

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 71, No. 212

Thursday, November 2, 2006

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket Number FV-06-301]

United States Standards for Grades of Mixed Commodities

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) of the Department of Agriculture (USDA) is establishing voluntary United States Standards for Grades of Mixed Commodities. The standards will provide industry with a common language and uniform basis for trading, thus promoting the orderly and efficient marketing for fresh fruits and vegetables that are mixed in a package.

DATES: *Effective Date:* December 4, 2006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cheri L. Emery, Standardization Section, Fresh Products Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Room 1661, South Building, Stop 0240, Washington, DC 20250-0240, (202) 720-2185, fax (202) 720-8871, or e-mail Cheri.Emery@usda.gov.

The United States Standards for Grades of Mixed Commodities is available either from the above address or by accessing the AMS, Fresh Products Branch Web site at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/standards/stanfrfv.htm>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 203(c) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621-1627), as amended, directs and authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture "To develop and improve standards of quality, condition, quantity, grade and packaging and recommend and demonstrate such standards in order to encourage uniformity and consistency in commercial practices." AMS is

committed to carrying out this authority in a manner that facilitates the marketing of agricultural commodities and makes copies of official standards available upon request. The United States Standards for Grades of Fruits and Vegetables not connected with Federal Marketing Orders or U.S. Import Requirements, no longer appear in the Code of Federal Regulations, but are maintained by USDA, AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs.

AMS is establishing voluntary United States Standards for Grades of Mixed Commodities using the procedures that appear in Part 36, Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations (7 CFR part 36).

Background

AMS previously published a notice in the **Federal Register** (71 FR 3816-3817), on January 24, 2006, soliciting comments on the proposed voluntary United States Standards for Grades of Mixed Commodities. The proposed standards contained the U.S. Mixed grade. In addition, there were "Sample Basis," "Tolerances," and "Application of Tolerances" sections. AMS also defined "Mixed," "Injury," "Damage," and "Serious Damage."

In response to the notice, a comment was received from an individual asking " * * * how would commodities with tolerances of less than 10% be handled?" The total tolerance in the United States Standards for Grades of Mixed Commodities would be 10 percent. Therefore, when commodities are being certified under the mixed commodities standards the 10 percent tolerance would apply regardless of the tolerances in the individual standards. Additionally, the commenter asked, "Can commodities under a Marketing Order (with less than 10% tolerance, i.e. onions from Idaho and Eastern Oregon) be packed under this standard?" Marketing orders are issued under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 (7 U.S.C. 601-608) and commodities regulated under such orders must meet handling requirements that may include tolerances that differ from the 10 percent tolerance that appears in the mixed commodities standards. The voluntary mixed commodities standards are issued under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 and the 10 percent total tolerance for such mixed commodities would be applicable to grading and certification

under this program. Certification under the U.S. mixed commodities standard would not meet the requirements of the marketing order program.

The adoption of the U.S. grade standards will provide the mixed commodity industry with U.S. grade standards similar to those extensively in use by the fresh produce industry to assist in orderly marketing of other commodities.

The official grade of a lot of mixed commodities covered by these standards will be determined by the procedures set forth in the Regulations Governing Inspection, Certification, and Standards of Fresh Fruits, Vegetables, and Other Products (Sec. 51.1 to 51.61).

The United States Standards for Grades of Mixed Commodities will be effective 30 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1621-1627.

Dated: October 27, 2006.

Lloyd C. Day,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. E6-18514 Filed 11-1-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Clearwater National Forest; ID; Selway Bitterroot Wilderness Invasive Plants Management Project

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: The project proposes to contain and control the spread of non-native invasive plant species within the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness and non-Wilderness lands forming the margins of the Wilderness. Chemical and biological treatments are proposed along with other site-specific methods such as hand pulling and grubbing. All treatments would be ground-based.

