

# Notices

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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 No. DA-00-04]

#### Request for Extension and Revision 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 Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) intention to request an extension for and revision to a currently approved information collection for Reporting Requirements Under Regulations Governing Inspection and Grading Services of Manufactured or Processed Dairy Products.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by March 14, 2000, to be assured of consideration.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS:** Contact F. Tracy Schonrock, USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs, Dairy Grading Branch, Room 2746—South Building, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456; Tel: (202) 720-3171, Fax: (202) 720-2643.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Reporting Requirements Under Regulations Governing Inspection and Grading Services of Manufactured or Processed Dairy Products.

*OMB Number:* 0581-0126.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* July 31, 2001.

*Type of Request:* Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

*Abstract:* The dairy grading program is a voluntary user fee program authorized under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621 *et seq.*) The regulations governing

inspection and grading services of manufactured or processed dairy products appear at 7 CFR part 58. In order for a voluntary inspection program to perform satisfactorily with a minimum of confusion, there must be written requirements and rules for both Government and industry. The information collections are essential to carry out and administer the inspection and grading program. The information requested is used to identify the product offered for grading, to identify a request from an equipment manufacturer of equipment used in the dairy, meat or poultry industries for evaluation regarding sanitary design and construction, to identify and contact the party responsible for payment of the inspection, grading or equipment evaluation fee and expense and, to identify applicants who wish to be authorized for the display of official identification on product packaging materials, equipment, utensils, or on descriptive or promotional materials.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .0431 hours per response.

*Respondents:* Distributors, manufacturers and packers of butter and cheese; and manufacturers of processing equipment used in the dairy, meat and poultry industries.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 2300.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 5.1083.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 506 hours. Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments should reference OMB No. 0581-0126 and the Dairy Inspection and

Grading Program and be sent to the Office of the Deputy Administrator, USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs, Room 2968-S, PO Box 96456, Washington, DC 20090-6456. Comments should reference the docket number and the date and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**. All comments received will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at 14th and Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC, Room 2968 South Building.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: January 10, 2000.

**Richard M. McKee,**

*Deputy Administrator, Dairy Programs.*

[FR Doc. 00-979 Filed 1-13-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-02-U**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 99-062N]

#### Draft Report—The Future of FSIS Veterinarians: Public Health Professionals for the 21st Century

**AGENCY:** Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is holding a public meeting on February 1, 2000, to discuss and receive comments on the draft report, *The Future of FSIS Veterinarians: Public Health Professionals for the 21st Century*.

**DATES:** The public meeting will be held February 1, 2000, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Written comments must be received by February 14, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Washington Plaza Hotel, 10 Thomas Circle, NW. (at Massachusetts Avenue and 14th Street), Washington, DC 20009, telephone (202) 842-1300. If a sign language interpreter or other special accommodation is necessary, contact Ms. Linda Russell, USDA/FSIS Planning Staff, Telephone (202) 501-7136. The draft report is available on the FSIS web page at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>. Submit one original and two copies of comments to the FSIS Docket Clerk,

Docket No. 99-062N, Room 102 Cotton Annex, 300 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700. All comments received in response to this notice will be considered part of the public record and will be available for viewing in the Docket Room between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Ronald Hicks, Deputy Administrator, Office of Management, Food Safety and Inspection Service at (202) 720-4425.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In early 1999, FSIS convened a Task Force to develop recommendations on the roles of veterinarians carrying out the Agency's Programs, particularly with the implementation of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point systems and pathogen reduction requirements for meat and poultry products. Moreover, the Task Force was requested to look beyond current statutory and regulatory limitations. The Task Force included a diverse group of individuals, including veterinarians from inside and outside of FSIS, a variety of FSIS management personnel, and individuals affiliated with academia, non-government organizations, and foreign governments. The Task Force developed a draft report, *The Future of FSIS Veterinarians: Public Health Professionals for the 21st Century*. This report makes recommendations concerning issues such as the future roles of the FSIS veterinarians; training programs; animal identification; and international credibility.

#### Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, in an effort to better ensure that minorities, women, and persons with disabilities are aware of this public meeting notice, FSIS will announce it and provide copies of this **Federal Register** publication in the FSIS Constituent Update. FSIS provides a weekly FSIS Constituent Update, which is communicated via fax to over 300 organizations and individuals. In addition, the update is available on line through the FSIS web page located at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>. The update is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, recalls, and any other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents/stakeholders. The constituent fax list consists of industry, trade, and farm groups, consumer interest groups, allied health professionals, scientific professionals, and other individuals that

have requested to be included. Through these various channels, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. For more information and to be added to the constituent fax list, fax your request to the Congressional and Public Affairs Office, at (202) 720-5704.

Done at Washington, DC, on January 11, 2000.

**Thomas J. Billy,**  
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 00-930 Filed 1-13-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### South Bend Weigh and Safety Station, Deschutes National Forest, Deschutes County, OR

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

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

**SUMMARY:** The USDA, Forest Service will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to evaluate a request by Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to construct and operate a vehicle weigh and safety inspection station on Deschutes National Forest under authority of a Special Use Permit. The proposed area is located on the northbound lane of Highway 97, south of Bend, Oregon, between milepost 145 and 148. The legal location is Township 19S, Range 11E, Section 1, NE¼, Willamette Meridian.

**DATES:** Issues and comments concerning the scope of analysis of the Proposed Action should be received by February 14, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments regarding the Proposed Action to Mollie Chaudet, Project Team Leader, Bend-Fort Rock Ranger District, 1230 NE 3rd Street, Suite A-262, Bend, Oregon 97701.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Direct questions about the Proposed Action and EIS to Chris Mickle, Attention: South Bend Weigh and Safety Station, Bend-Fort Rock Ranger District, 1230 NE 3rd Street, Suite A-262, Bend, Oregon 97701, phone 541-383-4721.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Forest Service Proposed Action would include clearing of approximately one acre of brush and trees to accommodate construction of a building, bypass lanes for vehicle acceleration and deceleration, and related areas for parking and inspections. The size of the trees to be removed would average 14

inches diameter at chest height. The building is approximately 210 square feet and 12 feet high. The bypass lanes would measure 16 feet by 3,800 feet. The maximum width of the asphalt lanes, building, and gravel shoulder would be 60 feet, tapering to 16 feet on both the approach and exit lanes. A fuel break would be created east of the cleared area for a perimeter of 10 feet around the facility where dead fuels would be removed, trees would be pruned of limbs to at least eight feet in height. Brush would be mechanically treated as needed. Noxious weed control would emphasize early prevention and detection.

A Weigh in Motion (WIM)/Automatic Vehicle Identification (AVI) system would be sited within one mile of the weigh station facility. Equipment would include in-road sensors, a roadside computer cabinet (77 inches × (44 inches × 26 inches), two overhead detectors (10 inches × 10 inches × 10 inches) mounted on two overhead detector poles (14 feet 2 inches high × 4 inches diameter), an AVI cabinet (24 inches × 2 inches × 10 inches) mounted on a 5 foot tall AVI cabinet pole (10 inches diameter), and two AVI poles that overhang the highway spaced 600 feet apart from each other. Power would be supplied by extending less than two miles of underground service in the existing right-of-way along the east side of Highway 97. Highway signing would include information about distances to the upcoming weigh station and whether the facility is open, or not.

The Forest Service has agreed to consider a weigh station on National Forest System lands based on the public need for the facility. The facility cannot reasonably be served by the development on non-National Forest System land. Analysis has indicated a high violation rate in Central Oregon, especially trucks with a Bend and/or Redmond destination that originate locally. The proposed location of the weigh station and WIM sensors are within the Deschutes National Forest boundary and cannot be easily bypassed via other routes. The Deschutes National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) presently allocates the proposed location to a management area that emphasizes Scenic Views (Retention). The location is outside the boundary of the Newberry National Volcanic Monument.

Alternatives to be considered will include the no action alternative plus action alternatives that may include a modification of the design or location of the proposed site. The selected alternative may result in an amendment to the LRMP (Forest Plan).