

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket No. ST-03-01]

Plant Variety Protection Board; Open Meeting

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a forthcoming meeting of the Plant Variety Protection Board.

DATES: March 5 and 6, 2003, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., open to the public.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the United States Department of Agriculture George Washington Carver Center, 5601 Sunnyside Avenue, Beltsville, Maryland.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Commissioner Paul M. Zankowski, Plant Variety Protection Office, Science and Technology Program, United States Department of Agriculture, 10301 Baltimore Blvd., Room 400, National Agricultural Library Building, Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2351, Telephone number (301) 504-5518 or fax (301) 504-5291.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the provisions of section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 5 U.S.C. App.), this notice is given regarding a Plant Variety Protection Advisory Board meeting. The board is constituted under section 7 of the Plant Variety Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 2327).

The proposed agenda for the meeting will include discussions of: (1) The process improvement (Six Sigma) plan, (2) the financial status of the Plant Variety Protection Office, (3) implementation of a quality assurance program, (4) potential relocation of the Plant Variety Protection Office, (5) plans for the migration of the existing

database, (6) E-business plans and (7) other related topics. Written comments may be submitted to the contact person listed above before or after the meeting.

Upon entering the George Washington Carver Center, visitors should inform security personnel that they are attending the PVP Advisory Board Meeting. Identification will be required to be admitted to the building. Security personnel will direct visitors to the registration table located outside of Room 4-2223. Registration upon arrival is necessary for all participants.

If you require accommodations, such as sign language interpreter, please contact the person listed under "For Further Information Contact". The meeting will be recorded, and information about obtaining a transcript will be provided at the meeting.

Dated: February 20, 2003.

A.J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

Agenda

Plant Variety Protection (PVP) Board Meeting, March 5 and 6, 2003, USDA, George Washington Carver Center 5601 Sunnyside Avenue, Beltsville, Maryland

March 5, 2003

Call to Order
Introductions
Opening Remarks
Adoption of Agenda
Adoption of November 2001 Board Meeting Minutes
Overview of the PVP Act and briefing on the PVP Office
Appeals to the Secretary of Agriculture
FY 2002 Accomplishment Report
Update on Business Process Improvement (Six Sigma) Plan

March 6, 2003

PVPO Financial Update
Discussion on the PVP Quality Assurance Program
PVP Office Relocation Discussion
Database Migration Plans
E-business Plans
Topics brought forward by Board members
Future Program Activities
Meeting Summary
Adjourn

[FR Doc. 03-4394 Filed 2-20-03; 1:33 pm]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Crooked River National Grassland Vegetation and Livestock Grazing Management, Ochoco National Forest, Jefferson County, OR

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The USDA, Forest Service will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) on a Proposed Action to return the Crooked River National Grassland (CRNG or Grassland) vegetation to its historical range of variability and to graze domestic livestock where suitable. This will include control of western juniper on 40,000 acres using prescribed fire and chainsaw cutting, rehabilitate 10,000 acres of non-native crested wheatgrass seedings, continue grazing domestic livestock on approximately 82,000 acres, close domestic livestock grazing on approximately 9,000 acres, and to create a forage reserve on approximately 27,000 acres. This project is located in Jefferson County within the Mud Springs Creek, Willow Creek, Lower Crooked River, Crooked River, Steelhead, Whychus, Lake Billy Chinook, Lower Metolius, and Deschutes South watersheds.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by March 21, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Robin Vora, Acting District Manager, Crooked River National Grassland, 813 SW Highway 97, Madras, Oregon 97741.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Glenn Adams, ID Team Leader, CRNG. Phone: (541) 416-6440 E-mail gradams@fs.fed.us

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Grassland was created after the homesteading era failed in the 1930's. Between 1935 and 1965 the Soil Conservation Service rehabilitated and developed the Grassland by seeding approximately 60,000 acres of abandoned farmland to crested wheatgrass and beardless bluebunch wheatgrass, developing livestock drinking water, fencing and implementing grazing allotment management plans (AMPs). During the