

### George Washington National Forest

The first type of LRMP amendment applicable to the GWNF would be a plan-level amendment that would change land allocations. This would change future management direction for the lands reallocated to the new management prescription (Rx) and is required by LRMP Standards FW-243 and FW-244.

*Proposed Amendment 1:* The LRMP would be amended to reallocate 102.3 acres to the Management Prescription 5C-Designated Utility Corridors from these Rx's: 7E1-Dispersed Recreation Areas (7 acres), and 13-Mosaics of Habitat (95 acres). Management Prescription 11-Riparian Corridors would remain embedded within the new Rx 5C area.

Rx 5C-Designated Utility Corridors contain special uses which serve a public benefit by providing a reliable supply of electricity, natural gas, or water essential to local, regional, and national economies. The new Rx 5C land allocation would be 53.5 feet wide, the width of the final operational right-of-way. The area would not cross into the Rx 4A-Appalachian National Scenic Area but would stop and start at the existing Rx 4A boundary. The applicable area within Rx4A would continue to be managed for the Appalachian National Scenic Trail.

The second type of amendment applicable to the GWNF would be a project-specific amendment that would apply only to the construction and operation of this pipeline. The following standards would require a temporary waiver to allow the project to proceed. These amendments would not change LRMP requirements for other projects or authorize any other actions.

*Proposed Amendment 2:* The LRMP would be amended to allow construction of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline to exceed restrictions on soil conditions and riparian corridor conditions as described in LRMP Standards FW-5, FW-15, FW-16, FW-17 and 11-019, provided that mitigation measures or project requirements agreed upon by the Forest Service are implemented as needed.

*Proposed Amendment 3:* The LRMP would be amended to allow the Atlantic Coast Pipeline to cross the Appalachian National Scenic Trail in Augusta County, Virginia. (reference LRMP Standard 4A-025)

*Potential Amendment 4:* The LRMP may need to be amended to allow removal of old growth trees within the construction corridor of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. (reference LRMP Standard FW-85)

*Potential Amendment 5:* The LRMP may need to be amended to allow major reconstruction of a National Forest System Road within Rx 2C3 area to provide access for pipeline construction. This is contingent on the final location of access roads. (reference LRMP Standard 2C3-015)

*Potential Amendment 6:* The LRMP may need to be amended to allow the ACP to not immediately meet Scenic Integrity Objectives; however, mitigation measures, including vegetation management and restoration actions, are expected to improve quality over an extended timeframe. (reference LRMP Standard FW-182)

The FS will prepare separate Records of Decisions for the authorization decision and for the plan amendments decisions, after issuance of the FERC final EIS. The FS decision to authorize ACP will be subject to FS predecisional administrative review procedures established in 36 CFR 218. The MNF Potential Amendment 1, GWNF Proposed Amendments 2 and 3 and Potential Amendments 4, 5 and 6 were developed in accordance to 36 CFR 219 (2012) regulations but will be subject to the administrative review procedures under 36 CFR 218 regulations Subparts A and B, per 36 CFR 219.59(b). GWNF Proposed Amendment 1 was developed in accordance to 36 CFR 219 (2012 version) regulations and will be subject to the administrative review procedures under 36 CFR 219 Subpart B. Refer to the applicable administrative review regulations for eligibility.

The FS is requesting public comments on the authorization of ACP on NFS lands and the draft proposed and potential amendments of the LRMPs that would allow ACP to cross the MNF and GWNF. All comments must be submitted to the FERC, the Lead Federal Agency, within 90 days following the date of publication of the FERC Notice of Availability for their draft EIS in the **Federal Register**. Refer to Dockets CP15-554-000 and CP15-544-001 (ACP) in all correspondence to ensure that your comments are correctly filed in the record. You may submit comments to the FERC using one of the methods listed in the **ADDRESSES** section above. Only those who submit timely and specific written comments regarding the proposed project during a public comment period are eligible to file an objection with the FS. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, you should be aware that the entire text of your comments—including your personal identifying information—would be publicly available through the

FERC eLibrary system if you file your comments with the Secretary of the FERC.

*Responsible Officials for Fs Authorization of Use To Issue a Special Use Permit:* The Regional Forester Eastern Region for NFS lands on the Monongahela National Forest and the Regional Forester Southern Region for NFS lands on the George Washington National Forest are the Responsible Officials.

*Responsible Officials for Fs LRMP Amendments:* The Forest Supervisor for the Monongahela National Forest is the Responsible Official for the LRMP Amendment on the Monongahela National Forest.

The Forest Supervisor for the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests is the Responsible Official for the LRMP Amendments on the George Washington National Forest.

*Lead Responsible Official for Coordinating Between Regions and Forests for the Project:* The Forest Supervisor for the Monongahela National Forest.

**Authority:** 40 CFR 1506.6, 40 CFR 1506.10.

Dated: December 29, 2016.

**Clyde Thompson,**

*Forest Supervisor.*

[FR Doc. 2017-00008 Filed 1-5-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3411-15-P**

## COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

### Sunshine Act Meeting Notice

**AGENCY:** United States Commission on Civil Rights.

**ACTION:** Notice of Commission Business meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission), and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), that a Business Meeting of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will be convened at 10 a.m. on Friday, January 13, 2017.

