

v. *NRDC*. 435 U.S. 519. 553 [1978]). Also, environmental objectives that could be raised at the draft EIS stage but that are not raised until after the completion of the final EIS may be waived or dismissed by the courts (*City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F. 2d 1016, 1022 [9th Cir. 1986] and *Wisconsin Heritage, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334 [E.D.Wis. 1980]). Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the 45-day comment period; so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final EIS.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the draft EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if the comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft EIS or the merits of alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provision of the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR 1503.3) in addressing these points.

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 may not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR part 215. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requester of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within a specified number of days.

Comments on the draft EIS will be analyzed, considered, and responded to by the Forest Service in preparing the final EIS. The final EIS is scheduled to

be completed in February 2005. There will be four responsible officials for this multiforest EIS. Dale Hom, Forest Supervisor of the Olympic National Forest, Claire Lavendel, Forest Supervisor of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Gary Larsen, Forest Supervisor of the Mt. Hood National Forest, and Dan Harkenrider, Area Manager of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area will share the duties of responsible official for this project. They will consider comments, responses, environmental consequences discussed in the final EIS, and applicable laws, regulations, and policies in making the decision and rationale for the decision in the Record of Decision. It will be subject to Forest Service Appeal Regulations (36 CFR part 215).

Dated: February 12, 2004.

Jim Golden,

Deputy Regional Forester, Pacific Northwest Region.

[FR Doc. 04-3581 Filed 2-20-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Mendocino Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Mendocino County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet March 12, 2004, in Willits, California. Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Introductions; (2) Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) summary; (3) RAC overview; (4) selection of chair; (5) support role of Forest Service; (6) meeting logistics; (7) public comment; (8) general discussion; and (9) next agenda and meeting date.

DATES: The meeting will be held on March 12, 2004, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Mendocino County Museum, located at 400 E. Commercial St. Willits, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roberta Hurt, Committee Coordinator, USDA Forest Service, Mendocino National Forest, Covelo Ranger District, 78150 Covelo Road, Covelo CA 95428. (707) 983-6118; E-mail rhurt@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. Persons who wish to bring matters to the attention of the Committee will have the opportunity to address the committee at the meeting.

Dated: February 6, 2004.

James Fenwood,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 04-3770 Filed 2-20-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Notice of Appointment to the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notification of appointment to the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Secretary of Agriculture announces members appointed to the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics, in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. II.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Carol House, Executive Director, Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics, U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Telephone: 202-720-4333, Fax: 202-720-9013, or e-mail: chouse@nass.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The appointment to the twenty-five member committee, which has representation across seven categories that covers a broad range of agricultural disciplines and interests, was signed on November 28, 2003. Appointed members, by their associated category are: *Consumer and Information Organizations*—Ross Ronald Racine, Billings, MT; James Dennis Rieck, Winfield, IL; Robert W. Spear, Nobleboro, ME. *Educational Organizations*—R. Edmund Gomez, Alcalde, NM; Ling-Jung (Kelvin) Koong, Corvallis, OR; Bobby Ray Phillips, Tallahassee, FL. *Farm Services Organizations*—Jacklyn M. Folsom, Cabot, VT; John Irving Gifford, Rock Island, IL; Jack Charles Mitenbuler, Indianapolis, IN; Ranvir Singh, Marysville, CA; Mark Edward Whalon, East Lansing, MI. *Government Agencies*—Robert Dale Epperson, Fresno, CA. *National Farm Organizations*—Carol Ann Gregg, Grove City, PA; Mark W. Jenner, Mt. Prospect, IL; Sheila Kay Massey, Animas, NM; Ivan W. Wyatt, Cedar Point, KS. *Producer and Marketing Organizations*—Gary Adams, Cordova, TN; Roger M. Cryan, Fairfax, VA; William George Lapp, Omaha, NE.; Lucy C. Meyring, Walden, CO.; Ron Olsen, Idaho Falls, ID; Ron Plain, Columbia, MO; Ira Silvergleit, Alexandria, VA.