LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC SCOPING U.S. FOREST SERVICE SHASTA-TRINITY NATIONAL FOREST PROJECT NAME: Elk Late-Successional Reserve Enhancement Project RANGER DISTRICT: Shasta-McCloud Management Unit, McCloud Ranger District COUNTY: Siskiyou The Shasta-Trinity National Forest is preparing to conduct National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis for the Elk Late-Successional Reserve Enhancement project and you are invited to participate by providing comments during the public scoping period. The project area is located within Siskiyou County on the McCloud Ranger District of the Shasta McCloud Management Unit, approximately nine miles northeast of McCloud and 70 miles northeast of Redding, California. The legal location is: T 40N, R 1W, Sections 4 and 5 and T 41N, R 1W, Sections 27 to 34, Mt. Diablo Meridian. The 3,420-acre project area includes late-successional reserves, matrix lands and Riparian Reserves, as allocated in the Forest"s Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan). Forest Plan management areas include McCloud Flats and Mt. Shasta. The project"s primary purpose is to reduce the current and future risk of large-scale disturbance events within the Elk Flat Late-Successional Reserve (LSR). Additional benefits and objectives include increasing the resilience and promoting continued development and connectivity of late-successional forest habitat within the LSR; and restoring forest stand and meadow conditions to allow for returning the historic lower intensity and more frequent natural fire regime to the landscape. Risk reduction and habitat restoration treatments have been designed to reduce the potential for high severity fire and habitat loss to occur within the project area, as well as on adjacent private lands and Wildland Urban Interface. They include variable density thinning, radial thinning, group selection and regeneration treatments within natural stands and plantations; underburning and mechanical treatments of fuels; and meadow restoration and hardwood release. Road closures and decommissioning to reduce road density and resource impacts are also proposed. A public information meeting is scheduled for Tuesday March 5, 2013 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the McCloud Ranger Station conference room; 2019 Forest Road in McCloud, California. Members of the project interdisciplinary planning team will summarize the purpose and need, existing and desired conditions and the preliminary proposed action. The official 30-day public scoping and comment period will begin when the Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement publishes in the Federal Register. When available, the NOI publication data, which includes instructions for submitting comments, will be posted on the Forest"s website at: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?

project=31312. The NOI is currently expected to publish on February 28, 2013. The scoping document and maps, also available at the above link, provide detailed information regarding the proposal. Reviewing and submitting comments on the proposal will help define the scope of our analysis, including development of alternatives to meet the purpose and need. To ensure your comments can be fully considered, please submit them within 30 days of the publication of the NOI in the Federal Register. For more information, or if you wish to receive a hardcopy scoping document and maps, please contact Christine Jordan at the McCloud Ranger Station, P.O. Box 1620, McCloud, California 96057 or by phone at (530) 964-2184. February 27, 2013 6777687
Publish Dates: 2/27/2013 -3/13/2013