**DATES:** Friday, January 13, 2017, at 10 a.m. EST.

**ADDRESSES:** National Place Building, 1331 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., 11th Floor, Suite 1150, Washington, DC 20425 (Entrance on F Street NW.).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Brian Walch, Communications and Public Engagement Director. Telephone: (202) 376-8371; TTY: (202) 376-8116; Email: [publicaffairs@usccr.gov](mailto:publicaffairs@usccr.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This business meeting is open to the public. If you would like to listen to the business meeting, please contact the above for the call-in information.

Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the briefing and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact Pamela Dunston at (202) 376-8105 or at [signlanguage@usccr.gov](mailto:signlanguage@usccr.gov) at least three business days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

### Meeting Agenda

- I. Approval of Agenda
- II. Business Meeting
  - A. Program Planning
    - OCRE Program Planning Update
    - Update on Status of 60th Anniversary Plans
  - B. State Advisory Committees
    - Presentation by Indiana SAC Chair Diane Clements-Boyd and SAC member Carlton Waterhouse of report on School-to-Prison Pipeline in Indiana
  - C. Management and Operations
    - Staff Director's Report
    - Staff Changes
- III. Adjourn Meeting

Dated: January 4, 2017.

### Brian Walch,

*Director, Communications and Public Engagement.*

[FR Doc. 2017-00142 Filed 1-4-17; 4:15 pm]

**BILLING CODE 6335-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

[Docket No.: 161229999-6999-01]

### Commerce Alternative Personnel System

**AGENCY:** Office of Administration, Office of Human Resources Management, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the expansion of employee coverage under the Commerce Alternative Personnel System, formerly the Department of Commerce Personnel Management Demonstration Project, published in the **Federal Register** on December 24, 1997. This coverage is extended to include employees located in the Enterprise Services Organization (ESO), a new organization, in the Office of the Secretary (OS), Office of the Deputy Secretary.

**DATES:** This notice expanding and modifying the Commerce Alternative Personnel System is effective January 6, 2017.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Department of Commerce—Sandra

Thompson, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Room 51020, Washington, DC 20230, (202) 482-0056 or Valerie Smith at (202) 482-0272.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### 1. Background

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) approved the Department of Commerce (DoC) demonstration project for an alternative personnel management system, and published the final plan in the **Federal Register** on Wednesday, December 24, 1997 (62 FR 67434). The demonstration project was designed to simplify current classification systems for greater flexibility in classifying work and paying employees; establish a performance management and rewards system for improving individual and organizational performance; and improve recruiting and examining to attract highly-qualified candidates. The purpose of the project was to strengthen the contribution of human resources management and test whether the same innovations conducted under the National Institute of Standards and Technology alternative personnel management system would produce similarly successful results in other DoC environments. The project was implemented on March 29, 1998. The project plan has been modified eleven times to clarify certain DoC Demonstration Project authorities, and to extend and expand the project: 64 FR 52810 (September 30, 1999); 68 FR 47948 (August 12, 2003); 68 FR 54505 (September 17, 2003); 70 FR 38732 (July 5, 2005); 71 FR 25615 (May 1, 2006); 71 FR 50950 (August 28, 2006); 74 FR 22728 (May 14, 2009); 80 FR 25 (January 2, 2015); 81 FR 20322 (April 7, 2016); 81 FR 40653 (June 22, 2016); 81 FR 54747 (August 17, 2016). With the passage of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008, Public Law 110-161, on December 26, 2007, the project was made permanent (extended indefinitely) and renamed the Commerce Alternative Personnel System (CAPS).

CAPS provides for modifications to be made as experience is gained, results are analyzed, and conclusions are reached on how the system is working. This notice announces that the DoC expands CAPS to include non-bargaining unit employees in the Enterprise Services Organization (ESO) in all duty locations, as a participating organization. The ESO will hire new employees and convert reassigned employees to career paths and occupational series already established under CAPS, requiring no

additional series to be added to accommodate the expansion.

The DoC will follow the CAPS plan as published in the **Federal Register** on December 24, 1997, and subsequent modifications as listed in the Background Section of this notice.

### Kevin E. Mahoney,

*Director for Human Resources Management and Chief Human Capital Officer.*

### Table of Contents

- I. Executive Summary
- II. Basis for CAPS Expansion
- III. Changes to the Project Plan

#### I. Executive Summary

CAPS is designed to (1) improve hiring and allow DoC to compete more effectively for high-quality candidates through direct hiring, selective use of higher entry salaries, and selective use of recruitment incentives; (2) motivate and retain staff through higher pay potential, pay-for-performance, more responsive personnel systems, and selective use of retention incentives; (3) strengthen the manager's role in personnel management through delegation of personnel authorities; and (4) increase the efficiency of personnel systems through the installation of a simpler and more flexible classification system based on pay banding through reduction of guidelines, steps, and paperwork in classification, hiring, and other personnel systems, and through automation.

The current participating organizations include 7 offices of the Chief Financial Officer/Assistant Secretary for Administration in the Office of the Secretary; the Bureau of Economic Analysis; 2 units of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA); the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences and the First Responder Network Authority (an independent authority within NTIA); and 12 units of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration: Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, National Marine Fisheries Service, the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service, National Weather Service—Space Environment Center, National Ocean Service, Program Planning and Integration Office, Office of the Under Secretary, Marine and Aviation Operations, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, the Workforce Management Office, and the Office of the Chief Information Officer.

This amendment modifies the December 24, 1997, **Federal Register** notice. Specifically, it expands DoC CAPS to include the ESO.