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Done at Washington, DC, on October 2, 2003.

F. Edward Scarbrough,

U.S. Manager for Codex.

[FR Doc. 03-25460 Filed 10-7-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

The Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), today accepted petitions filed by the Catfish Farmers of America, Indianola, Mississippi; Rutledge & Rutledge, Newport, Arkansas; and the Western Regional Chapter of Kentucky Aquaculture Association, Farmington, Kentucky, for trade adjustment assistance. The groups represent catfish producers in the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South

Carolina, Texas, and Utah. The Administrator will determine within 40 days whether or not imports of fresh, chilled, or frozen catfish fillets, contributed importantly to a decline in domestic producer prices of 20 percent or more during calendar 2002. If the determination is positive, all catfish farmers represented by the petitioners will be eligible to apply to the Farm Service Agency for technical assistance at no cost and adjustment assistance payments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jean-Louis Pajot, Coordinator, Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers, FAS, USDA, (202) 720-2916, e-mail: trade.adjustment@fas.usda.gov.

Dated: October 2, 2003.

A. Ellen Terpstra,

Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.

[FR Doc. 03-25522 Filed 10-7-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Kirkwood Mountain Resort's 2003 Mountain Master Development Plan; Eldorado National Forest, Placer County, CA

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: The Eldorado National Forest, Amador Ranger District is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) analyzing proposed improvements outlined in Kirkwood Mountain Resort's 2003 Mountain Master Development Plan, which provides for long-range planning on National Forest System lands with Kirkwood's Special Use Permit (SUP) area. The August 2001 Mountain Master Development Plan was slightly revised in September 2003 in order to accurately reflect Kirkwood's 2003 Specific Plan, which was recently approved via the California Environmental Policy Act review process, and provides for long-range development of private lands within the Kirkwood community. Therefore, the August 2001 Mountain Master Development Plan will be referred to as the 2003 MMDP. The projects detailed within the 2003 MMDP were evaluated cumulatively within the 2003 Kirkwood Recirculated Revised Final Environmental Impact Report.

The 2003 MMDP provides a detailed account of the Kirkwood's existing and potential recreational assets, constraints, and future needs. Kirkwood is seeking site-specific NEPA review of all projects

identified in the 2003 MMDP which, if approved, could be implemented within five to eight years.

The 2003 MMDP focuses on enhancing the recreational experience at Kirkwood by providing for improvements to: the lift and terrain network; on-mountain guest services; snowmaking coverage; infrastructure; and non-skiing/riding activities. Due to the nature of Kirkwood's lift and terrain network, some of the proposals contained in the 2003 MMDP overlap onto adjacent, private property; however, all proposals for NFS lands are confined to Kirkwood's existing SUP area, and the SUP area is not proposed for expansion or modification.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope and implementation of this proposal should be received by November 7, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Anthony Botello, Project Leader, Eldorado National Forest, 26820 Silver Drive, Pioneer, CA 95666, (209) 295-5998 Fax

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions and comments about this EIS should be directed to Anthony Botello, at the above address, or call him at (209) 295-5960.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Kirkwood's Alpine comfortable carrying capacity (CCC—defined as the optimum number of guests accommodated by a resort at any one time, which affords a high quality recreational experience) is derived from the resort's combined uphill hourly capacity and the estimated demand for vertical transport. The 2003 MMDP proposes to increase Alpine CCC at Kirkwood from 6,460 guests to 9,300 guests.

Six existing aerial lifts are proposed for upgrades and/or realignments, including: Caples Crest (Chair 2)—which would be renamed "Flying Carpet" with full implementation of the 2003 MMDP; Iron Horse (Chair 3); Sunrise (4); Solitude (Chair 5); Wagon Wheel (Chair 10); and Reut (Chair 11). Two new chairlifts are proposed—Caples Crest Express and Thimble Peak (lifts A and C, respectively), as well as four new surface lifts—Look Out Vista (Lift B), Covered Wagon (Lift D), Red Cliffs (Lift E) and a snowplay lift. Proposed aerial and surface lifts would provide access to existing hike-to terrain within Kirkwood's SUP area.

Proposed terrain additions and improvements are proposed within Kirkwood's SUP area which would increase Kirkwood's formalized (*i.e.*, named) trail network from approximately 567 acres to approximately 781 acres. (Off-piste (*i.e.*, natural/ungroomed) terrain is not

accounted for in this trail inventory or acreage). Seasonal construction (*i.e.*, from snow only) of a terrain park under Chair 4 and miscellaneous trail widening and improvements are proposed to improve the quality and diversity of the recreational experience offered at Kirkwood. The majority of terrain additions are proposed in open bowls, natural glades, and above treeline areas. Minor amounts of vegetation removal are proposed in association with new lift access and trails.

