

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.

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid (ACVFA).

Date: May 22, 2002 (8:45 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

Location: George Washington University, Marvin Center, 800 21st Street, NW., Washington, DC.

This meeting will feature discussion of development financing and the Millennium Challenge Account (the President's New Compact for Development). Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions of the speakers and to discuss the issues in more depth in small groups.

The meeting is free and open to the public. Persons wishing to attend the meeting can fax or e-mail their name to Larritus Jackson, 202-347-9212, pvcsupport@datexinc.com.

Dated: April 15, 2002.

Noreen O'Meara,

Executive Director, Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid (ACVFA).

[FR Doc. 02-9783 Filed 4-19-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6116-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 02-006N]

Pathogen Reduction: A Scientific Dialogue

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is announcing that it will hold a two-day symposium to discuss scientific data and issues associated with pathogen reduction and HACCP. The purpose of the meeting is to stimulate thinking and generate new ideas towards enhancement of the

Agency's farm-to-table approach for ensuring the safety of meat, poultry, and egg products.

The symposium will focus on analysis and discussion of microbial testing, anti-microbial interventions, performance standards, and other pathogen-reduction inspection activities. Panels chaired by members of the academic scientific community will address questions such as how pathogens enter the food chain, options for constructing statistically sound performance sampling strategies, new trends in microbiology and microbial ecology, and new technologies to remove or inactivate pathogens on carcasses. This symposium is one of a series of meetings being held to discuss new approaches for increasing food safety in an HACCP environment.

DATES: The symposium is scheduled for May 6 and 7, 2002. It will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on both days. A tentative agenda is available in the FSIS Docket Room and on the FSIS Web site at <http://fsis.usda.gov>.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Georgetown University Conference Center, 3800 Reservoir Rd., NW., Washington, DC 20057; telephone (202) 687-3200. FSIS welcomes comments on the topics to be discussed at the symposium. Please send an original and two copies of comments to the FSIS Docket Clerk, Docket #02-006N, 102 Cotton Annex, 300 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3700. All comments and the official transcript, when it is published, will be available in the FSIS Docket Room at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Karen Hulebak, Senior Advisor for Scientific Affairs, FSIS, at (202) 720-8609 or by fax at (202) 720-9893. FSIS encourages attendees to pre-register as soon as possible by contacting Ms. Sheila Johnson of the FSIS Planning Staff at (202) 690-6498 or by e-mail to sheila.johnson@usda.gov. If a sign language interpreter or other special accommodation is necessary, contact Ms. Johnson at the above numbers.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

FSIS administers the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the Poultry Products Inspection Act, and the Egg Products Inspection Act. The Agency's activities are intended to prevent the distribution

in domestic and foreign commerce of food that is unwholesome, adulterated, or misbranded, including products that may transmit diseases or that may be otherwise injurious to health.

In recent years, the Agency has placed increased emphasis on its public health protection role. Throughout the 1990's, the Agency's most important goal was an improved food safety inspection system, exemplified by the HACCP regulations, which are now fully implemented. FSIS has sought to enhance the public health by minimizing foodborne illness from meat, poultry, and egg products. The Agency has worked toward this goal by encouraging industry to adopt measures intended to reduce pathogens on raw products. In addition to regulatory activities aimed at achieving this goal, the Agency has sought to strengthen its relationships with the scientific community and with State and Federal public health agencies, to make food safety information and training available to people at each point in the food production and marketing chain, and to promote international cooperation in food safety.

The Agency's Strategic Plan for 2000-2005 provides that FSIS will continue to focus its operations and resources on food safety and will continue to strengthen the scientific basis for its regulatory activities and initiatives.

The Symposium

At the public meeting, university scientists will chair panels and facilitate dialogue among the panelists from government and academia in discussions about HACCP and pathogen reduction activities. The meeting will focus on questions concerning the entry of pathogens into the meat and poultry food chain and the challenges that the microbial ecology of meat and poultry pathogens present for pathogen control. Additional discussion will focus on intervention strategies such as carcass decontamination and process control methods, performance standards, and microbial testing.

Additional Public Notification

FSIS has considered the potential civil rights impact of this public meeting notice on minorities, women, and persons with disabilities. FSIS anticipates that this notice will not have a negative or disproportionate impact on minorities, women, or persons with

disabilities. However, **Federal Register** notices are designed to provide information and receive public comment on issues that may lead to new or revised Agency regulations or instructions. Public involvement in all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, women and persons with disabilities are aware of this notice and informed about the mechanism for providing their comment.

FSIS provides a weekly Constituent Update, which is communicated via fax to more than 300 persons and organizations. In addition, the update is available on-line through the FSIS Web page located at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>. The update is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, recalls, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents and stakeholders. The constituent fax list consists of industry, trade, and farm groups; allied health professionals; scientific professionals, and other individuals who have requested to be included. Through these various channels, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. For more information and to be added to the constituent fax list, fax your request to the Congressional and Public Affairs Office at (202) 720-5704.

