

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Agricultural Marketing Service****[Docket No. PY-01-006]****Notice of Request for an Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection****AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces the intention of the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) to request an extension of a currently approved information collection in support of customer-focused improvement initiatives for USDA-procured poultry, livestock, fruit, and vegetable products.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by July 6, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact David Bowden, Jr., Standardization Branch, Poultry Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 0259, Washington, DC 20250-0259, (202) 720-3506.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Customer Service Survey for USDA-Donated Food Products

OMB Number: 0581-0182.

Expiration Date, as approved by OMB: 12/31/2001.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: Starting with a 1996 pilot project by AMS, customers have been able to use the Customer Opinion Postcard, Form AMS-11, a 4- by 6-inch postcard to voluntarily submit their perceptions of poultry, livestock, fruit, and vegetable products procured by USDA for school lunch and other domestic food programs. These cards have proven to be a quick and inexpensive way for AMS to learn customer perception of USDA commodities; helping the Agency make improvements to its products. AMS would like to continue the use of the customer opinion postcards to get voluntary customer feedback on various products each year by reapproval of the Customer Opinion Postcard, Form AMS-11. In this way AMS will be better able to meet the quality expectations of school food service personnel and the 26 million school children who consume these products daily.

Information about customers' perceptions of USDA-procured products is sought as a sound management practice to support AMS activities under 7 CFR 250, regulations for "Donation of Foods for Use in the United States, Its Territories and Possessions and Areas Under Its Jurisdiction." The information collected will be used primarily by authorized representatives of USDA (AMS, and the Food and Nutrition Service) and shared with State government agencies and product suppliers. To enable customers to mail cards directly to the commodity program that is soliciting the information, several versions of Form AMS-11 will be used, each with a different return address. Response information about products produced by a particular supplier may be shared with that supplier. Similarly, response information from customers located in a particular State may be shared with government agencies within that State.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.083 hours (5 minutes) per response.

Respondents: State, local, and tribal governments, and not-for-profit businesses.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 8,400.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 700 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from David Bowden, Jr., Standardization Branch, at (202) 720-3506.

Send comments regarding, but not limited to, the following: (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments should be sent to: David Bowden, Jr., Chief, Standardization Branch, Poultry Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Stop 0259, Washington, DC 20250-0259.

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.

Dated: May 1, 2001.

Kenneth C. Clayton,

Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 01-11430 Filed 5-4-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-32-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Foreign Agricultural Service****Meeting on Agreement Between the United States and the European Community on Sanitary Measures To Protect Public and Animal Health in Trade in Live Animals and Animal Products**

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) is informing the public of a meeting to be held on May 15, 2001, at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to discuss the general U.S. negotiating objectives, particularly item-specific export priorities under the U.S. and European Community (EC) Veterinary Equivalency Agreement (VEA). This would include specific sanitary measures and certification issues that currently impede or prohibit trade or potential regulatory changes that would facilitate trade in live animals and animal products between the United States and the EC. U.S. Government agencies, including the Food Safety Inspection Service, Agricultural Marketing Service, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA Food and Drug Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Office of the U.S. Trade Representative will be participating in the meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on May 15, 2001, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. This meeting may close early if all business is finished.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., South Building, Washington, DC 20250.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Catherine Otte or Mr. Bobby Richey at (202) 720-1340.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In July 20, 1999, the United States and the EC signed the Veterinary Equivalency Agreement. The Agreement entered into force on August 1, 1999, and covers more than \$3 billion in combined U.S.

and EC live animal and animal product trade.

The objective of the Agreement is to facilitate trade in live animals and animal products between the EC and United States by establishing a mechanism for the recognition of equivalence of sanitary measures maintained by each Party consistent with the protection of public and animal health and to improve communication and cooperation on sanitary measures.

