

provides a map identifying the general area affected by this proposal, details regarding the analysis and decision-making process, primary issues identified to date, current Forest Plan management direction for this area, potential alternatives identified to date and general information about the area and current management. The Forest Service welcomes any public comments on this proposal.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of this analysis should be received in writing no later than October 6, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Gary Fullmer, District Ranger, Fairfield Ranger District, Fairfield, Idaho 83327.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Terry Fletcher, Interdisciplinary Team Leader, Sawtooth National Forest, 2647 Kimberly Road East, Twin Falls, ID 83301 (208) 737-3200.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In June 1998, bull trout were listed as a "threatened species" under the Endangered Species Act. In August 1998, a Biological Assessment was completed for all grazing allotments on the District. The Biological Opinion (B.O.) issued by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in March 1999 directed that grazing allotment plans be completed by the start of the 2001 grazing season. A primary requirement of the B.O. is that "livestock shall not occupy the allotments, pastures or areas with confirmed bull trout spawning and juvenile rearing after August 15th. The preceding factors, and to insure compliance with Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines, necessitate the development of this environmental impact statement.

The decision to be made is the determination of the appropriate livestock management and associated actions or management changes needed on the twelve sheep allotments to provide for the recovery of threatened, endangered and sensitive species and meet the requirements established through the Endangered Species Act for consultation for bull trout.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: Bill LeVere, Forest Supervisor, Sawtooth National Forest, 2647 Kimberly Road East, Twin Falls, ID 83301.

The draft environmental impact statement is expected to be published in March 2001. There will be a 45-day public review and comment on the draft. The 45-day public comment period on the DEIS will commence on the day the Environmental Protection Agency publishes a "Notice of Availability" in the **Federal Register**. The final environmental impact statement and decision is expected to be

completed in May 2001 in order that the obligations made in the biological opinion can be met.

The Forest Service believes it is important to give reviewers notice at this early stage 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 (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.) Please note that comments you make on the draft environmental impact statement will be regarded as public information.

Bill LeVere,

Forest Supervisor.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

[00-1-S]

Designation for the Ohio Valley (IN), Idaho (ID), Lewiston (ID), Utah, and Mississippi Areas

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: GIPSA announces designation of the following organizations to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act): Ohio Valley Grain Inspection, Inc. (Ohio Valley); Idaho Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Idaho); Lewiston Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Lewiston); Utah Department of Agriculture (Utah); and Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce (Mississippi).

EFFECTIVE DATES: November 1, 2000, for Ohio Valley; December 1, 2000, for Idaho, Lewiston, and Utah; and January 1, 2001 for Mississippi.

ADDRESSES: USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3604.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart at 202-720-8525.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

In the March 1, 2000, **Federal Register** (65 FR 11036), GIPSA asked persons interested in providing official services in the geographic areas assigned to Ohio Valley, Idaho, Lewiston, Utah, and Mississippi to submit an application for designation. Applications were due by March 30, 2000. Each was the sole applicant for designation to provide official services in the entire area currently assigned to them, so GIPSA did not ask for comments on the applicants.

GIPSA evaluated all available information regarding the designation criteria in Section 7(f)(1)(A) of the Act and, according to Section 7(f)(1)(B), determined that each official agency is able to provide official services in the geographic areas, specified in the March 1, 2000, **Federal Register**, for which they applied. Interested persons may obtain official services by calling the telephone numbers listed below.

Official agency	Designation start	Designation end	Telephone
Ohio Valley	11/01/2000	09/30/2003	812-423-9010
Idaho	12/01/2000	09/30/2003	208-233-8303
Lewiston	12/01/2000	09/30/2003	208-746-0451
Utah	12/01/2000	09/30/2003	801-392-2292
Mississippi	01/01/2001	09/30/2003	601-947-4095

Authority: Pub. L. 94-582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 *et seq.*).

Dated: August 21, 2000.

Neil E. Porter,

Director, Compliance Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Opportunity for Designation in the Detroit (MI), Keokuk (IA), Michigan (MI), Champaign (IL), Eastern Iowa (IA), and Enid (OK) Areas, and Request for Comments on the Official Agencies Serving These Areas

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA). [00-3-A]

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The designations of the official agencies listed below will end in April and May 2001. GIPSA is asking persons interested in providing official services in the areas served by these agencies to submit an application for

designation. GIPSA is also asking for comments on the services provided by these currently designated agencies: Detroit Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Detroit); Keokuk Grain Inspection Service (Keokuk); Michigan Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Michigan); Champaign-Danville Grain Inspection Departments, Inc. (Champaign); Eastern Iowa Grain Inspection and Weighing Service, Inc. (Eastern Iowa); Enid Grain Inspection Company, Inc. (Enid); and

DATES: Applications and comments must be postmarked or sent by telecopier (FAX) on or before October 1, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Submit applications and comments to USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-3604; FAX 202-690-2755. If an application is submitted by FAX, GIPSA reserves the right to request an original application. All applications and comments will be made available for public inspection at Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence

Avenue, S.W., during regular business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Janet M. Hart at 202-720-8525, email janhart@gipsadc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this Action.

Section 7(f)(1) of the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act), authorizes GIPSA's Administrator 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.

Section 7(g)(1) of the Act provides that designations of official agencies shall end not later than triennially and may be renewed according to the criteria and procedures prescribed in Section 7(f) of the Act.

1. Current Designations Being Announced for Renewal

Official agency	Main office	Designation start	Designation end
Detroit	Emmett, MI	05/01/1997	04/30/2001
Keokuk	Keokuk, IA	05/01/1997	04/30/2001
Michigan	Marshall, MI	05/01/1997	04/30/2001
Champaign	Champaign, IL	06/01/1997	05/31/2001
Eastern Iowa	Davenport, IA	06/01/1997	05/31/2001
Enid	Enid, OK	06/01/1997	05/31/2001

a. Pursuant to Section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, in the State of Michigan, is assigned to Detroit.

Bounded on the North by the northern Clinton County line; the eastern Clinton County line south to State Route 21; State Route 21 east to State Route 52; State Route 52 north to the Shiawassee County line; the northern Shiawassee County line east to the Genesee County line; the western Genesee County line; the northern Genesee County line east to State Route 15; State Route 15 north to Barnes Road; Barnes Road east to Sheridan Road; Sheridan Road north to

State Route 46; State Route 46 east to State Route 53; State Route 53 north to the Michigan State line;

Bounded on the East by the Michigan State line south to State Route 50;

Bounded on the South by State Route 50 west to U.S. Route 127; and

Bounded on the West by U.S. Route 127 north to U.S. Route 27; U.S. Route 27 north to the northern Clinton County line.

The following grain elevator, located outside of the above contiguous geographic area, is part of this geographic area assignment: Caldonia Farmers Elevator, St. Johns, Clinton

County (located inside Michigan Grain Inspection Services, Inc.'s, area).

b. Pursuant to Section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, in the States of Illinois and Iowa, is assigned to Keokuk.

Adams, Brown, Fulton, Hancock, Mason, McDonough, and Pike (northwest of a line bounded by U.S. Route 54 northeast to State Route 107; State Route 107 northeast to State Route 104; State Route 104 east to the eastern Pike County line) Counties, Illinois.

Davis, Lee, and Van Buren Counties, Iowa.