

Frederick Avenue, Suite 500, Gaithersburg, MD 20877-2504; by the methods provided in the latest edition of the "Standard Methods for the Examination of Dairy Products," available from the American Public Health Association, 1015 Fifteenth Street NW, Washington, DC 20005, or by methods published by the International Dairy Federation, available from the International Dairy Federation, 41 Square Vergate, B-1030 Brussels, Belgium.

Authority: (7 U.S.C. 1621-1627).

Dated: July 11, 2000.

Kathleen A. Merrigan,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics

Notice of the Advisory Committee on Agricultural Biotechnology Meeting

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., the United States Department of Agriculture announces a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Agricultural Biotechnology (ACAB).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The ACAB has scheduled its second meeting on July 26-27, 2000. The topics to be discussed will include: (1) finalization of ACAB Bylaws and Operating Procedures; (2) update on recent relevant issues, projects, and activities; (3) potential impacts of the licensing of USDA Control of Gene Expression (CGE) patents; (4) agricultural biotechnology statistics collection and analyses; (5) topics for potential consideration by the National Academy of Sciences' Standing Committee on Biotechnology, Food and Fiber Production, and the Environment; (6) FY 2002 biotechnology budget priorities; and (7) framing of additional issues for future ACAB deliberations.

Background information regarding the work of the ACAB is available on the USDA web site at <http://www.usda.gov/agencies/biotech/acab.html>. Members of the public who wish to make oral statements should also inform Dr. Schechtman in writing or via E-mail at the indicated addresses at least three business days before the meeting. On July 26, 2000, if time permits, reasonable provision will be made for

oral presentations of no more than five minutes each in duration. Interested individuals may file written comments with the committee before or after the meeting by sending them to Dr. Schechtman at the address below. Written comments may be submitted by regular mail, fax, or e-mail.

DATES: The meeting will be held in the Empire Room in the Omni Shoreham Hotel, 2500 Calvert Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008, on July 26-27, 2000. The meeting is scheduled to run from 8:30 am until 7 pm on July 26 and 8:30 am until 5 pm on July 27. The meeting will be open to the public, but space is limited. If you would like to attend the meetings, you must register by contacting Ms. Cindi White at (202) 690-8647, by fax at (202) 720-3191 or by E-mail at cwhite@ars.usda.gov at least 7 days prior to the meeting. Please provide your name, title, business affiliation, address, telephone, and fax number when you register. If you require a sign language interpreter or other special accommodation due to disability, please indicate those needs at the time of registration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Schechtman, Designated Federal Official, Office of the Deputy Secretary, USDA, 202B Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building, 12th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250; Telephone (202) 720-3817; Fax (202) 690-4265; E-mail mschechtman@ars.usda.gov.

Floyd P. Horn,

Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

West Gold Project, Idaho Panhandle National Forests, Bonner County, Idaho

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: The USDA Forest Service will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to document and disclose the potential environmental effects of proposed activities within the West Gold watershed in the Sandpoint Ranger District, Idaho Panhandle National Forests. The watershed is located about 25 miles south of Sandpoint, Idaho, near the town of Lakeview.

The proposal was designed using science from broad scale assessments

including the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project. The proposal is intended to improve the health and productivity of terrestrial and aquatic habitats by: (1) Restoring desired forest structures, habitats, and species composition where they are decreasing and where root disease occurs, (2) restoring fire as an ecological process, (3) reducing the level of forest fuels and the risk of catastrophic wildfire; (4) reducing existing and potential sediment risks and improving aquatic habitat, and (5) providing public access and managing motorized recreation to protect resource values such as wildlife and water.

Activities would include thinning overcrowded stands of trees, cutting stands dead or dying from insects and root disease and replanting them with longer lived seral species; burning to reduce fuels, improve growing conditions, and improve forage for wildlife; placing woody debris in stream segments where needed, improving drainage structures and the design of existing roads; decommissioning or recontouring unneeded road segments; and redesigning gates to allow limited, dry season, off-road vehicle use on some existing roads.

The Sandpoint Ranger District of the Idaho Panhandle National Forests in Bonner County, Idaho will administer these activities. The EIS will tier to the Idaho Panhandle National Forests Forest Plan (September 1987).

DATES: Comments should be postmarked on or before August 16, 2000. Please include your name and address and the name of the project you are commenting on.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments and suggestions on the proposed management activities or request to be placed on the project mailing list by writing to: West Gold Project, Attn: Judy York Sandpoint Ranger District, 1500 Hwy 2, Suite 110, Sandpoint, ID 83864.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Judy York, Project Team Leader, Sandpoint Ranger District, 208-265-6665.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Parts 215 or 217. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(D), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by