

Proposed Project: Evaluation of the Buprenorphine Waiver Program—Baseline Physician Survey—(New)—The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT), Division of Pharmacologic Therapies (DPT), is evaluating a program that permits office-based physicians to obtain Waivers from the requirements of the Narcotic Addict Treatment Act of 1974 (21 U.S.C. 823 (g)). Under the Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 (21 U.S.C. 823 (g)(2)), the Waiver Program permits qualifying physicians to prescribe and dispense buprenorphine, a schedule III narcotic drug recently approved by the FDA for the treatment of opiate addiction. Furthermore, the Drug Abuse Treatment Act specifies that the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services make a determination of whether: (1) Treatments provided under the Waiver Program have been effective forms of maintenance treatment and detoxification treatment in clinical settings; (2) the Waiver Program has significantly increased (relative to the beginning of such period) the availability of maintenance treatment and detoxification treatment; and, (3)

the Waiver Program has adverse consequences for the public health. In addition to the objectives above, the Evaluation of the Buprenorphine Waiver Program will examine other related objectives, including: (1) Describing the impact of the Waiver-based treatment on the existing treatment system; (2) providing information useful to guide and refine the processing/monitoring system being developed and maintained by CSAT/DPT; and (3) providing baseline data to inform future research and policy concerning the medicalization and mainstreaming of addiction treatment.

The evaluation by DPT of the Buprenorphine Waiver Program will be accomplished using three survey efforts. The first of these, in the first year of the evaluation, is a mail survey of addiction physicians from the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) and/or the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry (AAAP). Some of these specialists will be prescribing and distributing buprenorphine, while others not prescribing buprenorphine may or may not provide referrals or ancillary services to patients receiving buprenorphine treatment. The survey will provide early data about the availability, effectiveness, and public

health consequences associated with the Waiver Program. Specifically, the survey will assess early perceptions of physicians specializing in addiction medicine of whether buprenorphine as prescribed and distributed under the Waiver Program is a useful tool in the treatment of substance abuse, and whether there are any negative consequences associated with it. The survey will also assess whether there are early indications of limitations to the availability of the medication, related to factors such as geographic location, type of medical practice, patient population, or ability to pay.

Results from this survey will influence the focus and content of two additional proposed surveys to be fielded later in 2003. A second survey will focus on the clinical practice and perceived effectiveness of buprenorphine among physicians who are actively prescribing the medication. A third survey of patients who have received buprenorphine will assess its effectiveness and availability from the patients' point of view. A separate **Federal Register** notice will be published for these surveys.

The estimated response burden for the first survey of physicians over a period of one year is summarized below.

Addiction physicians	Number of respondents	Number of responses/respondent	Total number of responses	Hrs./response	Total hour burden
Physician survey	1,000	1	1,000	.5	500 hrs.

Send comments to Nancy Pearce, SAMHSA Reports Clearance Officer, Room 16-105, Parklawn Building, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Dated: November 26, 2002.

Richard Kopanda,

Executive Officer, SAMHSA.

[FR Doc. 02-30684 Filed 12-3-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4162-20-P

SUMMARY: With this notice we announce a public meeting to discuss the results of the twelfth regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP12) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

DATES: The public meeting will be held on December 13, 2002, from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

ADDRESSES:

Public Meeting

The public meeting will be held in the Sidney Yates Auditorium of the Department of the Interior, 18th and C Streets, NW., Washington, DC.

Available Information

Information concerning the results of COP12 is available on the web site of the CITES Secretariat (<http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/index.shtml>), or upon request from the Division of Management Authority (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, below), or via our COP12 web site (<http://>

international.fws.gov/cop12/cop12.html).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Peter O. Thomas, Ph.D., Chief, Division of Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, telephone: 703/358-2093, fax: 703/358-2280, e-mail: cites@fws.gov; or Robert R. Gabel, Chief, Division of Scientific Authority, telephone: 703/358-1708, fax: 703/358-2276, e-mail: scientificauthority@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is an international treaty designed to monitor and regulate international trade in certain animal and plant species which are, or may become, threatened with extinction, and are listed in Appendices to the treaty. Currently 160 countries, including the United States, are CITES Parties. CITES calls for biennial meetings of the Conference of the

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora; Results of the Twelfth Regular Meeting; Public Meeting

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

Parties (COP), which review its implementation, make provisions enabling the CITES Secretariat (in Switzerland) to carry out its functions, consider amending the list of species in Appendices I and II, consider reports presented by the Secretariat, and make recommendations for the improved effectiveness of CITES. Any country that is a Party to CITES may propose and vote on amendments to Appendices I and II, resolutions, decisions, and agenda items for consideration by the Conference of the Parties. CITES COP12 was held in Santiago, Chile, from November 3 to 15, 2002.

