

# 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

### Forest Service

#### Directive Publication Notice

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The USDA Forest Service provides direction to employees through issuances in its Directive System, comprised of the Forest Service Manual and Forest Service Handbooks. The Agency must provide notice of and opportunity for the public to comment on any directives that formulate standards, criteria, or guidelines applicable to Forest Service programs. Once per quarter, the Agency provides advance notice of proposed and interim directives that will be made available for public comment during the next 3 months and notice of recently issued final directives.

**DATES:** This notice identifies proposed and interim directives that will be published for public comment between June 1, 2021 and September 13, 2021 and final directives that were issued since October 1, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** Questions or comments may be provided by email to [SM.FS.woDirectives@usda.gov](mailto:SM.FS.woDirectives@usda.gov) or in writing to 201 14th Street SW, Washington, DC 20250, Attn: Directives and Regulations staff, Mail 1132.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ann Goode at 202-740-6286 or [ann.goode@usda.gov](mailto:ann.goode@usda.gov). Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the hearing-impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time, Monday through Friday. You may sign up to receive email alerts at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/regulations-policies>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Consistent with 16 U.S.C. 1612(a) and 36 CFR part 216, "Public Notice and Comment for Standards, Criteria and Guidance

Applicable to Forest Service Programs," the Forest Service publishes for public notice and comment Agency directives that formulate standards, criteria, or guidelines applicable to Forest Service programs. Agency procedures for providing public notice and opportunity to comment are specified in Forest Service Handbook 1109.12, Chapter 30, Providing Public Notice and Opportunity to Comment on Directives.

The following proposed directives are planned for publication for public comment during the next 3 months:

1. Forest Service Manual 1820, Public Lands Corps and Resource Assistants Program.

2. Forest Service Handbook 5509.11, Title Claims, Sales, and Grants Handbook, Chapter 20, Sales.

3. Region 10 Supplement to Forest Service Manual 2720, Special Uses; Management of Point-To-Point Transport Under Special Use Authorization to National Forest System Lands within the Visitor Center Subunit of Mendenhall Glacier Recreation Area.

The primary method of public outreach for each of these proposed directives is publication on the Forest Service website (<https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/regulations-policies>), publication in the **Federal Register**, use of the GovDelivery email service, and other Agency communications resources, which may include a press release, blog post, or social media resources.

The following proposed or interim directives have been published for public comment but not yet finalized:

1. Proposed Forest Service Manual 2200, Rangeland Management, Chapters Zero Code; 2210, Rangeland Management Planning; 2220, Management of Rangelands (Reserved); 2230, Grazing Permit System; 2240, Rangeland Improvements; 2250, Rangeland Management Cooperation; and 2270, Information Management and Reports; Forest Service Handbook 2209.13, Grazing Permit Administration Handbook, Chapters 10, Term Grazing Permits; 20, Grazing Agreements; 30, Temporary Grazing and Livestock Use Permits; 40, Livestock Use Permits; 50, Tribal Treaty Authorizations and Special Use Permits; 60, Records; 70, Compensation for Permittee Interests in Rangeland Improvements; 80, Grazing Fees; and 90, Rangeland Management Decision Making; and Forest Service Handbook 2209.16, Allotment Management Handbook, Chapter 10, Allotment Management and Administration.

2. Proposed Forest Service Handbook 1109.12, Forest Service Directives, Chapter

30, Providing Public Notice and Opportunity to Comment on Directives.

3. Interim Forest Service Manual 2719, Special Use Authorizations Involving Storage and Use of Explosives and Magazine Security, and FSH 2709.11, Special Uses Handbook, Chapter 50, Standard Forms and Supplemental Clauses.

4. Forest Service Handbook 2309.13, Recreation Site Handbook, Chapter 50, Forest Service Operation and Maintenance of Developed Recreation Sites.

5. Forest Service Handbook 5309.11, Law Enforcement Handbook, Chapter 30, Violations, Section 34, Closure of National Forest System Lands to Hunting, Fishing, or Recreational Shooting.

6. Forest Service Manual 7700, Travel Management, Chapters Zero and 10, Travel Planning.

7. Forest Service Manual 2400, Timber Management, Chapters Zero, 2430, Commercial Timber Sales; 2440, Designating, Cruising, Scaling, and Accountability; 2450, Timber Sale Contract Administration; and 2460, Uses of Timber Other Than Commercial Timber Sales; Forest Service Handbook 2409.15, Timber Sale Administration, Chapters Zero, 10, Fundamentals of Timber Sale Contracting; 30, Change in Status of Contracts; 50, Specified Transportation Facilities; and 70, Contract Claims and Disputes; Forest Service Handbook 2409.18a, Timber Sale Debarment and Suspension Procedures, Chapters Zero, 10, Non-procurement Debarment and Suspension; and 20, Debarment and Export Violations.

8. Forest Service Manual 3800, Landscape Scale Restoration Program.

9. Forest Service Manual 2700, Special Uses Management, Chapter 40, Vegetation Management Pilot Projects, and FSH 2709.11, Special Uses Handbook, Chapter 50, Standard Forms and Supplemental Clauses.

10. Forest Service Handbook 2709.11, Special Uses Handbook, Chapter 80, Operating Plans and Agreements for Powerline Facilities.

11. Forest Service Manual 2400, Timber Management, Chapter 2420, Timber Appraisal; Forest Service Handbook 2409.19, Renewable Resources Handbook, Chapters 10, Knutson-Vandenberg Sale Area Program Management Handbook; 20, Knutson-Vandenberg Forest and Regional Program Management; 60, Stewardship Contracting; and 80, Good Neighbor Authority.

