

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.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Research Service

Notice of Intent To Grant Exclusive Patent License

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, intends to grant Arista Biologicals, Inc. of Allentown, Pennsylvania, an exclusive license for U.S. Patent No. 5,563,040, entitled "Method and Apparatus for Immunological Diagnosis of Fungal Decay in Wood". Notice of availability for this invention for licensing was published in the **Federal Register** on June 21, 1994.

DATES: Comments must be received within 30 calendar days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to: Patent Advisor, USDA Forest Service, One Gifford Pinchot Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53705-2398.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet I. Stockhausen of the USDA Forest Service at the Madison address given above; telephone: 608-231-9502; fax: 608-231-9508; or e-mail: jstockhausen@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal government's patent rights to this invention are assigned to the United States of America, as represented by the Secretary of Agriculture. It is in the public interest to so license this invention as Arista Biologicals, Inc. of Allentown, Pennsylvania has submitted a complete and sufficient application for a license. The prospective exclusive license will be royalty-bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective exclusive license may be

granted unless, within 30 days from the date of this published notice, the Forest Service receives written evidence and argument which establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

Michael D. Ruff,

Assistant Administrator.

[FR Doc. 03-3445 Filed 2-11-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

[CA 668-03-1040-DP-083A]

Monument Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior; United States Forest Service, Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and United States Forest Service (USFS) announce the schedule of meetings for the Advisory Committee to the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument (hereinafter referred to as "National Monument"). The meetings will be held on the following dates:

- Saturday, April 5th, 2003;
- Saturday, June 7th, 2003;
- Saturday, August 2nd, 2003;
- Saturday, October 4th, 2003;
- Saturday, December 6th, 2003;

Meetings will be held at the Palm Desert City Hall Council Chambers, located at 73-510 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert, California, 92260, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. or until the agenda items are completed. There will be an hour dedicated to public input from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. A sign up sheet will be located at the meeting room on the day of the meeting. Speakers wishing to comment publicly should sign the public comment sign-in sheet provided at the location of the meetings. All committee meetings, including field examinations, will be open to the general public, including representatives of the news media. Any organization, association, or individual

may file a statement with or appear before the committee and its subcommittees regarding topics on a meeting agenda—except that the chairperson or the designated federal official may require written comments to the Advisory Committee. The meetings will have agendas developed and available to the public prior to the meeting date. The agendas for each meeting will be located on the Bureau of Land Management Web Page for the National Monument (<http://www.ca.blm.gov/palmsprings/>). The April 5th, 2003 meeting will focus any Advisory Committee comments following publication of a Draft Management Plan for the National Monument. The subject matter of subsequent meetings will focus on the content and implementation of the National Monument Management Plan and other actions affecting the National Monument.

The Monument Advisory Committee (MAC) is a committee of citizens appointed to provide advice to the BLM and USFS with respect to preparation and implementation of the management plan for the National Monument as required in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 431nt). The act authorized establishment of the MAC with representative members from State and local jurisdictions, the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, a natural science expert, local conservation organization, local developer or building organization, the Winter Park Authority and a representative from the Pinyon Community Council.

The meeting will be open to the public with attendance limited to space available. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance such as sign language interpretations or other reasonable accommodations should notify the contact person listed in advance of the meeting. Persons wishing to make statements will need to sign up at the meeting location.

DATES: April 5, 2003; June 7, 2003; August 2, 2003; October 4, 2003; and December 6, 2003. All meetings will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a morning public comment period from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Meetings may end prior to 4 p.m. if all agenda items are completed.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers of the Palm Desert City Hall, 73–510 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert, California, 92260.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Written comments should be sent to Miss Danella George, Santa Rosa San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Manager, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 581260, North Palm Springs, CA 92258; or by fax at (760) 251–4899 or by email at dgeorge@ca.blm.gov. Information can be found on our Web Page: <http://www.ca.blm.gov/palmsprings/>. Documents pertinent to this notice, including comments with the names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office located at 690 W. Garnet Avenue, North Palm Springs, California, during regular business hours 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument was established by act of Congress and signed into law on October 24, 2000. The National Monument was established in order to preserve the nationally significant biological, cultural, recreational, geological, educational and scientific values found in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains. This legislation established the first monument to be jointly managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). The Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Act of 2000 affects only Federal lands and Federal interests located within the established boundaries.

The 272,000 acre Monument encompasses 86,400 acres of Bureau of Land Management lands, 64,400 acres of Forest Service lands, 23,000 acres of Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians lands, 8,500 acres of California Department of Parks and Recreation lands, 35,800 acres of other State of California agencies lands, and 53,900 acres of private land. The BLM and the Forest Service will jointly manage Federal lands in the National Monument in coordination with the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, other federal agencies, state agencies and local governments.

Dated: February 6, 2003.

Danella George,

Designated Federal Official, National Monument Manager.

[FR Doc. 03–3468 Filed 2–11–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–40–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of renewal at USDA.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. appendix), notice is hereby given that the Secretary of Agriculture has renewed the charter for the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics, hereafter referred to as Committee. Effective October 1, 1996, responsibility for the census of agriculture program was transferred to the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) at USDA from the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce. Effective February 2, 1997, NASS also received the transferred program positions and staff from the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce. Responsibility for the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics, which is a discretionary committee, was transferred, along with its allocated slot, to USDA with the census of agriculture program.

The Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics has provided input and direction to the census of agriculture program since the committee was first established on July 16, 1962. It has been particularly critical to have the committee as a valuable resource to USDA during the transfer of the census from the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The purpose of the committee is to make recommendations on census of agriculture operations including questionnaire design and content, publicity, publication plans, and data dissemination.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by April 18, 2003, to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Contact R. Ronald Bosecker, Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, (202) 720–2707.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on the conduct of the periodic censuses and surveys of agriculture, other related surveys, and the types of agricultural information to obtain from respondents. The committee also prepares

recommendations regarding the content of agriculture reports, and presents the views and needs for data of major suppliers and users of agriculture statistics.

The Secretary of Agriculture has determined that the work of the Committee is in the public interest and relevant to the duties of USDA. No other advisory committee or agency of USDA is performing the tasks that will be assigned to the Committee.

The Committee, appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture, shall consist of 25 members representing a broad range of disciplines and interests, including, but not limited to, agricultural economists, rural sociologists, farm policy analysts, educators, State agriculture representatives, and agriculture-related business and marketing experts.

Representatives of the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, and Economic Research Service, USDA, serve as ex-officio members of the Committee.

The committee draws on the experience and expertise of its members to form a collective judgment concerning agriculture data collected and the statistics issued by NASS. This input is vital to keep current with shifting data needs in the rapidly changing agricultural environment and keep NASS informed of emerging developments and issues in the food and fiber sector that can affect agriculture statistics activities.

Equal opportunity practices, in line with USDA policies, will be followed in all membership appointments to the Committee. To ensure that the recommendations of the Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by USDA, membership shall include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

Signed at Washington, DC, January 31, 2003.

R. Ronald Bosecker,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 03–3444 Filed 2–11–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–20–P