The Proposed Action includes installation of additional snowmaking infrastructure as well as re-analysis of previously approved, unimplemented snowmaking infrastructure. At full build-out, Kirkwood would offer approximately 192 acres of snowmaking coverage (56 acres of existing plus proposed/previously approved).

An on-mountain lodge near the summit of Caples Crest with year-round casual and fine dining, 700 indoor and 500 outdoor seats, restrooms, and ski patrol facilities, is proposed.

New ski patrol duty stations would be constructed atop the Covered Wagon, Thimble Peak, and the Red Cliffs lifts. In addition, the Proposed Action provides for modifications to the Chair 10 ski patrol duty station; and replacement of the Chair 2 ski patrol duty station with ski patrol space allocated in the Caples Crest Lodge. An overnight snowcat storage facility (for one machine) atop the Wagon Wheel Chairlift (Chair 10) and storage for an additional snowcat atop the Cornice Chairlift (Chair 6) is also proposed.

Non-skiing/riding improvements include: relocation and redesign of Kirkwood's snowtubing area to a mix of NFS/private lands near the Village; a paragliding program with launch sites accessed via the Caples Crest Express, Cornice Express, and Wagon Wheel chairlifts; improved access to Kirkwood's multiple use trails and a modified scenic ride program are also proposed; and improvement of two existing Nordic trails (*Agony* and *Ecstasy*) by using limited rock blasting within the existing trail corridor.

Infrastructural improvements include updating on-mountain utilities including power, water, sewer and communication lines.

A number of other projects on private lands at Kirkwood are addressed in Kirkwood's 2003 *Specific Plan*. While facilities and projects located on private lands will not be analyzed in detail in this EIS, they have been incorporated into the overall planning and will be discussed cumulatively.

The Proposed Action is consistent with the 1989 Eldorado National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan as amended by the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment Record of Decision (2001).

The decision to be made is whether to adopt and implement the Proposed Action, an alternative to the Proposed Action, or take no action.

Other alternatives will be developed based on significant issues identified during the scoping process for the Environmental Impact Statement. All alternatives will need to respond to the states Purpose and Need. Alternatives being considered at this time include: (1) No Action and (2) the Purposed Action.

Public participation will be especially important at several points during the analysis. The Forest Service will be seeking information, comments, and assistance from the Federal, State, and local agencies and other individuals or organizations who may be interested in or affected by the Proposed Action. To facilitate public participation, information about the Proposed Action is being mailed to all who have expressed interest in the Proposed Action and notification of the public scoping period will be published in the Mountain Democrat, Placerville, CA.

Comments submitted during the scoping process should be specific to this proposed action. The comments should describe as clearly and completely as possible any issues the commenter has with the proposal. The scoping process includes:

- (a) Identifying potential issues;
- (b) Identifying issues to be analyzed in depth.
- (c) Eliminating non-significant issues or those previously covered by a relevant previous environmental analysis;
- (d) Exploring additional alternatives;
- (e) Identifying potential environmental effects of the Proposed Action and alternatives;

The draft EIS will be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is expected to be available for public review by late Spring/early Summer 2004. EPA will publish a Notice of Availability (NOA) of the draft EIS in the Federal Register at that time. The comment period on the draft EIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA NOA appears in the Federal Register. At that time, copies of the draft EIS will be distributed to interested and affected agencies, organizations, and members of the public for their review and comment. It is very important that those interested in the management of the

Eldorado National Forest participate at that time.

The Forest Service believes it is important to give reviewers notice at this early stage of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of a draft EIS must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. (*Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC.*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978)). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft EIS stage, but that are not raised until after completion of the final EIS may be waived or dismissed by the courts (*City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803f. 2d 1016, 1022 (9th Cir, 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980)). Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this Proposed Action participate by the close of the comment period so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final EIS.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the Proposed Action, comments on the draft EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft EIS. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft EIS or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. (Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points).

The final EIS is anticipated to be completed in fall 2004. In the final EIS, the Forest Service is required to respond to substantive comments received during the comment period that pertain to the environmental consequences discussed in the draft EIS and applicable laws, regulations, and policies considered in making the decision regarding this proposal.

Judith Yandoh, Amador District Ranger, Eldorado National Forest is the responsible official. As the responsible official she will document the decision and reasons for the decision in the Record of Decision. That decision will be subject to Forest Service appeal regulations (36 CFR part 215).

Dated: September 30, 2003.

Anthony Botello,

Acting Amador District Ranger.

[FR Doc. 03-25486 Filed 10-7-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Sunshine Act; Closed Meeting

DATE AND TIME: October 14, 2003; 1 p.m.-5 p.m.

