

Protection Act authorizes the Department to carry out this mission. The Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) program of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is responsible for implementing the regulations that carry out the intent of this Act. The regulations in "Subpart—Fruits and Vegetables" (7 CFR 319.56 through 319.56–8) prohibit or restrict the importation of fruits and vegetables into the United States from certain parts of the world to prevent the introduction and dissemination of plant pests, including fruit flies, that are new to or not widely distributed within the United States.

The regulations in § 319.56–2ff allow fresh Hass avocados grown in approved orchards in Michoacan, Mexico, to be imported into certain areas of the United States under conditions designed to ensure that the avocados do not harbor insect pests (including avocado stem weevils, seed weevils, and seed moths) that could harm U.S. agriculture. To reduce the pest risk to a negligible level, the regulations stipulate conditions for the importation of avocados, which include pest surveys, packinghouse procedures, inspection and shipping procedures, and restrictions on the time of year shipments may be imported into the United States.

Allowing avocados to be imported necessitates the use of certain information collection activities, including the use of an application for permit, a trust fund agreement, a phytosanitary certificate, certain marking requirements, seals, an annual workplan, and fruit fly surveys.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of these information collections for 3 years.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:

(1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the information collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the information collection on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical,

and other collection technologies, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Estimate of burden: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.165 hours per response.

Respondents: Packinghouse owners/operators in Mexico, importers, shippers, distributors, and handlers of fresh Hass avocados imported into the United States from Mexico.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 380.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 1.

Estimated annual number of responses: 380.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 443 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Done in Washington, DC, this 26th day of June 2001.

Craig A. Reed,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Giant Sequoia National Monument Scientific Advisory Board Meeting

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Scientific Advisory Board established for the Giant Sequoia National Monument will hold its second meeting, July 17 and 18, 2001. The meeting will be held at the River Island Country Club, 31989 River Island Drive, Porterville, California. Topics for the meeting include: Allow for comments from the public; review and approve the minutes from the meeting held June 12 and 13, 2001; discuss and agree on advice regarding the Proposed Action (June 8, 2001 letter); and discuss the questions presented to the Scientific Advisory Board by the Forest. A final agenda can be obtained by contacting the Designated Federal Official to the Scientific Advisory Board Act Gaffrey or by visiting the Giant Sequoia National Monument web site at www.r5.fs.fed.us/giant_sequoia. Some members of the Scientific Advisory

Board may participate in the meeting via telephone. In that event, arrangements will be made to enable the public to listen to all the members participating in the meeting. Scientific Advisory Board meetings are open to public attendance.

DATES: The meeting will begin on July 17, starting 8 a.m. and ending at 5 p.m. A field visit to the southern portion of the Giant Sequoia National Monument is scheduled July 18, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at River Island Country Club, 31989 River Island Drive, Porterville, CA 93257.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To receive further information contact Arthur L. Gaffrey, Designated Federal Official to the Scientific Advisory Board, telephone: (559) 784–1500, extension 111.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A field visit to parts of the Giant Sequoia National Monument may be held as part of the meeting on July 18. The field visit is open to the public. Anyone wishing to attend the field visit must provide his or her own transportation.

Written comments for the Scientific Advisory Board may be submitted to Forest Supervisor Arthur L. Gaffrey, Sequoia National Forest, 900 West Grand Avenue, Porterville, CA 93257.

To ensure adequate seating on July 17, public contact Forest Supervisor Gaffrey, if you are planning to attend. Guidelines for the public participation portion of the Scientific Advisory Board's meeting are as follows: The public will be allowed to address the Scientific Advisory Board during the first 30 minutes of the meeting on July 17. The public must provide a written copy of their presentation for inclusion in the meeting minutes. Each person wishing to make an oral presentation may do so for no more than 5 minutes, depending on the number of people wishing to address the Board. All presentations to the Board must be relative to the science surrounding the development of the Management Plan for the Giant Sequoia National Monument.

Dated: June 26, 2001.

Arthur L. Gaffrey,

Forest Supervisor, Sequoia National Forest.

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