This is the seventh in a series of **Federal Register** notices concerning U.S. participation in CITES COP12. We published our first such **Federal Register** notice on June 12, 2001 (66 FR 31686), and with it we requested information and recommendations on potential species amendments for the United States to consider proposing at COP12. Information on that **Federal Register** notice, and on species amendment proposals, is available from the Division of Scientific Authority (*see ADDRESSES*, above). We published our second such **Federal Register** notice on July 25, 2001 (66 FR 38739), and with it we requested information and recommendations on potential resolutions, decisions, and agenda items for the United States to submit for consideration at COP12. You may obtain information on that **Federal Register** notice, and on proposed resolutions, proposed decisions, and agenda items, from the Division of Management Authority (*see ADDRESSES*, above). We published our third such **Federal Register** notice on March 27, 2002 (67 FR 14728), and with it we announced a public meeting to discuss potential species amendment proposals, proposed resolutions, proposed decisions, and agenda items that the United States was considering submitting for consideration at COP12. With that notice, we also provided information on how non-governmental organizations based in the United States could attend COP12 as observers. You may obtain information on that **Federal Register** notice from the Division of Management Authority (*see ADDRESSES*, above). We published our fourth such **Federal Register** notice on April 18, 2002 (67 FR 19207), and with it we listed potential proposed resolutions, proposed decisions, agenda items, and proposed amendments to the CITES Appendices that the United States was considering submitting for consideration at COP12, and invited your comments on these potential proposals. You may obtain

information on that **Federal Register** notice from the Division of Management Authority (for information pertaining to proposed resolutions, proposed decisions, and agenda items) or the Division of Scientific Authority (for information pertaining to proposed amendments to the Appendices) (*see ADDRESSES*, above). We published our fifth such **Federal Register** notice on August 20, 2002 (67 FR 53962), and with it we announced a public meeting on September 10, 2002, to discuss tentative negotiating positions of the United States for COP12 proposals and other agenda items. You may obtain information on that **Federal Register** notice from the Division of Management Authority (*see ADDRESSES*, above). We published our sixth such **Federal Register** notice on October 31, 2002 (67 FR 66463), in order to provide the agenda for COP12, announce our final tentative negotiating positions, and extend the comment period for providing information and input to the United States in the development of these positions. You may obtain information on that **Federal Register** notice from the Division of Management Authority (*see ADDRESSES*, above).

This series of **Federal Register** notices and public meetings provided the public with an opportunity to participate in the development of tentative U.S. negotiating positions for COP12.

On June 6, 2002, the United States submitted to the CITES Secretariat, for consideration at COP12, its proposed resolutions, proposed decisions, agenda items, and proposed amendments to the CITES Appendices. These documents are available from our web site at: <http://international.fws.gov/cop12/ussubmission.html>. You may locate our regulations governing this public process in 50 CFR 23.31 through 23.39.

Announcement of Public Meeting

The United States participated in COP12, and by this notice we announce a public meeting to discuss the results of that meeting. The public meeting will be held on December 13, 2002, from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon in the Sidney Yates Auditorium of the Department of the Interior at 18th and C Streets, NW., Washington, DC. We recommend that you enter the Department of the Interior building via the C Street entrance. Directions to the meeting can be obtained by contacting the Division of Management Authority (*see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT*, above). Please note that the auditorium is accessible to the handicapped. Persons planning to attend the meeting who require interpretation for the hearing

impaired should notify the Division of Management Authority as soon as possible.

Author: This notice was prepared by Bruce Weissgold, Division of Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Authority: The authority for this notice is the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: November 27, 2002.

Marshall P. Jones Jr.,

Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. 02-30700 Filed 12-3-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-030-1020-PG; G 03-0035]

Meeting Notice for the Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Vale District.

SUMMARY: The Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council (SEORAC) will meet in the Lewis and Clark conference room at the Holiday Inn, Ontario, OR 97641, 541-573-3370 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mountain Time (MT), on Monday, February 24, 2003. On Tuesday, February 25, 2003 there will be a tour of the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretative Center in Baker City, OR.

The meeting topics that may be discussed by the Council include a discussion of issues within southeast Oregon related to North Lake Recreation Plan, Birch Creek Management Plan, Wildland Fire Board, OHV, Wood River Project, Wild Horse & Burro, Rangeland Assessment, Federal officials' updates, and other matters as may reasonably come before the Council. The entire meeting is open to the public. Information to be distributed to the Council members is requested in written format 10 days prior to the Council meeting. Public comment is scheduled for 11:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m., Mountain Time (MT), on Monday, February 24, 2003. For the tour scheduled for Tuesday, February 25, 2003, please contact the BLM office listed below for exact times as the date approaches.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Additional information concerning the SEORAC may be obtained from Peggy Diegan, Management Assistant/ Webmaster, Vale District Office, 100 Oregon Street, Vale, OR 97918 (541) 473-3144, or Peggy_Diegan@or.blm.gov and/or from the following Web site: <http://www.or.blm.gov/SEOR-RAC>.