

developing desired future conditions for the topics identified.

The Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS is scheduled to be published in the **Federal Register** in April 2014. In order to conduct an efficient analysis process, one Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared for the plan revision process of the Sierra, Sequoia and Inyo National Forests. In addition, a separate Record of Decision (ROD) and Land Management Plan will be developed for each of these forests.

ADDRESSES: Written comments or questions concerning this notice should be addressed to Land Management Plan Revision, U.S. Forest Service, Ecosystem Planning Staff, 1323 Club Drive, Vallejo, CA 94592.

Comments or questions may also be sent via email to FS-R5planrevisions@fs.fed.us. All correspondence received, including names and addresses when provided, are placed in the record and are available for public inspection and copying.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Debra Whitall, Regional Social Scientist, 707-562-8823. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. (Pacific Time), Monday through Friday. More information on the planning process can also be found on the Pacific Southwest Region Plan Revision Web site at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/r5/landmanagement/planning>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the 2012 Forest Planning Rule (36 CFR Part 219), the planning process encompasses three-stages: Assessment, plan revision, and monitoring. The first stage of the planning process involves assessing social, economic, and ecological conditions of the planning area, which is documented in an assessment report. Final assessment reports for the Inyo, Sierra and Sequoia national forests are posted on the Region 5 Web site at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/r5/landmanagement/planning>. This Web site also has information on a preliminary need for change that the Forest Service developed based on these assessments. These will be vetted and discussed at public workshops in January 2014. This notice announces the start of the second stage of the planning process, which is revising the land management plans. The first task of plan revision is to develop a preliminary "need for change" that identifies the areas that need for change in management direction outlined in the current plans. The preliminary need for change is based on what is important to

people, threats to resources, undesirable trends in social, economic, or ecological sustainability, and a need to correct current direction in plans that are not meeting needs to provide benefits sustainably. In addition, it is important to focus on areas where changes to the forest plan can do something substantial to correct concerns identified in the near term. The need for change will be responsive to new information learned through monitoring and assessment.

Based on the public feedback from the public meetings held in January, a proposed action will be developed that responds to needs for change. A Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for the land management plan revisions for the Sierra, Sequoia and Inyo National Forests, which will include a description of the preliminary need for change and a description of the proposed action, will be published in April 2014 in the **Federal Register**.

Forest plans developed under the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) of 1976 describe the strategic direction for management of forest resources for ten to fifteen years, and are adaptive and amendable as conditions change over time. The Forest Plan for the Inyo National Forest was approved in 1988, Sierra NF in 1991, and the original Sequoia NF Plan was approved in 1988. A Significant Amendment to these Forest Plans was approved in 2004 as part of the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment (aka, the Sierra Nevada Framework). The Sequoia NF has a Mediated Settlement Agreement from 1990 that is still in effect on the lands outside the Sequoia National Monument. The portion of the Sequoia NF in the Giant Sequoia National Monument has a Plan, EIS and ROD that amended the Forest Plan that was completed in 2013. Because the Giant Sequoia National Monument Plan was just completed, it will not be addressed in this revision process. On January 31, 2013, a public announcement was made that the Sierra, Sequoia and Inyo NFs were beginning to work on the Assessment for revising their Forest Plan.

This current notice announces the start of the second stage of the planning process, the development of the land management plan revisions. Once the plan revisions are completed, they will be subject to the objection procedures of 36 CFR Part 219, Subpart B, before they can be approved. The third stage of the planning process is monitoring and evaluation that will occur over the life of the revised plans.

Opportunities for public engagement such as public meetings, workshops,

and comment periods will be posted at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/r5/landmanagement/planning>. This information will be updated as the process continues. Information will also be sent to the Forest's stakeholder mailing list. If anyone is interested in being added to this mailing list to receive these notifications, please contact Debra Whitall, Regional Social Scientist at the email or mailing address identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section above.

Responsible Official

The responsible official for each revision of the land management plan is the Forest Supervisor for each forest: Ed Armenta, Forest Supervisor, Inyo National Forest Service, 351 Pacu Lane, Suite 200, Bishop, CA 93514. Dean Gould, Forest Supervisor, Sierra National Forest Service, 1600 Tollhouse Road, Clovis, CA 93611. Kevin Elliott, Forest Supervisor, Sequoia National Forest, 1839 South Newcomb Street, Porterville, CA 93257.

In order to simplify the process, one Notice of Initiation was sent out for all three of these forests and signed by Deputy Regional Forester Bernie Gyant, Pacific Southwest Regional Office, 1323 Club Drive, Vallejo, CA 94592. The responsible officials for these plan revisions are the Forest Supervisors as listed above.

Dated: December 17, 2013.

Bernie Gyant,

Deputy Regional Forester, Pacific Southwest Region.

[FR Doc. 2013-30815 Filed 12-24-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Designations for the Circleville, OH; and Decatur, IN Areas

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: GIPSA is announcing the designation of Columbus Grain Inspection, Inc. (Columbus); and Northeast Indiana Grain Inspection, Inc. (Northeast Indiana) to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act (USGSA), as amended.

