

most helpful, comments on the draft environmental impact statement should be as specific as possible and may address the adequacy of the statement or the merits of the alternatives discussed.

The Forest Service believes it is important to give reviewers notice at this early stage of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of draft environmental impact statements must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions.

*Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft environmental impact statement stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (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 objection are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final environmental impact statement.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the draft environmental impact statement should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft environmental impact statement or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. (Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points.) Comments received, including the names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposal and will be available for public inspection.

(Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7 and 1508.22; Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, Section 21)

Dated: June 16, 2003.

**Faye L. Krueger,**

*Deputy Forest Supervisor.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Giant Sequoia National Monument Scientific Advisory Board

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Giant Sequoia National Monument Scientific Advisory Board (Scientific Advisory Board) will hold a teleconference meeting on Tuesday, July 15, 2003. Scientific Advisory Board members will be phoning in from various points around the country. A telephone will be set up for members of the public to hear the meeting, at the Sequoia National Forest Supervisor's Office, 900 West Grand Avenue, Porterville, California. The purpose of the meeting is for the Scientific Advisory Board to discuss and deliberate on their final report to the Secretary of Agriculture.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held Tuesday, July 15, 2003, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., Pacific daylight time.

**ADDRESSES:** Members of the public will be able to listen to the meeting at the Sequoia National Forest Supervisor's Office, 900 West Grand Avenue, Porterville, California, in Room 8.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To receive further information, contact Arthur L. Gaffrey, (559) 784-1500, or (559) 781-6650 TDD.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meeting is open to the public. If you are planning to attend, please contact Arthur L. Gaffrey to ensure adequate seating. The meeting is accessible to persons with disabilities. If you need accommodations, please contact Arthur L. Gaffrey at the number provided. No presentations by the public will occur.

Written comments for the Scientific Advisory Board may be submitted to Forest Supervisor, Arthur L. Gaffrey, Sequoia National Forest, 900 West Grand Avenue, Porterville, California 93257.

A final agenda can be obtained by contacting Arthur L. Gaffrey or by visiting the Giant Sequoia National Monument Web site at [http://www.r5.fs.fed.us/giant\\_sequoia](http://www.r5.fs.fed.us/giant_sequoia).

Dated: June 20, 2003.

**Arthur L. Gaffrey,**

*Forest Supervisor, Sequoia National Forest.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rogue/Umpqua Resource Advisory Committee (RAC)

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA Forest Service.

**ACTION:** Action of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Rogue/Umpqua Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet on Thursday and Friday, July 17 and 18, 2003. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 8 a.m. and conclude at approximately 5 p.m. on July 17 and begin at 8 a.m. and conclude at approximately 2 p.m. on July 18. The meeting will be held at the Options Building, 1215 SW. G Street, Grants Pass, OR. On July 17, the agenda includes (1) Approval of the 2003 budget/expense summary and the 2004 projected summary at 9 a.m., (2) Review of 2002 and 2003 Title II projects on the Rogue River and Umpqua national forests at 10:30 a.m., (3) Public Forum at 1 p.m., (4) Review of Title II projects in Jackson County proposed for 2004 by the Forest Service and private individuals at 1:30 p.m., (5) Review of Title II projects in Klamath County proposed for 2004 by the Forest Service and private individuals at 3:30 p.m., and (6) Discussion on overhead percentages charged to Title II funds at 4:15 p.m. The agenda on July 18 includes (1) Public Forum at 8:10 a.m., (2) Review of Title II projects in Douglas County proposed for 2004 by the Forest Service and private individuals at 8:30 a.m., (3) Review of Title II projects in Lane County proposed for 2004 by the Forest Service and private individuals at 10:45 a.m., (4) Review of Title II projects in Josephine County proposed for 2004 by the Forest Service and private individuals at 12:30 p.m., and (5) Selecting next meeting date at 1:30 p.m. Written public comments may be submitted prior to the July meeting by sending them to Designated Federal Official Jim Caplan at the address given below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For more information regarding this meeting, contact Designated Federal Official Jim Caplan; Umpqua National Forest; PO Box 1008, Roseburg, Oregon 97470; (541) 957-3203.

Dated: June 19, 2003.

**John Sloan,**

*Acting Deputy Forest Supervisor, Umpqua National Forest.*

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