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United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

HUMBOLDT NATIONAL FOREST *Item 38*  
Mountain City Ranger District  
Mountain City, NV 89831

Reply To: 1950

Date: November 2, 1994

Nevada State Clearinghouse  
Department of Administration  
Planning Division  
Blasdel Building, Room 204  
Carson City, NV 89710

Dear Sir/Ma'am:

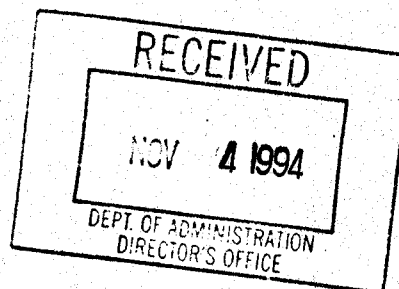
The Humboldt National Forest, Mountain City Ranger District is inviting public comment on two exploration projects proposed by Independence Mining Company Inc. The following are descriptions and locations of the two projects:

Supplement #12 to the South California Mountain Plan of Operations (P.O.O. #113780-90). The legal location for this proposal is: Sections 5,7,8,17 and 18, T.40N., R.54E., Mount Diablo Meridian. Under this supplement, IMCI proposes the construction of approximately 25.9 miles of temporary exploration roads and drilling 283 drill targets.

Supplement #13 to the South California Mountain Plan of Operations (P.O.O. #113780-90). The legal location for this proposal is: Sections 1,11,12,13 and 14, T.40N., R.53E., and Sections 6,7,8,17 and 20, T.40N., R.54E. Mount Diablo Meridian. IMCI proposes the construction of approximately 31.7 miles of temporary exploration roads and drilling 447 drill targets.

These two proposals are located within the Sheep and Stump Creek watersheds in the Independence Mountain Range. Because the proposals are adjacent to one another, one environmental analysis will be done for the two proposals. Based on our experience with past exploration projects our initial concerns for this exploration proposal include:

1. Impacts to the vegetative resource.
2. Impacts to wildlife habitat.
3. Impacts to water quality and riparian areas.
4. Impacts on wildlife species including mule deer and Northern goshawk.
5. Impacts to other National Forest System land users including but not limited to livestock permittees and recreationists.
6. Impacts to cultural resources.



Your written comments, concerns and suggestions on the proposed exploration projects should be received by the Mountain City Ranger District, P.O. Box 276, Mountain City, Nevada 89831 by November 25, 1994 to be most effective. If you should have any questions concerning this project please contact Dean Morgan at (702)763-6691.

Sincerely,

*Dean C. Morgan*

SCOTT W. BELL

*For* Acting District Ranger