

The USDA has provided Federal leadership in protecting U.S. livestock health for more than 120 years. APHIS is authorized, under the Animal Health Protection Act (AHPA) (7 U.S.C. 8301 *et seq.*), to protect the health of U.S. livestock by preventing the introduction and spread of livestock diseases and pests into and within the United States. Based on that authority, APHIS may broadly consider the potential effects of animals with GE traits on the health of the overall U.S. livestock population, while FDA is more focused on the direct effects of genetic engineering on individual animals based on their authority under the FFDCA. Given these complementary authorities, APHIS and FDA have been discussing their respective roles in overseeing GE animals for some time. FDA's release for public comment of its draft guidance on GE animals provides an excellent opportunity for APHIS to solicit public comment on the potential effects of animals with GE traits on U.S. livestock health.

APHIS particularly seeks the following information:

1. What research on GE animals is currently being conducted or planned for the future?
2. What, if any, implications would activities such as the importation and interstate movement of such animals have for the health of the U.S. livestock population?
3. What, if any, activities should APHIS consider with respect to U.S. livestock health under the AHPA that would complement the requirements and recommendations described in FDA's draft guidance?

APHIS welcomes comments and scientific and technical information and data relevant to these issues. We will consider all comments and information we receive in determining the appropriate role for APHIS with regard to GE animals and will continue to collaborate closely with FDA.

This action has been determined to be significant for the purposes of Executive Order 12866 and, therefore, has been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 8301–8317; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.

Done in Washington, DC, this 16th day of September 2008.

Bruce Knight,

Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs.

[FR Doc. E8–21977 Filed 9–18–08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS–2008–0032]

Codex Alimentarius Commission: 2nd Session of the Codex ad hoc Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance

AGENCY: Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are sponsoring a public meeting on September 25, 2008, to discuss the agenda items coming before the 2nd session of the Codex *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and to present draft U.S. positions on the agenda items. The 2nd session of the AMR will be held in Seoul, Korea, October 20–24, 2008. The Under Secretary and FDA recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to comment on the agenda items that will be discussed at this forthcoming session of AMR.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 25, 2008, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held at FDA, 7519 Standish Place, Room 152, Rockville, MD.

Documents related to the 2nd session of the AMR will be accessible via the World Wide Web at the following address: <http://www.codexalimentarius.net/current.asp>.

For Further Information About the 2nd Session of the AMR Contact: U.S. Delegate, Dr. David White, Director, National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS), FDA, Center for Veterinary Medicine, Office of Research, 8401 Muirkirk Rd., Laurel, MD 20798, *Phone:* (301) 210–4181, *E-mail:* david.white@fda.hhs.gov.

For Further Information About the Public Meeting Contact: Edith Kennard, Staff Officer, U.S. Codex Office, Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), Room 4861, South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250, *Phone:* (202) 720–5261, *Fax:* (202) 720–3157, *E-mail:* edith.kennard@fsis.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Codex Alimentarius (Codex) was established in 1963 by two United

Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to protect the health of consumers and ensure that fair practices are used in trade.

The Codex *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force on AMR was established by the 29th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in 2006 to develop science-based guidance to be used to assess the risks to human health associated with the presence in food and feed, including aquaculture, and the transmission through food and feed of antimicrobial resistant microorganisms and antimicrobial resistance genes. The AMR Task Force would also consider appropriate risk management options to reduce such risk. The Task Force is hosted by the Republic of Korea.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items on the agenda for the 2nd session of the AMR will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Matters Referred to the Committee from Other Codex Bodies
- Information on the Work by FAO, WHO, and the World Organization for Animal Health on Antimicrobial Resistance
- Proposed Draft Risk Assessment Guidance Regarding Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistant Microorganisms (Report of the Working Group)
- Proposed Draft Guidance on Creating Risk Profiles for Antimicrobial Resistant Foodborne Microorganisms for Setting Risk Assessment and Management Priorities (Report of the Working Group)
- Proposed Draft Risk Management Guidance to Contain Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistant Microorganisms (Report of the Working Group)

Each issue listed will be fully described in documents distributed, or to be distributed, by the Korean Secretariat to the meeting. Members of the public may access copies of these documents at <http://www.codexalimentarius.net/current.asp>.

Public Meeting

At the September 25, 2008, public meeting, draft U.S. positions on these agenda items will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to the U.S.

