

Please call the Information Line for up-to-date information on this meeting.

Agenda: The Board will hear and discuss counter terrorism initiatives at FDA with emphasis on those initiatives from: The Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, the new Office of Cellular and Gene Therapy in the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, current research and efforts in the pregnancy labeling initiative, an update of the pharmaceutical manufacturing initiative from The Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, and an update of the management oversight of products.

Procedure: Interested persons may present data, information, or views, orally or in writing, on issues pending before the committee. Written submissions may be made to the contact person by October 18, 2002. Open committee discussion will be held from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.; an open public hearing will be held from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.; and an open committee discussion will be held from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Oral presentations from the public will be scheduled between approximately 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Time allotted for each presentation may be limited. Those desiring to make formal oral presentations should notify the contact person before October 18, 2002, and submit a brief statement of the general nature of the evidence or arguments they wish to present, the names and addresses of proposed participants, and an indication of the approximate time requested to make their presentation.

Persons attending FDA's advisory committee meetings are advised that the agency is not responsible for providing access to electrical outlets.

FDA welcomes the attendance of the public at its advisory committee meetings and will make every effort to accommodate persons with physical disabilities or special needs. If you require special accommodations due to a disability, please contact Susan Bond at least 7 days in advance of the meeting.

FDA regrets that it was unable to publish this notice 15 days prior to the October 25, 2002, Science Board to the Food and Drug Administration Advisory Committee Meeting. Because the agency believes there is some urgency to bring these issues to public discussion and qualified members of the Science Board to the Food and Drug Administration Advisory Committee were available at that time, the Commissioner concluded that it was in the public interest to hold this meeting even if there was not sufficient time for the customary 15-day public notice.

Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. app. 2).

Dated: October 10, 2002.

Linda Arey Skladany,
Senior Associate Commissioner for External Relations.

[FR Doc. 02-26472 Filed 10-11-02; 4:26 pm]

BILLING CODE 4160-01-S

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education (CHGME) Program Conference

AGENCY: Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of public hearing.

SUMMARY: This document announces a public hearing to receive information and views on the notice that proposes methodologies and processes for the Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education (CHGME) Payment Program, published in the **Federal Register** (67 FR 60241) on September 25, 2002. The notice proposes methodology for: (1) Determining payments during the CHGME Payment Program's reconciliation process; (2) calculating indirect medical education (IME) payment; (3) disseminating CHGME Payment Program data, and (4) audit. This hearing will brief the public on the above methodologies and processes as well as hear public comments on the above. The public may also participate in the hearing by telephone as described below.

DATES: The public hearing will be held on October 22, 2002, from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. EST.

ADDRESSES: The public hearing will be held in the Division of Medicine and Dentistry Conference Room, Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources and Services Administration, Parklawn Building, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 9A-27, Rockville, Maryland 20857.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ayah E. Johnson, Ph.D., telephone: (301) 443-1058; Division of Medicine and Dentistry, Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources and Services Administration, Parklawn Building, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 9A-27, Rockville, Maryland 20857; or by e-mail at: ajohnson@hrsa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The CHGME Payment Program, as authorized by section 340E of the Public

Health Service (PHS) Act (the Act) (42 U.S.C. 256e), provides funds to children's hospitals to address disparity in the level of Federal funding for children's hospitals that result from Medicare funding for graduate medical education (GME). Pub. L. 106-310 amended the CHGME statute to extend the program through fiscal year 2005.

The hearing will again provide information on the proposed methodologies and processes contained in the September 25, 2002, CHGME Payment Program notice. The agenda for the hearing will include the following: (1) Methodology for determining payments during the CHGME Payment Program's reconciliation process; (2) calculating IME payment; (3) disseminating CHGME Payment Program data, and (4) audit. This hearing will brief the public on the above methodologies and processes as well as hear comments from the public on the above. Time will also be available for a question and answer period. Information about the Program can be found on the CHGME Payment Program Web site. The Web site address is <http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/childrenshospitalgme>.

For security reasons, individuals wishing to attend the public hearing at the Parklawn Building must contact the CHGME Payment Program no later than October 17, 2002 to receive security clearance. These individuals should plan to arrive no later than 1:15 PM to accommodate security procedures. Individuals who do not contact the CHGME Payment Program by October 17, 2002 to receive security clearance will not be admitted to the Parklawn Building. In order for individuals to participate by telephone, they must dial: (888) 625-1617 and enter the corresponding pass code 52453. The pass code (52453) and Dr. Ayah Johnson's name, as call leader, are required to join the call. Telephone participants should call no later than 1:45 p.m. for logistical reasons.

In order to facilitate the public hearing, participants are asked to submit their questions in writing to Ayah E. Johnson, Ph.D., Division of Medicine and Dentistry, Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources and Services Administration, Parklawn Building, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 9A-27, Rockville, Maryland 20857; or by e-mail at ajohnson@hrsa.gov no later than October 17, 2002.

