

## Background

FSIS administers the Egg Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 1031–1056). The Agency's current activities are intended to prevent the distribution in domestic and foreign commerce, as human food, of unwholesome, adulterated, or misbranded pasteurized egg products.

For the past several years, FSIS and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have been developing a joint and coordinated strategy to more effectively deal with egg safety. Pursuant to this coordinated strategy, FDA recently published a proposed rule that would require shell egg producers to implement measures to prevent SE from contaminating eggs on the farm (69 FR 56823, Sept. 22, 2004). FSIS, in turn, is focusing its pathogen reduction efforts on egg products plants and egg handling operations that pasteurize shell eggs.

To better evaluate potential mitigations for reducing the public health impact of SE and *Salmonella* spp., as well as improve the safety of pasteurized shell eggs and liquid egg products, FSIS has developed two draft quantitative risk assessments on SE in shell eggs and *Salmonella* spp. in liquid egg products. These draft risk assessments build upon the 1998 joint FSIS–FDA *Salmonella* Enteritidis Risk Assessment (SERA), which was developed to establish the risk of SE in shell eggs and *Salmonella* spp. in liquid egg products to human health and to identify and evaluate potential risk reduction strategies. However, the 1998 SERA did not have sufficient data to provide a scientific basis for FSIS to develop egg safety standards for egg products.

Since 1998, new data have become available that has allowed FSIS to develop risk assessments that are more useful for developing FSIS performance standards for SE in pasteurized shell eggs and *Salmonella* spp. in liquid egg products. This new information includes data collected from a national baseline survey conducted by FSIS to measure *Salmonella* levels in liquid egg products and data collected by the University of Nebraska on the lethality kinetics of *Salmonella* spp. in a wide variety of liquid egg products. These draft risk assessments provide important data that the Agency intends to use in deciding what pathogen reduction lethality standards to propose for the processing of pasteurized shell eggs and pasteurized egg products.

FSIS requests comment on these draft risk assessments and will hold a public meeting to discuss and seek input on them on October 22, 2004, at (see

**ADDRESSES** above). The draft risk assessments will be made available for review on October 15, 2004, when they will be posted on the FSIS Web site.

## Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, in an effort to ensure that the public and in particular minorities, women, and persons with disabilities, are aware of this notice, FSIS will announce it on-line through the FSIS Web page located at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>.

FSIS also will make copies of this **Federal Register** publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which 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 update is communicated via Listserv, a free e-mail subscription service consisting of industry, trade, and farm groups, consumer interest groups, allied health professionals, scientific professionals, and other individuals who have requested to be included. The update also is available on the FSIS Web page. Through Listserv and the Web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience.

Done in Washington, DC, on: September 29, 2004.

**Barbara J. Masters,**

*Acting Administrator.*

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**BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P**

Headquarters, 4077 SW. Research Way, Corvallis, Oregon, 97333.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joni Quarnstrom, Public Affairs Specialist, Siuslaw National Forest, 541–750–7075, or write to Siuslaw National Forest Supervisor, P.O. Box 1148, Corvallis, OR 97339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meeting is open to the public. Council Discussion is limited to Forest Service/BLM staff and Council Members. Lunch will be on your own. A public input session will be at 2 p.m. for fifteen minutes. The meeting is expected to adjourn around 3 p.m.

Dated: September 29, 2004.

**Michael A. Harvey,**

*Assistant Recreational Staff.*

[FR Doc. 04–22341 Filed 10–4–04; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Tehama County Resource Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Tehama County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet in Red Bluff, California. Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Introductions, (2) approval of minutes, (3) public comment, (4) chairman report, (5) new members welcome, (6) review of projects funded to date, (7) general discussion, (8) next agenda.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on October 14, 2004 from 9 a.m. and end at approximately 12 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Lincoln Street School, Conference Room A, 1135 Lincoln Street, Red Bluff, CA. Individuals wishing to speak or propose agenda items must send their names and proposals to Jim Giachino, DFO, 825 N. Humboldt Ave., Willows, CA 95988.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bobbin Gaddini, Committee Coordinator, USDA, Mendocino National Forest, Grindstone Ranger District, P.O. Box 164, Elk Creek, CA 95939. (530) 968–5329; Email [ggaddini@fs.fed.us](mailto:ggaddini@fs.fed.us).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meeting is open to the public. Committee discussion is limited to Forest Service staff and Committee members. However, persons who wish to bring matters to the attention of the Committee may file written statements with the Committee staff before or after

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Oregon Coast Provincial Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Oregon Coast Province Advisory Committee will meet in Corvallis, OR, October 14, 2004. The theme of the meeting is Introduction/Overview/Business Planning. The agenda includes: PAC Subcommittee Updates, RiverPrize Update, Special Forest Products, 2005 Meeting Theme/Agenda/Dates, Public Comment and Round Robin.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held October 14, 2004, beginning at 9 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Siuslaw National Forest