

- Appleton, WI; and
- St. Cloud, MN.

Information regarding the specific location of each session will be made available as soon as arrangements are finalized (see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Neil Hammerschmidt, Animal Identification Officer, National Center for Animal Health Programs, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 43, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231, (301) 734-5571.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 30, 2003, the Secretary of Agriculture announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) would expedite the implementation of a national animal identification system for all species after the discovery of bovine spongiform encephalopathy in a cow in Washington State. On April 27, 2004, following several months of a USDA working group's efforts to develop an implementation framework for a U.S. animal identification plan, the Secretary announced the framework for implementation of a National Animal Identification System (NAIS) designed to identify any agricultural premises exposed to a foreign animal disease so that it can be more quickly contained and eradicated. The Secretary also announced that \$18.8 million would be transferred from the Department's Commodity Credit Corporation to provide initial funding for the program during fiscal year (FY) 2004. The FY 2004 funding has been earmarked for the initial infrastructure development and implementation of the national system, but both private and public support will be required to make it fully operational. The Administration's proposed FY 2005 budget includes another \$33 million for the effort.

The implementation of a NAIS will be conducted in three main phases. Under Phase I, USDA will evaluate current federally funded animal identification systems and determine which system(s) should be used for a NAIS, further the dialog with producers and other stakeholders on the operation of a NAIS, identify staffing needs, and develop any regulatory and legislative proposals needed for implementing the system.

Phase II will involve the implementation of the animal identification system at regional levels for one or more species, continuation of the communication and education effort, addressing regulatory needs, and working with Congress on any needed legislation.

In Phase III, the animal identification system(s) would be scaled up to the national level.

The first step in the process is to select an interim data repository to handle incoming national premises data. USDA has commissioned an independent analysis of repositories that are currently part of various USDA-funded animal identification projects around the country. Once the system is identified that shows greatest potential for use on a national level, USDA will enter into cooperative agreements with States, Indian tribes, and other government entities to assist them in adapting their existing systems to the new system.

USDA is committed to developing a program that is technology neutral, so as to provide producers, to the extent possible, the flexibility to use current and effective systems and technologies, as well as adopt new technologies as they are developed.

As noted previously, one element of USDA's Phase I efforts is furthering the dialog with producers and other stakeholders on the operation of a NAIS. To provide an opportunity for such a dialog, the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, USDA, will host a series of listening sessions across the country to provide livestock producers and other stakeholders with the opportunity to offer their comments regarding the implementation of the NAIS.

In order to provide interested persons with as much advance notice of the listening sessions as possible, we are publishing this notice before we have finalized the precise locations and times of each listening session. As soon as the arrangements for the listening session in each city are finalized, we will post information regarding the location and time of the session on the NAIS Web page (<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/issues/nais/nais.html>) maintained by the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). In addition, APHIS' Legislative and Public Affairs staff will issue press releases and undertake other outreach activities to ensure that this information is made as widely available as possible.

The tentative agenda for each listening session is as follows:

- Opening remarks from the Under Secretary;
- Remarks from other officials who may be in attendance (e.g., Members of Congress, State agriculture secretaries or commissioners);
- An overview of the NAIS presented by APHIS' Veterinary Services program;
- Opportunity for remarks from livestock producers and other

stakeholders in attendance. If the number of persons wishing to speak warrants it, USDA may limit the time for each presentation so that everyone wishing to speak has the opportunity to do so.

A transcript will be made of each listening session, and the transcript will be placed on the NAIS Web page.

Done in Washington, DC, this 21st day of June 2004.

W. Ron DeHaven,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 04-14433 Filed 6-24-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Information Collection; Understanding Value Trade-Offs Regarding Fire Hazard Reduction Programs in the Wildland-Urban Interface

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Forest Service is seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on a new research study for developing a better understanding of communities' perceived risk of losses from wildfire in the wildland-urban interface and their willingness to pay for fuels reduction programs to reduce the risk of wildfires.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing on or before August 24, 2004, to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Comments concerning this notice should be addressed to Armando González-Cabán, Pacific Southwest Research Station, Forest Service, USDA, 4955 Canyon Crest Drive, Riverside, CA 92507.

