous, nitrates, and enteric pathogens directly attributable to failing septic systems are creating health concerns.

Declining water quality in the region has been evidenced by the increase in the number of water related complaints received by the County Health Department. Between 1990 and 1993, water and sewer complaints increased 29 percent. Most complaints consist of concerns of raw sewage odors, foaming agents in surface waters, algal blooms, nuisance vegetation, and fish kills.

Evidence of failing septic systems from around the lakes was obtained from surface water monitoring conducted annually since 1988. Lake water samples have been taken from the 29 largest lakes in the County. Sample sites were selected by the use of a fluorometer calibrated to detect urine, and detergents typically found in domestic waste water. Results of this testing indicate that in all areas of moderate to dense development, high levels of septic indicator substances are present.