The Agreement calls for a Joint Management Committee to meet each year and identify progress and set priorities on outstanding issues for the future. Prior to the Joint Management Committee meeting currently scheduled for June 2001, the U.S. Government would like to receive input from U.S. industries on priority areas for immediate and future attention. The U.S. Government is requesting input on general U.S. negotiating objectives, particularly item-specific export priorities under the VEA. This would include specific sanitary measures and certification issues that currently impede or prohibit trade or potential regulatory changes that would facilitate trade in live animals and animal products. Input received will be considered by the Executive Branch in formulating U.S. positions and objectives in this area.

A complete copy of the agreement can be viewed on the FDA International Cooperative Agreements Web Site at: <http://www.fda.gov/oia/default.htm>. The document is the second listed under the European Community and is titled "Veterinary Equivalence Framework Agreement."

Public Meeting

The public meeting will take place at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC, back of the cafeteria, South Building. All visitors should enter at Wing 2 on the C Street side of the South Building. To accommodate all public meeting participants, we request that individuals planning to attend should so inform the Department in advance by contacting: Foreign Agricultural Service, International Trade Policy, Europe, Africa and Middle East Division, Stop 1024, South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250; phone: (202) 720-1340; facsimile: (202) 690-2079. Please indicate the organization represented, if any, including the names and titles of individuals attending.

Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities, or to request special assistance at the meeting, contact FAS at the above location as soon as possible.

Signed at Washington, DC on May 2, 2001.

Mattie R. Sharpless,

Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 01-11426 Filed 5-4-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Availability of an Environmental Assessment for an amendment to the Finger Lakes National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan; Schuyler County, New York

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment.

SUMMARY: On March 26, 1999, Finger Lakes National Forest District Ranger, Martha Twarkins, set forth a proposal to amend the 1987 Finger Lakes National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan). In mid May of 2001, Acting Forest Supervisor Tamara Malone (responsible official) plans to make the resultant Environmental Assessment available for a 30 day public comment period. Copies of the environmental Assessment will be available upon request. The current preferred alternative (the Mountain Bike Alternative), would relocate a one mile portion of the No-Tan-Takto Trail from off of a busy town road and onto newly acquired land. The newly acquired land would be classified into Management Area 3.1, (which emphasizes evenaged timber management and roaded natural recreation). It would also allow for mountain bike use on the Trail. All comments received will be evaluated, and may result in supplementation of the Environmental Assessment or be incorporated into the final decision.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the Act and National Environmental Policy Act regulations (40 CFR 1506.6, 453 FR 55990) and National Forest System Land and Resource Management Planning regulations (36 CFR 219.35, 65 FR 6745145)).

DATES: On March 26, 1999, Finger Lakes National Forest District Ranger, Martha Twarkins, set forth a proposal to amend the 1987 Finger Lakes National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan

(Forest Plan). In mid May of 2001, Acting Forest Supervisor Tamara Malone (responsible official) plans to make the resultant Environmental Assessment available for a 30 day public comment period.

ADDRESSES: Send requests for documents to: Forest Supervisor, Green Mountain and Finger Lakes National Forest, 231 North Main Street, Rutland, Vermont 05701.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Christopher Zimmer, Forester/ Recreation Planner, at 607-546-4470 ext. 311 TDD 607-546-4476; or direct electronic mail to: czimmer@fs.fed.us.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: Tamara S. Malone, Acting Forest Supervisor, 231 North Main Street, Rutland, Vermont 05701.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This amendment would apply to the No-Tan-Takto Trail and 71 acres of newly acquired land on the Finger Lakes National Forest in the form of amending the Land and Resource Management Plan to allow for Mountain use on the No-Tan-Takto Trail as well as long term management of the newly acquired lands. This is a non-significant amendment.

Dated: April 30, 2001.

Tamara S. Malone,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 01-11373 Filed 5-4-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Southern Illinois Power Cooperative; Notice of finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of finding no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), and RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR part 1794), has made a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) with respect to a project proposed by Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (SIPC) of Marion, Illinois. The project consists of re-powering of Units 1 through 3 located at Marion Generating Station owned by SIPC. The three existing coal fired boilers will be replaced with a new Circulating