Done in Washington, DC, on: April 11, 2002.

Margaret O'K. Glavin,
Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 02-9690 Filed 4-19-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Payette National Forest, ID, Gaylord North Timber Sale

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The USDA Forest Service will prepare the Gaylord North Timber Sale. The proposed action in the EIS is to manage timber stands to improve their productivity, reduce fire risk to timber and facilities in the Weiser River Canyon, reduce severity of current and future insect and disease activity, improve some compacted soils, decrease existing road levels, and provide wood fiber for society. The selected alternative from the decision notice (1996) for the

Filly Creek and Rubicon timber sales will be the basis for the proposed action for the Gaylord North Timber Sale EIS. The EIS will analyze the effects of the proposed action and alternatives. The Payette National Forest invites written comments and suggestions on the scope of the analysis and the issues to address. The agency gives notice of the full National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis and decision making process on the proposal so interested and affected members of the public may participate and contribute in the final decision.

DATES: Comments need to be received in writing by May 28, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Faye L. Krueger, District Ranger, Council Ranger District, Payette National Forest, P.O. Box 567, Council, Idaho, 83612.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions about the proposed project and scope of analysis should be directed to Michael Hutchins, NEPA Coordinator, at the above address, or by phone at (208) 253-0100.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The analysis area is about 12 air miles northeast to Council, Idaho. The proposed project is on the Council Ranger District within the 8,700-acre Beaver Creek subwatershed and the 7,700-acre Gaylord/Woodland subwatershed, two of six subwatersheds within the larger Upper Weiser River Watershed. The selected alternative from the decision notice (1996) for the Filly Creek and Rubicon timber sales will be the basis for the proposed action for the Gaylord North Timber Sale EIS. The proposed action will be in compliance with the Payette National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan. 1988), as amended, which provides overall guidance for management of this area.

The purpose and need for activities are: (1) Provide wood fiber for society and contribute to the economic and social well-being of many people in the surrounding area and other areas; (2) generate revenue to finance activities to meet objectives in the Forest Plan; (3) manage timber stands to improve their productivity and move toward the desired conditions in the Forest Plan; (4) reduce fire risk to timber and facilities within the Weiser River Canyon; (5) reduce the severity of current and future insect and disease activity affecting timber stands in the area; (6) improve compacted soils on skid trails and landings; (7) improve fish and wildlife habitat, and water quality; and (8) contribute to meeting the Council Ranger District's portion of the

Payette National Forest allowable sale quantity as established by the Forest Plan.

The proposal includes a variety of activities to meet the above eight purpose and need statements. (1) Harvest about 17 million board feet of timber from about 2,800 acres (about 15% of the project area). Harvest prescription would consist of 735 acres of commercial thinning, 450 acres of shelterwood harvesting, 920 acres of reserve tree harvesting, and 695 acres of sanitation and salvage harvesting. Yarding systems would consist of 1,490 acres of tractor logging, 990 acres of skyline logging, and 320 acres of helicopter logging. (2) Plant about 945 acres with conifer seedlings. (3) Finalize construction of 17.5 miles of road, of which 11.6 miles have been substantially completed (some blading, clearing and burning of slash, seeding, and gate installation, etc. remain to be completed), 2.1 miles have been "pioneered" (right-of-way logs cut and skidded), and 3.8 miles have not been started. (4) Following activities, keep open the Beaver Creek Road (#50169), Beaver Creek Contour Road (#50167), Vick Road (#50176), Joker Creek Road (#50486), Joker Creek Cutoff Road (#50149), Marlin Road (#51495), Rubicon Road (#50587), Gaylord Creek Road (#50171), Trestle Pin Road (#51648), Gay Pin Road (#51694), Railroad Creek Road (#50629), Filly Creek Road (#50168), and the Filly Creek Contour Road (#50179). (5) Continue closure of the Beaver State Road (#51588), Beaver Pin Road (#51535), and the Beaver Gulch Road (#51696) following activities. (6) Decommission about 20 miles of existing road about 11 miles of classified roads and 9 miles of non-classified roads, of which 13.2 miles are in riparian areas, through timber sale generated funds. (7) Improve about 21 miles of existing roads by repairing road surfaces, ditches, and stream crossing and placing gravel on about 12 miles or unsurfaced roads. (8) Reduce the open road density in the area from 2.8 miles of open road per square mile to 2.0 miles (a square mile is generally a section in size). (9) Extend Road #50474 by 0.7 miles down the ridgeline on the south side of Gaylord Creek to allow 85 acres to be skyline logged with the requirement that long butts and tops with attached limbs will be yarded to the landings. Logging slash will be burned at these landings. (10) Pile and burn about 690 acres (of which about 170 acres are within the Weiser River canyon) and broadcast burn about 345 acres (of which about 90 acres are