DATES: Comments concerning this analysis must be received by December 1, 2006. The draft environmental impact statement is expected in October, 2007 and the final environmental impact statement is expected April, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Written comments concerning this notice or a request to be placed on the project mailing list should

be addressed to: Chad Benson (cbenson@fs.fed.us), district Ranger, Powell Ranger Station, Lolo, MT 59847. Electronic comments may be submitted to: comments-northern-clearwater@fs.fed.us. If you choose to comment by e-mail, please include your name and regular mailing address with your comment. The subject line must contain the name of the project for which you are submitting comments (i.e. SBW Invasive Plants Project). Acceptable formats are MS Word, WordPerfect, or RTF.

All comments, including names and address when provided, are placed in the record and are available for public inspection and copying. The public may inspect comments received at the Powell Ranger District Office.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Chad Benson, District Ranger, Powell Ranger District. Phone: (208) 942-0307. Additional information is also available on the Forest Web site at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/clearwater/Projects>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Project Area

The project area consists of the entire Selway Bitterroot Wilderness (1,348,000 acres) as well as key areas adjacent to the wilderness on the Nez Perce, Clearwater, Bitterroot, and Lolo National Forests in western Montana and north central Idaho. Non-wilderness areas involve portions of the road and trail network leading into or passing through the wilderness and other specifically identified priority area. The project area is approximately 1,398,000 acres in size.

Purpose and Need for Action

Non-native invasive plants are a growing problem in the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness and surrounding areas. Without efforts to control these weeds, they will continue to expand into new areas and the number of new weed species will increase. The purpose of this project is to prevent the establishment of new invaders and reduce the impacts of established invasive plants on native plant community stability, sustainability and diversity within the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness.

Inside the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness, approximately 111,000 acres are currently occupied to some degree by spotted knapweed sulfur cinquefoil, St. Johnswort (goatweed) and oxeye daisy. Spotted knapweed accounts for approximately 90 percent of the occupied acres. Newer invaders such as Dalmatian toadflax, musk thistle, and meadow hawkweed occupy

very small acreages at the present time. Outside the Wilderness but within the project area, approximately 5,000 acres are occupied by invasive species with the potential to expand into new areas of the Wilderness.

Proposed Action

The National Forests of the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness propose to apply integrated and adaptive approaches to reduce the effects of non-native invasive plant species on natural plant communities and ecosystems within the project area. Approximately 500 to 1500 acres a year are proposed for physical treatments including: chemical treatments, hand pulling, and revegetation with native plants. Biological control organisms would be applied to approximately 10,000 additional acres within the project area. Aerial spray application is not proposed. Grazing of domestic animals to reduce weeds within the Wilderness is not proposed. All treatments and applications would be ground-based. The emphasis of the treatments would be to eradicate new invaders as they are discovered and to contain the spread of established non-native plants.

Possible Alternatives

The Forest Service will consider alternatives to the proposed action including a "no action" alternative in which none of the proposed activities would be implemented. Additional alternatives being considered examine varying levels and locations for the proposed activities to achieve the proposal's purpose and need, as well as respond to issues and other resource concerns.

Responsible Official

The Responsible Official is the Forest Supervisor of the Clearwater National Forest, 12730 Highway 12, Orofino, Idaho 83544. The Responsible Official will decide if the proposed project will be implemented and will document the decision and reasons for the decision in a Record of Decision. That decision will be subject to Forest Service Appeal Regulations. The responsibility for preparing the DEIS and FEIS has been delegated to the District Ranger, Powell Ranger Station, Lolo, MT 59847.

Nature of Decision To Be Made

The decision would specify methods and materials to be used or applied to contain and control unwanted plant species within the project area. The decision would specify the areas to be treated as well as the terms and conditions under which treatment methods and materials would be

applied. Administrative actions to monitor effects and effectiveness as well as promote prevention through public awareness and education would also be specified. The anticipated life of the decision would be 10 to 15 years.

Scoping Process

Each of the National Forests managing a portion of the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness maintains a listing of individuals and organizations that have expressed an interest in being informed of and providing input to projects including these types of activities or in this specific location. All of these contacts will be sent the initial scoping document. A legal notice describing the scoping process will be published in the paper of record for each of the National Forests.