Delegate to the Task Force on AMR, Dr. David White, at david.white@fda.hhs.gov. Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 2nd session of the Task Force on AMR.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, in an effort to ensure that minorities, women, and persons with disabilities are aware of this notice, FSIS will announce it online through the FSIS Web page located at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations/2008_Notices_Index/. FSIS will also make copies of this **Federal Register** publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to constituents and stakeholders. The Update is communicated via Listserv, a free electronic mail subscription service for industry, trade groups, consumer interest groups, health professionals, and other individuals who have asked to be included. The Update is also available on the FSIS Web page. Through the Listserv and Web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader and more diverse audience. In addition, FSIS offers an e-mail subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/news_and_events/email_subscription/. Options range from recalls to export information to regulations, directives and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves, and they have the option to password protect their accounts.

Done at Washington, DC, on September 16, 2008.

Karen Hulebak,

Acting U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

[FR Doc. E8-22080 Filed 9-17-08; 4:15 pm]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Information Collection; Day Use on Urban National Forests

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the

Forest Service is seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on the extension with no revision of a currently approved information collection, Day Use on the National Forests of Southern California.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing on or before November 18, 2008 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Comments concerning this notice should be addressed to Dr. Deborah J. Chavez, Pacific Southwest Research Station, 4955 Canyon Crest Drive, Riverside, CA 92507. Comments may also be submitted via facsimile to 951-680-1501, or send an e-mail to dchavez@fs.fed.us.

The public may inspect comments received at the Pacific Southwest Research Station's Riverside Fire Lab at 4955 Canyon Crest Drive, Riverside, CA during normal business hours. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to 951-680-1500 to facilitate entry to the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Deborah J. Chavez, Pacific Southwest Research Station, 951-680-1558, e-mail to dchavez@fs.fed.us. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 twenty-four hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Day Use on Urban Proximate National Forests.

OMB Number: 0596-0129.

Expiration Date of Approval: 07/31/2009.

Type of Request: Extension.

Abstract: The Forest Service is seeking to renew OMB approval to collect information from visitors at outdoor recreation day-use sites (developed picnic areas, general forest day-use sites, off-road staging areas, trails, etc.) on urban-proximate national forests land.

Users of urban-proximate national forests (national forests within 1 hour driving distance of 1 million or more people) come from a variety of ethnic/racial, income, age, educational, and other socio-demographic backgrounds. The activities pursued, information sources utilized, and site attributes preferred are just some of the items affected by these differences.

Past studies have provided baseline information, from which managers have made decisions, revised forest plans, and renovated/redesigned recreation sites. Additional information is necessary for the urban proximate

national forest managers to validate previous results and maintain information regarding the continuously changing profile of the visitor population. Without this information, the Forest Service will be ill-equipped to implement changes in response to day use visitors' needs and preferences.

Sites, dates of data collection, and individuals participating in the study are selected randomly. Survey instruments are available in English and Spanish, and research teams are bilingual. Participation is voluntary and individuals provide responses to questions covering the following topics:

- Socio-demographics.
- National Forest visitation history and patterns.
- Activity patterns.
- Information and communication.
- Site amenities/characteristics.
- Perceptions about the environment and land uses.
- General comments.

The Agency has used previously collected data to create forest newspapers, add site renovations to existing picnic areas, and in forest planning. The Forest Service has presented previous survey results at local, national, and international meetings. The Agency has published collected data in various outlets. Future data collections under this OMB number will be utilized in a similar manner, as well as provide opportunities for comparisons of visitor profiles and use shifts over time.

Dr. Deborah J. Chavez, of the Pacific Southwest Research Station, will evaluate and analyze the collected data. Consequences of not collecting these data include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Decreased service delivery due to decreased quality and breadth of information provided to resource managers regarding the socio-demographic profile of visitors, visitation history and patterns, information and communication, site amenities/characteristics, perceptions about the environment and land uses;
- (b) Decreased ability to continue and expand approved research work unit's assigned study topics, such as understanding visitor profiles;
- (c) Increased response time for inquiries into topics from managers and university contacts;
- (d) Increased dependency on cooperator availability to carry out research unit mission; and
- (e) Loss of information represented in follow-up longitudinal studies.

Estimate of Annual Burden: 15 minutes.

Type of Respondents: Individuals.

Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 600.