The following final directives were issued in the Directive System since October 1, 2020:

1. Forest Service Manual 2700, Special Uses Management, Chapter 2750, Leasing Forest Service Administrative Sites, was issued October 13, 2020. See [https://www.fs.fed.us/im/directives/fsm/2700/FSM%202750-2020\\_Leasing%20Forest%20Service%20Administrative%20Sites.docx](https://www.fs.fed.us/im/directives/fsm/2700/FSM%202750-2020_Leasing%20Forest%20Service%20Administrative%20Sites.docx).

2. Forest Service Handbook 2709.11, Special Uses Handbook, Chapter 90, Communications Site Management, was issued October 13, 2020. See [https://www.fs.fed.us/im/directives/fsh/2709.11/wo-2709.11\\_90\\_Amend-2020-6\\_final\\_1062020\\_mnzCorrected.docx](https://www.fs.fed.us/im/directives/fsh/2709.11/wo-2709.11_90_Amend-2020-6_final_1062020_mnzCorrected.docx).

Dated: May 11, 2021.

**Amelia Steed,**

*Acting Assistant Director, Strategic Planning and Budget Accountability.*

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**BILLING CODE 3411-15-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### National Agricultural Statistics Service

#### Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics

**AGENCY:** National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of the Charter Re-Establishment for the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is seeking to re-establish the committee for 2 years as a discretionary committee, the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics. Effective October 1, 1996, responsibility for the census of agriculture program was transferred to the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) at USDA from the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce. Effective February 2, 1997, NASS also received the transferred program positions and staff from the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce. Responsibility for the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics, which is a discretionary committee and was established by agency authority, was transferred, along with its allocated slot, to USDA with the census of agriculture program.

**Authority:** The Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics was originally established by the Secretary of Commerce on July 16, 1962. The Committee is also established in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. App.2.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kevin Barnes, Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, (202) 720-2707, or email [SM.NASS.OA@usda.gov](mailto:SM.NASS.OA@usda.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Secretary on the conduct of the periodic censuses and surveys of agriculture, other related surveys, and the types of agricultural

information to obtain from respondents. The committee also prepares recommendations regarding the content of agriculture reports and presents the views and needs for data of major suppliers and users of agriculture statistics. The committee draws on the experience and expertise of its members to form a collective judgment concerning agriculture data collected and the statistics issued by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

**Description of Duties:** The duties of the Committee are solely advisory in nature. The Committee makes recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture with regard to the agricultural statistics program of NASS, and such other matters as it may deem advisable, or which the Secretary of Agriculture, Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, or the Administrator of NASS may request. Agency or Official to Whom the Committee Reports: The Committee reports to the Secretary of Agriculture through the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics.

**Committee Membership:** The Secretary of Agriculture will appoint the membership of the Committee. Furthermore, members will serve for two-year terms, and can serve no more than three consecutive terms for a total of six consecutive years. Membership will consist of 22 individuals with diverse capabilities distinguished by their broad range of knowledge and interest in, though not limited to, agricultural economics, rural sociology, farm policy analysis, and agricultural education. Members will also be drawn from Educational & Research Organizations; Farm Service and Marketing Organizations; State Government Agricultural Agencies; and Farm, Ranch and Agriculture Producers. A representative from the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, and a representative from the Economic Research Service, USDA, shall serve as ex officio members of the Committee.

This Committee will be fairly balanced in its membership in terms of the points of view represented and the functions to be performed. Steps will be taken to encourage fresh points of view, such as establishing staggered membership terms and limiting the number of renewed memberships.

Equal opportunity practices in accordance with USDA policies will be followed in all appointments to the Committee. To ensure that the recommendations of the Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by USDA, membership will include to the extent possible, individuals with demonstrated

ability to represent the needs of all racial and ethnic groups, women and men, and persons with disabilities.

The USDA prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program.

**Ethics Statement:** To maintain the highest levels of honesty, integrity and ethical conduct, no Committee or subcommittee member shall participate in any "specific party matters" (*i.e.*, matters are narrowly focused and typically involve specific transactions between identified parties) such as a lease, license, permit, contract, claim, grant, agreement, or related litigation with the Department in which the member has a direct or indirect financial interest. This includes the requirement for Committee or Subcommittee members to immediately disclose to the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) any specific party matter in which the member's immediate family, relatives, business partners or employer would be directly seeking to financially benefit from the Committee's recommendations.

All members will receive ethics training to identify and avoid any actions that would cause the public to question the integrity of the Committee's advice and recommendations. Members who are appointed as "Representatives" are not subject to Federal ethics laws because such appointment allows them to represent the point(s) of view of a particular group, business sector or segment of the public.

Members appointed as "Special Government Employees" (SGEs) are considered intermittent Federal employees and are subject to Federal ethics laws. SGE's are appointed due to their personal knowledge, academic scholarship, background or expertise. No SGE may participate in any activity in which the member has a prohibited financial interest. Appointees who are SGEs are required to complete and submit a Confidential Financial Disclosure Report (OGE-450 form) and, upon request, USDA will assist SGEs in preparing these financial reports. To ensure the highest level of compliance with applicable ethical standards USDA will provide ethics training to SGEs on an annual basis. The provisions of these paragraphs are not meant to exhaustively cover all Federal ethics laws and do not affect any other