

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, May 29, 2003. The theme of the meeting is Introduction/Overview/Business Planning. The agenda includes: Orientation of the NW Forest Plan; Set Future Meetings and Topics—Monitoring Field Trip; Lower Siuslaw Sub-Committee Update/Round Robin and Public Input.

DATES: The meeting will be held May 29, 2003, beginning at 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the LaSells Stewart Center, 100 LaSells Stewart Center, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon 97331.

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/BLM staff and Council Members. Lunch will be on your own. A public input session will be at 3:15 p.m. for fifteen minutes. The meeting is expected to adjourn around 3:30 p.m.

Dated: May 13, 2003.

George Buckingham,

District Ranger.

[FR Doc. 03-12534 Filed 5-19-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service****Notice of Modoc County RAC Meetings**

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the authorities in the Federal Advisory Committees Act (Public Law 92-463) and under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-393), the Modoc National Forest's Modoc County Resource Advisory Committee will meet Monday, June 9, in Alturas, California. The meetings are open to the public.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The business meeting June 9, begins at 4 p.m., at the Modoc National Forest Office, Conference Room, 800 West 12th St., Alturas. Agenda topics will include approval of May 12 Minutes,

consideration of new projects for funding in 2004, and discuss community outreach for projects for fiscal year 2004 that will improve the maintenance of existing infrastructure, implement stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems, provide economic benefits and restore and improve health and water quality that meet the intent of Public Law 106-393. Time will also be set aside for public comments at the beginning of the meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Forest Supervisor Stan Sylva, at (530) 233-8700; or Public Affairs Officer Nancy Gardner at (530) 233-8713.

Stanley G. Sylva,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 03-12533 Filed 5-19-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Natural Resources Conservation Service****Notice of Availability of Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program**

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has prepared a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and an Environmental Assessment (EA) consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, to implement the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, which is authorized by 16 U.S.C. 3839aa. Upon review of the analysis of potential environmental impacts from a national perspective, the Chief of NRCS found that the program would not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment, particularly when focusing on the significant adverse impacts that NEPA is intended to help decision-makers avoid and mitigate against. Therefore, a FONSI was issued, and no environmental impact statement is required for national implementation of the program.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments on the EA and FONSI must be postmarked on or before June 19, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Comments must be sent to Charles Whitmore, Acting Director, Conservation Operations Division, NRCS, U.S. Department of Agriculture,

P.O. Box 2890, Room 6034-S, Washington, DC 20013-2890.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Copies of the FONSI, the Final EA, or additional information on matters related to this **Federal Register** Notice can be obtained by contacting one of the following individuals at the addresses and telephone numbers shown below:

Mr. Anthony Esser, Environmental Quality Incentives Program Manager, Conservation Operations Division, NRCS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 2890, Room 6039-S, Washington, DC 20013-2890, Telephone: (202) 720-1840. Ms. Andrée DuVarney, National Environmental Specialist, Ecological Sciences Division, NRCS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 2890, Room 6158-S, Washington, DC 20013-2890, Telephone: (202) 720-4925.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Description of the Proposed Action**

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary program providing technical and financial assistance to agricultural producers for planning and implementing natural resource conservation practices on their farms and ranches. The purposes of EQIP, as amended by the 2002 Act, are to promote agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible national goals, and to optimize environmental benefits. The need to which NRCS is responding by proposing action is the need to implement EQIP as amended by the 2002 Act in a manner that achieves the purposes for which Congress authorized EQIP, including:

1. Assisting producers to comply with local, State, and national regulatory requirements concerning soil, water, and air quality; wildlife habitat; and surface and groundwater conservation;

2. Assisting producers to address national, State, Tribal, and local resource concerns so that there is no need for resource and regulatory programs;

3. Providing flexible assistance to producers to install and maintain conservation practices that enhance soil, water, related natural resources (including grazing lands and wetlands), and wildlife, while sustaining production of food and fiber; and

4. Assisting producers to make beneficial, cost-effective changes to cropping systems, grazing management, nutrient management associated with livestock, pest or irrigation management, or other practices on agricultural land.