PLACE: Broadcasting Board of Governors, 330 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20237.

CLOSED MEETING: The members of the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) will meet in closed session to review and discuss a number of issues relating to U.S. Government-funded non-military international broadcasting. They will address internal procedural, budgetary, and personnel issues, as well as sensitive foreign policy issues relating to potential options in the U.S. international broadcasting field. This meeting is closed because if open it likely would either disclose matters that would be properly classified to be kept secret in the interest of foreign policy under the appropriate executive order (5 U.S.C. 552b.(c)(1)) or would disclose information the premature disclosure of which would disclose information the premature disclosure of which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed agency action. (5 U.S.C. 552b.(c)(9)(B)) In addition, part of the discussion will relate solely to the internal personnel and organizational issues of the BBG or the International Broadcasting Bureau. (5 U.S.C. 552b.(c)(2) and (6))

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Persons interested in obtaining more information should contact either Brenda Hardnett or Carol Booker at (202) 401-3736.

Dated: October 6, 2003.

Carol Booker,

Legal Counsel.

[FR Doc. 03-25646 Filed 10-6-03; 2:04 pm]

BILLING CODE 8230-01-M

CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

Sunshine Act Meeting

In connection with its investigation into a violent explosion that occurred in a chemical distillation tower at First Chemical Corporation in Pascagoula, Mississippi, on October 13, 2002, the United States Chemical Safety and

Hazard Investigation Board announces that it will convene a Public Meeting beginning at 9:30 a.m. local time on October 15, at the LaFont Inn, Highway 90, Pascagoula, Mississippi 39595.

The explosion occurred in a chemical distillation tower, sending heavy debris over a wide area. No one was seriously injured or killed in the incident, which occurred early on a Sunday morning. One nitrotoluene storage tank at the site was punctured by explosion debris, igniting a fire that burned for several hours. Three out of the 23 workers on site at the time of the incident received minor injuries, and nearby residents were temporarily sheltered in place. A producer of aniline and nitrotoluene derivatives and intermediates, First Chemical Corp. is a subsidiary of ChemFirst Inc., which was acquired by Dupont after the accident.

At the meeting CSB staff will present to the Board the results of their investigation into this incident, including an analysis of the incident together with a discussion of the key findings, root and contributing causes, and draft recommendations.

Recommendations are issued by a vote of the Board and address an identified safety deficiency uncovered during the investigation, and specify how to correct the situation. Safety recommendations are the primary tool used by the Board to motivate implementation of safety improvements and prevent future incidents. The CSB uses its unique independent accident investigation perspective to identify trends or issues that might otherwise be overlooked. CSB recommendations may be directed to corporations, trade associations, government entities, safety organizations, labor unions and others.

After the staff presentation, the Board will allow a time for public comment. Following the conclusion of the public comment period, the Board will consider whether to vote to approve the final report and recommendations. When a report and its recommendations are approved, this will begin CSB's process for disseminating the findings and recommendations of the report not only to the recipients of recommendations but also to other public and industry sectors. The CSB believes that this process will ultimately lead to the adoption of recommendations and the growing body of safety knowledge in the industry, which, in turn, should save future lives and property.

All staff presentations are preliminary and are intended solely to allow the Board to consider in a public forum the issues and factors involved in this case. No factual analyses, conclusions or

findings should be considered final. Only after the Board has considered the staff presentation and approved the staff report will there be an approved final record of this incident.

The meeting will be open to the public. Please notify CSB if a translator or interpreter is needed, at least 5 business days prior to the public meeting. For more information, please contact the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board at (202)-261-7600, or visit our Web site at: <http://www.csb.gov>.

Christopher Warner,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 03-25597 Filed 10-6-03; 10:38 am]

BILLING CODE 6350-01-P

CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

Appointment of Members of Senior Executive Service Performance Review Board

AGENCY: Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the membership of the Senior Executive Service Performance Review Board for the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB).

DATES: Effective October 8, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Raymond C. Porfiri, Office of the General Counsel, (202) 261-7600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 5 U.S.C. 4314(c) requires each agency to establish, in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Office of Personnel Management, a performance review board (PRB). The PRB reviews initial performance ratings of members of the Senior Executive Services (SES) and makes recommendations on performance ratings and awards for senior executives. Because the CSB is a small independent Federal agency, the SES members of the CSB's PRB are being drawn from other Federal agencies.

The Chairperson of the CSB has appointed the following individuals to the CSB Senior Executive Service Performance Review Board:

Chair of the PRB—John S. Bresland (CSB Board Member).

PRB Member—Dan Campbell (Managing Director, National Transportation Safety Board).

PRB Member—Kathleen O'Brien Ham (Office of Strategic Planning and Policy Analysis, Federal Communications Commission).