

... which prohibits most road building and logging in national forest roadless areas. The Rule covers all 58.5 million acres of inventoried national forest roadless areas. The rule was scheduled to take effect on March 13, but has now been delayed by the Bush administration to May 12.

During the year-long rulemaking process, the U.S. Forest Service received a record 1.7 million public comments, over-

From:



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undone.

Passed in 1996, the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act — also known as the Congressional Review Act (CRA) — allows Congress to review and nullify federal administrative rules for a 60-day period after a rule is adopted. Both the House and the Senate must pass a resolution to overturn the rule by a simple majority (51%) and the President must sign it.

Representative, Senators, and President Bush and urge them to oppose any attempt to overturn the Forest Service's Roadless Rule.

Write:

The Honorable (full name); U.S. House of Representatives; Washington, DC 20515.

The Honorable (full name); U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510.

President George W. Bush; 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW; Washington, DC 20500.



Prohibit Downed Animal Slaughter

A 2000 announcement by the U.S. Department of Agriculture that it would stop buying meat from downed cows reflects the growing consensus — even among livestock industry and government officials — that the marketing and slaughter of downed animals is unacceptable.

"Downed" refers to animals too sick or injured even to stand.

The Farm Sanctuary has petitioned the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals. Downed animals arriving at a slaughterhouse suffer terrible cruelty. There are also health risks to humans. In addition to possible bacterial contamination, some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy or

"Mad Cow Disease"), a disease which has been linked to a fatal human illness (CJD or Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease).

You can help. Please write the FDA and urge it to grant petition 98P-0151/CP1 to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals. In your letter, in addition to the human health dangers mention the following:

- Animals too sick or injured even to stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain.
- Downed animals are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains — inhumane processes which cause injuries ranging from bruises and abrasions to broken bones and torn ligaments.
- Downed animals comprise a very small percentage of animals

slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship.

- Industry experts have estimated that 90% percent of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive to industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

You must refer to docket number 98P-0151/CP1 in your letter. You must send your original letter and three copies to the FDA.

Contact:

U.S. Food and Drug Administration; Dockets Management Branch; 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061; Rockville, MD 20852; fax 301-827-6870; email "fdadockets@oc.fda.gov".

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Public Know



nant DNA Advisory Committee of the National Institutes of Health. Similarly, information about xenotransplantation trials will also be publicly available through the 18-member Secretary's Advisory Committee on Xenotransplantation, on which API Executive Director **Alan Berger** represents the animal advocacy movement.

"The public must know what's going on

in the forefront of medicine," said Alan. "Gene therapy and xenotransplants are potentially dangerous areas that can threaten us all."

You can help. There is a 90-day public comment period on the proposal.

In your comments, **due by April 18, 2001**, point out that:

- This proposal only brings gene therapy and xenotransplantation in compliance with the same types of information already released to the public by other government agencies. Because of grave public health risks, disclosure should include additional information such as physicians, medical centers, and so on — make public all information except trade secrets and patient identification.

A proposed rule from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) would provide public access to most of the study design and safety information on all new or ongoing clinical trials involving either gene therapy or xenotransplantation.

The FDA would not release confidential business information or personal information related to study participants.

In human gene therapy, the biological properties of living cells are altered for therapeutic use. Xenotransplantation is the transfer of organs from an animal to a human.

Much of the information that would be disclosed about gene therapy trials under this proposal is already publicly discussed in open meetings of the Recombi-

- The FDA must assume the sole responsibility for summarizing and distributing information submitted by the research sponsor, rather than leave it to the sponsor's discretion.
- Because of the public health risks, ethical issues, cost uncertainty, and the inability to adequately assess other alternatives, all xenotransplantation clinical trials should stop.

You must refer to docket number 00N-0989 in your letter. You must send your original letter and three copies to the FDA.

Contact:

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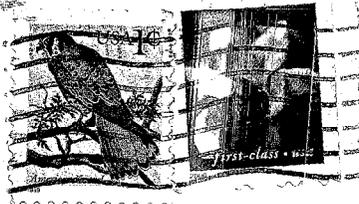
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