Comments also may be submitted via facsimile to (909) 680-1501, or by e-mail to agonzalezcaban@fs.fed.us.

The public may inspect comments received at 4955 Canyon Crest Drive, Riverside, CA 92507, building one reception area during normal business hours. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to (909) 680-1500 to facilitate entry to the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Armando González-Cabán, Pacific Southwest Research Station, Forest Service, USDA, (909) 680-1525.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Understanding Value Trade-offs Regarding Fire Hazard Reduction

Programs in the Wildland-Urban Interface.

OMB Number: 0596–New.

Expiration date of approval: N/A.

Type of request: New.

Abstract: Forest Service and university researchers will contact recipients of a mail-phone-mail questionnaire to solicit information designed to help forest and fire managers understand value trade-offs regarding fire hazard reduction programs in the wildland-urban interface. Through those contacts researchers will evaluate the responses of Florida residents to different scenarios related to fire hazard reduction programs, determine how effective residents think the programs are, and calculate how much residents would be willing to pay to implement the alternatives presented to them. This will help researchers provide better information to natural resource, forest, and fire managers when they are contemplating the kind and type of fire hazard reduction program to implement to achieve forest land management planning objectives.

To gather the information, a stratified random sample of Florida residents will be contacted through a random digit dialing process to seek participation in the research study. Those who agree to participate will then be informed that a questionnaire will be sent to them and asked to provide an address to which to mail the questionnaire; they will be asked to answer a minimal set of questions to determine their pre-existing knowledge of fuels reduction treatments. They will also be asked to agree to a date and time for an in-depth interview related to the questionnaire mailed to them. Once the in-depth interview is completed no further contact will take place with participants.

The information will be collected by a university research survey center and will be analyzed by a Forest Service researcher and a researcher at a cooperating university who are experienced in applied economic nonmarket valuation research and survey research.

At present the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, and many State agencies with fire protection responsibilities are planning to embark on an ambitious and costly fuels reduction program for fire risk reduction without a clear understanding of the public's opinion on which treatments are most effective or even desirable. Information collected in this research will help natural resource and fire

managers to better understand the public's opinions on fuels reduction activities.

Estimate of Annual Burden: The average annual burden estimated per respondent is 30 minutes, based on 1000 respondents at 5 minutes for the initial screener interview and 25 minutes of the in-depth interview.

Type of Respondents: Respondents will be a stratified random sample of heads of households.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses per Respondent: Only one response per respondent will be requested.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: The annual burden on respondents that is estimated for this information collection is 30 minutes.

Comment Is Invited

Comment is invited on: (1) Whether this collection of information is necessary for the stated purposes and the proper performance of the function of the agency, including whether the information will have practical or scientific utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses when provided, will be a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized and included in the submission request toward Office of Management and Budget approval.

Dated: June 18, 2004.

Barbara C. Weber,

Associate Deputy Chief, Research & Development.

[FR Doc. 04–14389 Filed 6–24–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–11–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

[CA–668–1040 (P)]

Correction to Notice of a Call for Nominations for the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Advisory Committee

AGENCIES: Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior; Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of correction; this notice was previously published in the Federal Register: Vol. 69, No. 94, Friday, May 14, 2004.

SUMMARY: The Federal Register Notice incorrectly identified positions open for nomination. The call for nominations for a representative of the Winter Park Authority is withdrawn. The current Winter Park Authority position expires in 2005. This **Federal Register** notice will open the call for nominations for a representative with expertise in the natural science and research selected from a regional college or university, for a 3-year term starting in November 2004 and ending in November 2007.

DATES: Submit nomination packets for the natural science position to the address listed below by August 9, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Request nomination packets and send completed nomination packets to: Advisory Committee Nominations, Ms. Danella George, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 581260, North Palm Springs, California 92258–1260.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Danella George, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Manager, (760) 251–4800.

Dated: June 17, 2004.

Melissa Drew,

Acting Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Manager, Palm Springs Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management.

Dated: June 16, 2004.

Laurie Rosenthal,

District Ranger, San Jacinto Ranger District, San Bernardino National Forest, U.S. Forest Service.

[FR Doc. 04–14402 Filed 6–24–04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rogue/Umpqua Resource Advisory Committee (RAC)

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.