

Abstract: Marketing order programs provide an opportunity for producers of fresh fruits, vegetables and specialty crops, in specified production areas, to work together to solve marketing problems that cannot be solved individually. Order regulations help ensure adequate supplies of high quality product and adequate returns to producers. Under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 (AMAA), as amended (7 U.S.C. 601–674) industries enter into marketing order programs. The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to oversee the order operations and issue regulations recommended by a committee of representatives from each commodity industry.

The information collection requirements in this request are essential to carry out the intent of the AMAA, to provide the respondents the type of service they request, and to administer the marketing order programs. Under the Act, orders may authorize the following: production and marketing research, including paid advertising, volume regulations, reserves, including pools and producer allotments, container regulations, and quality control. Production and marketing research activities are paid for by assessments levied on handlers regulated under the marketing orders.

Under the marketing orders, producers and handlers are nominated by their respective peers. These nominees then serve as representatives on their respective committees/boards and must file nomination forms with the Secretary.

The respective committees/boards have developed forms as a means for persons to file required information with the committees/boards relating to supplies, shipments, and dispositions of their respective commodities, and other information needed to effectively carry out the purpose of the AMAA and their respective orders, and these forms are utilized accordingly.

Formal rulemaking amendments to the orders must be approved in referenda conducted by the Secretary. Also, the Secretary may conduct a continuance referendum to determine industry support for continuation of these marketing order programs. Handlers are asked to sign an agreement to indicate their willingness to abide by the provisions of the respective orders whenever an order is amended.

This information collection will merge: OMB #0581–0094, Oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, and tangelos grown in Florida, Marketing Order No. 905; OMB #0581–0080, Fresh pears and peaches grown in California, Marketing

Order No. 917; OMB #0581–0095, Apricots grown in designated counties in Washington, Marketing Order No. 922; OMB #0581–0089, Winter pears grown in Oregon and Washington, Marketing Order No. 927; OMB #0581–0103, Cranberries grown in the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, and Long Island in the State of New York, Marketing Order No. 929; and OMB #0581–0092, Fresh Bartlett pears grown in Oregon and Washington, Marketing Order No. 931.

The forms covered under this information collection will continue to require the minimum information necessary to effectively carry out the requirements of the orders, and their use is necessary to fulfill the intent of the AMAA as expressed in the orders.

The information collected is used only by authorized employees of the committees and authorized representatives of the USDA, including AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs' regional and headquarter's staff. Authorized committee employees are the primary users of the information and AMS is the secondary user.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .40824 hours per response.

Respondents: Producers, handlers and processors.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 16,971.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.283.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 8,889 hours.

Comments: Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of the 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 through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments should reference this docket number and the appropriate marketing order, and be mailed to the Docket Clerk, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, P.O. Box 96456, Room 2525-S, Washington, DC 20090–

6456; Fax (202) 720–5698; or E-mail: moab.docketclerk@usda.gov. 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 in the Office of the Docket Clerk during regular USDA business hours at 14th and Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C., room 2525–S, or can be viewed at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/moab.html>.

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: October 24, 2000.

Robert C. Keeney,

Deputy Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs.

[FR Doc. 00–27787 Filed 10–27–00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[TM–00–10]

Notice of Meeting of the National Organic Standards Board

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) announces a forthcoming meeting of the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB).

DATES: November 15, 2000, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; November 16, 2000, 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and November 17, 2000, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Eastern Daylight Time each day).

PLACE: The Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, 1800 M Street, NW, Waugh Auditorium, 3rd Floor Room, Washington, DC. Telephone: (202) 694–5103.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Keith Jones, Program Manager, National Organic Program, USDA–AMS–TMP–NOP, Room 2945–So., Ag Stop 0268, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090–6456, Telephone: (202) 720–3252.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 2119 (7 U.S.C. 6518) of the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (OFPA), as amended (7 U.S.C. Section 6501 *et seq.*) requires the establishment of the NOSB. The purpose of the NOSB is to make recommendations about whether a substance should be allowed or prohibited in organic production or

handling, to assist in the development of standards for substances to be used in organic production and to advise the Secretary on any other aspects of the implementation of OFPA. The NOSB met for the first time in Washington, D.C., in March 1992 and currently has five committees working on various aspects of the program. The committees are: Accreditation, Crops, Livestock, Materials, and Processing.

In August of 1994, the NOSB provided its initial recommendations for the National Organic Program (NOP) to the Secretary of Agriculture. Since that time the NOSB has submitted 30 addenda to its recommendations and reviewed more than 170 substances for inclusion on the National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances. The last meeting of the NOSB was held on June 6–8, 2000, in Washington, DC.