DATES: *Effective Date:* January 1, 2014

ADDRESS: Eric J. Jabs, Chief, USDA, GIPSA, FGIS, QACD, QADB, 10383 North Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO 64153

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eric J. Jabs, 816-659-8408 or Eric.J.Jabs@usda.gov.

Read Applications: All applications and comments will be available for public inspection at the office above during regular business hours (7 CFR 1.27(c)).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the May 13, 2013 **Federal Register** (78 FR 27949), GIPSA requested applications for designation to provide official

services in the geographic areas presently serviced by Columbus and Northeast Indiana. Applications were due by June 12, 2013.

Columbus and Northeast Indiana were the sole applicants for designation to provide official services in these areas. As a result, GIPSA did not ask for additional comments.

GIPSA evaluated all available information regarding the designation criteria in section 79(f) of the USGSA (7

U.S.C. 79(f)) and determined that Columbus and Northeast Indiana are qualified to provide official services in the geographic area specified in the **Federal Register** on May 13, 2013. This designation action to provide official services in these specified areas is effective January 1, 2014 and terminates on December 31, 2016.

Interested persons may obtain official services by contacting these agencies at the following telephone numbers:

Official agency	Headquarters location and telephone	Designation start	Designation end
Columbus	Circleville, OH, (740) 474-3519	1/1/2014	12/31/2016
Northeast Indiana	Decatur, IN, (260) 341-7497	1/1/2014	12/31/2016

Section 79(f) of the USGSA authorizes the Secretary to designate a qualified applicant to provide official services in a specified area after determining that the applicant is better able than any other applicant to provide such official services (7 U.S.C. 79 (f)).

Under section 79(g) of the USGSA, designations of official agencies are effective for no longer than three years unless terminated by the Secretary; however, designations may be renewed according to the criteria and procedures prescribed in section 79(f) of the USGSA.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 71-87k.

Larry Mitchell,

Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.

[FR Doc. 2013-30748 Filed 12-24-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-KD-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Opportunity for Designation in the State of Georgia and State of Montana; Request for Comments on the Official Agencies Servicing These Areas

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The designations of the official agencies listed below will end on June 30, 2014. We are asking persons or governmental agencies interested in providing official services in the areas presently served by these agencies to submit an application for designation. In addition, we are asking for comments on the quality of services provided by the following designated agencies: Georgia Department of Agriculture

(Georgia) and Montana Department of Agriculture (Montana).

DATES: Applications and comments must be received by January 27, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Submit applications and comments concerning this notice using any of the following methods:

- Applying for Designation on the Internet: Use FGISonline (https://fgis.gipsa.usda.gov/default_home_FGIS.aspx) and then click on the Delegations/Designations and Export Registrations (DDR) link. You will need to obtain an FGISonline customer number and USDA eAuthentication username and password prior to applying.

- Submit Comments Using the Internet: Go to [Regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) (<http://www.regulations.gov>). Instructions for submitting and reading comments are detailed on the site.

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- Mail, Courier or Hand Delivery: Eric J. Jabs, Chief, USDA, GIPSA, FGIS, QACD, QADB, 10383 North Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO 64153

- Fax: Eric J. Jabs, 816-872-1257
- Email: Eric.J.Jabs@usda.gov

Read Applications and Comments: All applications and comments will be available for public inspection at the office above during regular business hours (7 CFR 1.27(c)).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eric J. Jabs, 816-659-8408 or Eric.J.Jabs@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 79(f) of the United States Grain Standards Act (USGSA) authorizes the Secretary to designate a qualified applicant to provide official services in a specified area after determining that the applicant is better able than any

other applicant to provide such official services (7 U.S.C. 79 (f)). Under section 79(g) of the USGSA, designations of official agencies are effective for three years unless terminated by the Secretary, but may be renewed according to the criteria and procedures prescribed in section 79(f) of the USGSA.

Areas Open for Designation

Georgia

Pursuant to Section 79(f)(2) of the United States Grain Standards Act, the following geographic area, in the State of Georgia, is assigned to this official agency:

The entire State of Georgia, except those export port locations within the State, which are serviced by GIPSA.

Montana

Pursuant to Section 79(f)(2) of the United States Grain Standards Act, the following geographic area, in the State of Montana, is assigned to this official agency:

The entire State of Montana.

Opportunity for Designation

Interested persons or governmental agencies may apply for designation to provide official services in the geographic areas specified above under the provisions of section 79(f) of the USGSA and 7 CFR 800.196. Designation in the specified geographic areas is for the period beginning July 1, 2014, and ending June 30, 2017. To apply for designation or for more information, contact Eric J. Jabs at the address listed above or visit GIPSA's Web site at <http://www.gipsa.usda.gov>.

Request for Comments

We are publishing this notice to provide interested persons the opportunity to comment on the quality of services provided by the Georgia and