Comment Requested

This notice of intent initiates the scoping process which guides the development of the environmental impact statement. Early Notice of Importance of Public Participation in Subsequent Environmental Review: A draft environmental impact statement will be prepared for comment. The comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

The Forest Service believes, at this early stage it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of draft environmental impact statements 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 environmental impact statement stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.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 45-day 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 environmental impact statement.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the draft environmental impact statement should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft environmental impact statement 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.

Comments received, including the names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposal and will be available for public inspection.

(Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7 and 1508.22; Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, Section 21)

Dated: October 26, 2006.

Thomas K. Reilly,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 06-9016 Filed 11-1-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Notice of Meeting of the Agricultural Air Quality Task Force

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Air Quality Task Force (AAQTF) will meet to continue discussions on air quality issues relating to agriculture.

DATES: The meeting will convene on Tuesday, November 28, 2006, through Thursday, November 30, 2006. Public comment periods will be held on November 29 and 30. Individuals making oral presentations should register in person at the meeting site and must bring with them 50 copies of any materials they would like distributed. Written materials for the AAQTF's consideration prior to the meeting must be received by Dr. Diane E. Gelburd no later than Friday, November 3, 2006.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn on the Hill, 415 New Jersey Avenue, SW., Washington, DC, 20001; *telephone:* (202) 638-1616, or (800) 638-1116.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions and comments should be directed to Dr. Diane E. Gelburd, Designated Federal Officer. Dr. Gelburd may be contacted at USDA, NRCS, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 6158-South, Washington, DC 20250; *telephone:* (202) 720-2587; *e-mail:* Diane.Gelburd@wdc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2. Additional information concerning the AAQTF may be found on the Internet at <http://www.airquality.nrcs.usda.gov/AAQTF/>.

Draft Agenda of the November 28-30, 2006 Meeting of the AAQTF

- A. *Welcome to Washington, DC.*
- B. *Discussion of Minutes from Previous Meeting.*
- C. *Discussion of Objectives for the Task Force and Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA Rules and Responsibilities).*
- D. *Scientific Updates and Presentations.*
- E. *Policy Discussions—USDA and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Officials.*
- F. *USDA Update.*
- G. *EPA Update.*
- H. *Next Meeting, Time and Place.*
- I. *Public Comments.*

(Time will be reserved on November 29 and November 30 to receive public comments. Individual presentations will be limited to 5 minutes.)

Procedural

This meeting is open to the public. At the discretion of the Chair, members of the public may give oral presentations during the meeting. Those persons wishing to make oral presentations should register in person at the meeting site. Those wishing to distribute written materials at the meeting (in conjunction with spoken comments) must bring 50 copies of the materials with them. Written materials for distribution to AAQTF members prior to the meeting must be received by Dr. Gelburd no later than Friday, November 3, 2006.

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, please contact Dr. Gelburd. USDA prohibits discrimination in its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, sexual orientation, or disability. Additionally, discrimination on the

basis of political beliefs and marital or family status is also prohibited by statutes enforced by USDA (not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). Persons with disabilities who require alternate means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audio tape, etc.) should contact the USDA's Target Center at (202) 720-2000 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Signed in Washington, DC, on October 23, 2006.

Arlen L. Lancaster,

Chief.

[FR Doc. E6-18491 Filed 11-1-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Climate Change Science Program (CCSP) Product Development Committee (CPDC) for Synthesis and Assessment Product 1.3

ACTION: Notice to establish the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate Change Science Program (CCSP) Product Development Committee (CPDC) for Synthesis and Assessment Product 1.3 (CPDC—S&A 1.3) under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, and the General Services Administration (GSA) rule of Federal Advisory Committee Management, 41 CFR part 102-3, and after consultation with GSA, the Secretary of Commerce has determined that the establishment of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate Change Science Program (CCSP) Product Development Committee (CPDC) for Synthesis and Assessment Product 1.3 (CPDC—S&A 1.3) is in the public interest, in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Department by law. The CPDC—S&A 1.3 will advise the Secretary, through the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, on CCSP Topic 1.3: "Re-analyses of historical climate data for key atmospheric features: Implications for attribution of causes of observed change". This advice will be provided in the form of a draft Synthesis and Assessment product intended to be used by NOAA to develop a final product in accordance with the *Guidelines for Producing the CCSP Synthesis and Assessment*