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) published its re-proposed National Organic Program regulation in the **Federal Register** on March 13, 2000 (65 FR 13512). Comments were accepted until June 12, 2000. Forty thousand seven hundred and seventy four (40,774) comments were received during the comment period.

Purpose and Agenda

The principal purposes of this meeting are to provide an opportunity for the NOSB to: receive committee reports; receive an update from the Aquatic Task Force Working Group; receive an update from the USDA/NOP; and review materials for possible inclusion on, or removal from, the National List of Approved and Prohibited Substances. Materials to be reviewed at the meeting are periacetic acid, calcium borogluconate, animal enzymes, leather meal and sodium chlorate. For further information see <http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop>. Copies of the NOSB meeting agenda can be requested from Mrs. Toni Strother, USDA–AMS–TMP–NOP, Room 2510–So., Ag Stop 0268, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090–6456; by phone at (202) 720–3252; or by accessing the NOP website at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop>.

Type of Meeting

This meeting is open to the public. The NOSB has scheduled time for public input on Wednesday, November 15, 2000, from 2:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the USDA Economic Research Service, 1800 M Street, NW, South Tower, Waugh Auditorium, 3rd Floor, Washington, D.C. 20036. Telephone: (202) 694–5103. Individuals and organizations wishing to make an oral presentation at the meeting should

forward their request to Mrs. Toni Strother at the above address or by FAX to (202) 205–7808 by close of business November 13, 2000. While persons wishing to make a presentation may sign up at the door, advance registration will ensure an opportunity to speak during the allotted time period and will help the NOSB to better manage the meeting and accomplish its agenda. Individuals or organizations will be given approximately 5 minutes to present their views. All persons making an oral presentation are requested to provide their comments in writing, if possible. Written submissions may contain information other than presented at the oral presentation. Written comments may be submitted to the NOSB at the meeting or to Mrs. Strother after the meeting at the above address.

Dated: October 26, 2000.

James A. Caron,

Acting Deputy Administrator, Transportation and Marketing.

[FR Doc. 00–27896 Filed 10–27–00; 12:31 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Phase 1—Fuels Treatment for Community Protection Environmental Impact Statement, Six Rivers National Forest, Lower Trinity Ranger District, Humboldt County, California

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: The Six Rivers National Forest will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on a proposal to reduce fuels in high severity burned stands within strategically located fuel breaks and associated fuel treatment areas within the Waterman Ridge, Lone Pine Ridge and Mill Creek areas. Fuels reduction treatments are proposed on approximately 931 acres of merchantable and 187 acres of non-merchantable stands. Fuel reduction was identified as a need in the Forest-wide Late-Successional Reserve Assessment (April 1999) and further developed in the Horse Linto, Mill and Tish Tang Watershed Assessment (March 2000). It is the first phase of the Megram Fire Recovery Strategy designed to protect communities from wildfire and extended exposure to smoke and to restore affected watersheds. The entire project is in federal land ownership.

Treatment within merchantable stands involves the removal of fire and insect killed commercial wood material and treatment of the remaining fuels. Merchantable stands have the size, quality and condition suitable for market under current economic conditions. Treatment of remaining fuels would use a combination of methods including: Lop and scatter, masticating (chipping) of treatment units or strips along roads and skid trails, excavator piling, hand piling, burning of piles and concentration of fuels (jackpot burning), yarding unmerchantable material to landings and burning it, felling unmerchantable material and burning, and broadcast burning.

Non-merchantable stands would be treated to reduce fuels by cutting dead vegetation and hand piling and burning.

Planting of nursery stock would occur on understocked acres upon completion of fuel treatments. Stand tending treatments include release for conifer establishment and growth, conifer thinning and pruning.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of this project should be received in writing by December 1, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Please send written comments to S.E. “Lou” Woltering, Forest Supervisor, Six Rivers National Forest, 1330 Bayshore Way, Eureka, California 95501.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

John Larson, Lower Trinity District Ranger, Six Rivers National Forest, (530) 625–2118; or

Dave Webb, EIS Team Leader, Six Rivers National Forest, P.O. Box 228, Gasquet, CA 95543, (707) 457–3131, extension 120.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: During the summer and fall of 1999, the Megram Fire burned approximately 49,400 acres within the Horse Linto, Mill Creek and Tish Tang Creek (HLMTT) watersheds. Subsequent to the Fire, the HLMTT Watershed Assessment (WA) was completed in March 2000.

The Megram Recovery Strategy was prepared in June of 2000, which set priorities for implementation of the recommendations made in the WA. The Watershed Analysis emphasizes the need to restore watershed functions, protect remaining mature and old growth stands from catastrophic loss, accelerate development of late-successional habitat, reduce fuel levels in strategic locations and create stand conditions that would lower the potential for future catastrophic fire and, at the same time, provide for community protection from future wildfires and extended exposure to