

Committee (RAC) for Fresno County will meet on June 18, 2002, 6:30–9:30 p.m. The Fresno County Resource Advisory Committee will meet at the Districts Ranger's office Prather, CA. The purpose of the meeting is for the Resource Advisory Committee to receive project proposals for recommendations to the Forest Supervisor for expenditure of Fresno County Title II funds.

**DATES:** The Fresno RAC meeting will be held on June 18, 2002. The meeting will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The Fresno County RAC meeting will be held at the Sierra National Forest, Pineridge/Kings River Districts Ranger office, 29688 Auberry Road, Prather, CA.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sue Exline, USDA, Sierra National Forest, 1600 Tollhouse Road, Clovis, CA 93611 (559) 297-0706 ext. 4804; E-MAIL [skexline@fs.fed.us](mailto:skexline@fs.fed.us).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Review and approve the May 14, 2002 meeting notes; (2) Discuss new business of the RAC if applicable; (3) Consideration of Title II Project proposals from the public and/or the RAC members; (4) Determine the date and location of the next meeting; (5) Public comment. The meeting is open to the public. Public input opportunity will be provided and individuals will have the opportunity to address the Committee at that time.

Dated: May 6, 2002.

**Ray Porter,**

*District Ranger.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Southwest Oregon Province Interagency Executive Committee (PIEC) Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Southwest Oregon PIEC Advisory Committee will meet on June 4, 2002 in Prospect, Oregon at the Prospect Ranger District Office at 47201, Hwy. 62. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until 5 p.m. Agenda items to be covered include: Provincial Advisory Committee Implementation Monitoring Schedule; Regional Interagency Executive Committee/Interagency Advisory Committee Update; Provincial Advisory Committee Re-Charter Update; Rogue Basin

Technical Team Update; Public Comment.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct questions regarding this meeting to Debra Gray, Province Advisory Committee Staff Member, USDA, Forest Service, Umpqua National Forest, 2900 NW Stewart Parkway, Roseburg, Oregon 97470, phone (541) 957-3405.

Dated: May 9, 2002.

**Lyle Burmeister,**

*Acting Designated Federal Official.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Notice of Availability of a Draft Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Oil Spill at Pepco's Chalk Point Generating Facility, Request for Comments

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**SUMMARY:** The Natural Resource Trustee agencies (Trustees) have written a draft Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment (Draft RP/EA) that describes alternatives for restoring natural resource injuries and compensating for recreational losses resulting from the April 7, 2000 oil spill at the Potomac Electric Power Company (Pepco) generating facility. This plan was developed cooperatively among the Trustees and the responsible parties, Pepco and ST Services (respectively, the owner and operator of the pipeline) pursuant to the Natural Resource Damage Assessment Regulations, 15 CFR Part 990. See specifically 15 CFR 990.54 and 990.55. The purpose of this notice is to inform the public of the availability of the Draft RP/EA and the opportunity to submit written comments on the proposed restoration alternatives.

**DATES:** Comments on the Draft RP/EA must be submitted in writing on or before July 8, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the Draft RP/EA are available at: (1) Lighthouse Point Center, 30383 Three Notch Road, Charlotte Hall, MD (301) 290-0946, 1-800-685-1266, fax (301) 290-0943, Mon.-Fri. 9 am to 5 pm; (2) Information Resource Center, MD Department of Natural Resources, 580 Taylor Avenue, B-3, Annapolis, MD 21401, (410) 260-8830, fax (410) 260-8951, Mon.-Fri. 8 am to 4 pm, and (3)

[www.darp.noaa.gov/neregion/chalkpt.htm](http://www.darp.noaa.gov/neregion/chalkpt.htm).

Written comments on the draft RP/EA should be submitted to: Jim Hoff, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Damage Assessment Center, 1305 East-West Highway, Bldg. 4 Rm. 10218, Silver Spring, Maryland 22044. Alternatively, comments may be submitted electronically to the following E-mail address: [James.Hoff@NOAA.GOV](mailto:James.Hoff@NOAA.GOV). All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the public record.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jim Hoff, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Damage Assessment Center, 1305 East-West Highway, Bldg. 4 Rm. 10218, Silver Spring, Maryland 22044.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

On April 7, 2000, a pipeline ruptured at Pepco's Chalk Point generating facility near Benedict, Maryland, spilling roughly 126,000 gallons of oil into Swanson Creek and the Patuxent River. About 40 miles of environmentally sensitive downstream creeks and shorelines along the Patuxent River were oiled.

Four government agencies—the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, and Maryland Department of Environment—are responsible for restoring natural resources injured by the spill. These agencies act as Trustees on the public's behalf to conduct a natural resource damage assessment, a process for determining the nature and extent of injuries to natural resources and the restoration actions needed to reverse these losses (Oil Pollution Act, 33 U.S.C. 2706(b)).

The Trustees have reviewed the results of numerous studies and consulted with a wide variety of experts in relevant scientific and technical disciplines to determine potential injuries resulting from the spill. Based on this work, the Trustees have estimated losses to: wetlands, fish and shellfish, benthic communities, birds, terrapins and recreational uses.

The Trustees considered numerous restoration alternatives to compensate the public for spill-related injuries and restore similar types of resources, and the services provided by the resources, that were injured by the oil spill (15 CFR 990.54 and 990.55). The Preferred Alternatives include:

(1) *Creating tidal marsh and enhancing shoreline beach to address*