During the public hearing, individuals are asked to (1) hold their questions until the allotted question-and-answer period; (2) identify themselves and their hospital/organization before each question; and (3) address questions to

the Health Resources and Services Administration only. Individuals participating by telephone are also asked to keep their speakerphones on mute unless they are asking a question.

Dated: October 10, 2002.

Elizabeth M. Duke,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 02-26476 Filed 10-16-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4165-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Availability of the Draft Recovery Plan for the Star Cactus (*Astrophytum asterias*)

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of document availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces the availability for public review of the Draft Recovery Plan for the Star Cactus (*Astrophytum asterias*). The star cactus is known to occur on one private land site in Starr County, Texas. Additional populations may be found in Tamaulipas, Mexico. The Service solicits review and comment from the public on this draft plan.

DATES: The comment period for this Draft Recovery Plan closes November 18, 2002. Comments on the Draft Recovery Plan must be received by the closing date.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to review the Draft Recovery Plan can obtain a copy from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Corpus Christi Ecological Services Field Office, c/o TAMUCC, 6300 Ocean Drive, Box 338, Corpus Christi, Texas, 78412. Comments and materials concerning this Draft Recovery Plan may be sent to "Field Supervisor" at the address above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Loretta Pressly, Corpus Christi Ecological Services Field Office, at the above address; telephone (361) 994-9005, facsimile (361) 994-8262.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The star cactus (*Astrophytum asterias*) was listed as endangered on October 18, 1993, under authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. The threats facing the survival and recovery of this species include: habitat destruction through conversion of native habitat to agricultural land and increased urbanization; competition with exotic

invasive species; genetic vulnerability due to low population numbers; and collecting pressures for cactus trade. The Draft Recovery Plan includes information about the species and provides objectives and actions needed to downlist, then delist the species. Recovery activities designed to achieve these objectives include; protecting known populations; searching for additional populations; performing outreach activities to educate the general public on the need for protection; establishing additional populations through reintroduction in the known range of the plant.

Restoring an endangered or threatened animal or plant to the point where it is again a secure, self-sustaining member of its ecosystem is a primary goal of the Service's endangered species program. To help guide the recovery effort, the Service is working to prepare recovery plans for most of the listed species native to the United States. Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for conservation of species, establish criteria for downlisting or delisting them, and estimate time and cost for implementing the recovery measures needed.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) requires the development of recovery plans for listed species unless such a plan would not promote the conservation of a particular species. Section 4(f) of the Act, as amended in 1988, requires that public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. The Service will consider all information presented during a public comment period prior to approval of each new or revised recovery plan. The Service and other Federal agencies will also take these comments into account in the course of implementing recovery plans.

The Star Cactus Draft Recovery Plan is being submitted for technical and agency review. After consideration of comments received during the review period, the recovery plan will be submitted for final approval.

Public Comments Solicited

The Service solicits written comments on the recovery plan described. All comments received by the date specified above will be considered prior to approval of the recovery plan.

Authority

The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533(f).

Dated: September 10, 2002.

Bryan Arroyo,

Acting Regional Director, Region 2.

[FR Doc. 02-26376 Filed 10-16-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-660-02-1610-DT]

Notice of Availability of the Proposed California Desert Conservation Area Plan Amendment for the Coachella Valley, and the Final Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, California Desert District.

ACTION: Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Proposed California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan Amendment for the Coachella Valley (Coachella Valley Plan) and associated Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), and initiation of the 30-day protest period.

SUMMARY: The Coachella Valley Plan amends the CDCA Plan for a 1.2 million-acre planning area encompassing the Coachella Valley, California. The BLM administers approximately 28 percent, or 330,516 acres, of the planning area. The Coachella Valley Plan is being developed in coordination with the Coachella Valley Association of Governments in support of their efforts to prepare a Coachella Valley Multiple-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (CVMSHCP).

The Coachella Valley Plan includes goals, objectives, and management prescriptions in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) for comprehensive management of desert ecosystems, including actions supporting recovery of ten species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act: Peninsular Ranges Bighorn Sheep (*Ovis Canadensis nelsoni*), Arroyo Toad (*Bufo microscaphus californicus*), Desert Pupfish (*Cyprinodon macularius macularius*), Desert Slender Salamander (*Batrachoseps aridus*), Desert Tortoise (*Xerobates [or Gopherus] agassizii*), Least Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), Southwestern Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), Yuma Clapper Rail (*Rallus longirostris yumanensis*), Coachella Valley Milk Vetch (*Astragalus lentiginosus coachellae*), and Triple-ribbed Milk Vetch (*Astragalus tricarlinatus*). The