

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Lassen
National
Forest

Supervisor's Office
2550 Riverside Drive
Susanville, CA 96130
(530) 257-2151 Voice
(530) 252-6624 TDD
(530) 252-6428 Fax

File Code: 1950-2

Date: October 1, 2004

Dear Interested Parties:

The Lassen National Forest staff publishes a Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA) four times each year, generally on a quarterly basis. Enclosed is the Lassen National Forest's Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA) for October through December 2004. The SOPA report is designed to give early notice of proposed projects, so you may become involved in the planning process for any of them. It meets the requirement of the National Environmental Policy Act Regulation (NEPA) (40 CFR 1506.6), calling for "information or status reports on ...elements of the NEPA process." Currently, this SOPA is mailed to many interested and affected publics, of which you are one. This document is also posted on the Lassen's World Wide Website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/lassen/projects> or can be obtained by contacting Terri Frolli by phone at 530-252-6427 or by writing to the Forest at the address above.

You may notice that it looks different from previous ones. This is because the Forest Service is developing a national database to track key planning information and automatically generate SOPAs in a consistent manner. We hope that the national SOPA will be available in time for the January 2005 SOPA and as such, we will be sending specific instructions on the use of the national database and ask that each of you try to access it from your web browser at that time. We will still provide hard copies to those individuals or organizations that do not have access to a computer.

As you know, the SOPA gives basic information for each project. As is noted in each cover letter, if you would like to know more about a specific project or *to be placed on that project's scoping mailing list*, **you must** notify the contact person listed for the project shown in the SOPA. The Forest does not send project specific information to individuals who do not directly respond to the contact person and request to be placed on that project's scoping mailing list. Therefore, it is very important to first carefully review the schedule of proposed actions each time and second, to notify the appropriate contact person for each specific project that you want to receive more information. By notifying the appropriate contact person, we can assure your involvement at all stages of the planning process. Only one response per project is necessary, even though the project may show up in several quarterly issues of the SOPA. It is also important to note that the information in the SOPA sometimes changes from quarter to quarter as the project moves through the planning process. Projects may also change names if they are combined with other or split apart into several different projects. The SOPA will keep you apprised of these changes.

We appreciate your continued interest in the management of the Lassen National Forest, and hope to hear from you during the coming quarter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Laurie Tippin
LAURIE TIPPIN
Forest Supervisor

