

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 73, No. 112

Tuesday, June 10, 2008

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

Office of the Secretary

Privacy Act System of Records; APHIS National Animal Identification System (NAIS); Notice of Indefinite Suspension of Effective Date

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed new system of records notice; notice of indefinite suspension of effective date.

SUMMARY: This notice suspends indefinitely the effective date for the proposed new Privacy Act system of records entitled "National Animal Identification System (NAIS), USDA/APHIS-16," published at 73 FR 23412 on April 30, 2008.

DATES: This notice of suspension is hereby effective immediately.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Barbara S. Good, Attorney-Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, General Law Division, Room 3311 South Agriculture Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1415. Ms. Good may also be reached at 202-720-8045, or barbara.good@ogc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Although USDA published notice under the Privacy Act of this proposed new system with an effective date of June 9, 2008, in an intervening civil action entitled "Mary-Louise Zanon v. United States Department of Agriculture, Civil Action No.: 08-939 (EGS)," the U.S. District Court District of Columbia has ordered USDA to transmit a notice to the **Federal Register** suspending the effective date of June 9, 2008, pending further order of the Court. This notice reflects compliance with the District Court's order of June 4, 2008, to suspend the effective date of the notice of new Privacy Act system.

Report on a New System of Records: A report on this indefinite suspension of the effective date for a proposed new

system of records, required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(r), as implemented by OMB Circular A-130, was sent to the Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, United States Senate; the Chairman, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, House of Representatives; and the Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget.

Dated: June 6, 2008.

Edward T. Schafer,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8-13065 Filed 6-9-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

2008-Crop Marketing Assistance Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments for Loan Commodities Except Cotton and Peanuts

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) will extend Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL) and Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) for the 2008 crop. The loan commodities covered by this **Federal Register** Notice include: wheat, corn, grain sorghum, barley, oats, soybeans, rice, sunflower seed, rapeseed, canola, safflower, flaxseed, mustard seed, crambe, sesame seed, graded and non-graded wool, mohair, honey, dry peas, lentils, and small chickpeas. As a result of this notice, CCC will be able to commence administration of 2008-crop MAL and LDP provisions and announce applicable 2008-crop loan rates, schedules of premiums and discounts, and other related rates.

DATES: Effective Date: June 5, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Candace Thompson, Director, Price Support Division, Farm Service Agency, USDA, STOP 0512, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0512; telephone: (202) 720-7901 or fax: (202) 690-3307; e-mail: candy.thompson@wdc.usda.gov. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication

(Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

CCC administers the loan program including MAL and LDP, which provides short-term financing to allow farmers to pay their bills soon after harvest and facilitate orderly marketing throughout the rest of the year. The loan program also provides significant income support when market prices are below statutory loan rates. Current regulations for MAL and LDP apply to the 2002 through 2007 crop years.

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-234) (2008 Farm Bill) authorized the continuation of MAL and LDP, under the regulations found at 7 CFR parts 1421, 1425, and 1434, for all loan commodities for the 2008 through 2012 crops.

With the pending harvest of 2008-crop loan commodities, this notice announces that CCC will implement immediately MAL and LDP provisions for 2008-crop wheat, corn, grain sorghum, barley, oats, soybeans, rice, sunflower seed, rapeseed, canola, safflower, flaxseed, mustard seed, crambe, sesame seed, graded and non-graded wool, mohair, honey, dry peas, lentils, and small chickpeas based on the current regulation in:

- 7 CFR Part 1421, Grains and Similarly Handled Commodities—Marketing Assistance Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments for the 2002 through 2007 Crop Years;
- 7 CFR Part 1425, Cooperative Marketing Associations; and
- 7 CFR Part 1434, Nonrecourse Marketing Assistance Loan and LDP Regulations for Honey.

CCC plans to amend the applicable regulations to reflect changes provided by the 2008 Farm Bill by August 31, 2008.

In addition, as a result of this notice, CCC will be able to announce applicable 2008-crop loan rates, schedules of premiums and discounts, and other related rates.

Environmental Review

FSA has determined that this change would not constitute a major Federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment. Therefore, in accordance with the 7 CFR Part 799, Environmental Quality and Related Environmental Concerns—

Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, implementing the regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), no environmental assessment or environmental impact statement will be prepared.

Signed at Washington, DC, on June 3, 2008.

Teresa C. Lasseter,

Executive Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. 08–1334 Filed 6–5–08; 12:00 pm]

BILLING CODE 3410–05–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

East Deer Lodge Valley Landscape Restoration Management Environmental Impact Statement, Deer Lodge County, MT

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on a integrated restoration proposal to restore terrestrial and aquatic conditions by improving the health, vigor and resilience of forest stands of infected, dead and high risk trees; restoration and maintenance of grass and shrub communities through prescribed burning; the restoration of aspen age classes and diversity; improving recreation opportunities and grazing; capturing the economic value of the dead and dying mountain pine beetle infested and high risk trees; understory thinning, followed with prescribed burning, on small understory conifer trees; enhancing water quality and quantity and maintaining and restoring conditions for native fish populations. The integrated restoration EIS will also improve public safety and infrastructure by reconstructing, relocating, maintaining and improving signing, design and linkage of forest trails, road densities and travel management. The EIS will address the obliteration of roads as well as provide mitigation measures to avoid introducing and spreading invasive vegetation. The proposed action will occur on a project area of approximately 39,000 acres of National Forest System land. The Forest Service will be using the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA). The East Deer Lodge Valley Landscape Restoration Project developed in response to the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) of 2003

(PL 108–148). Title 1 of HFRA contains provisions to expedite hazardous fuel reduction and forest restoration projects on certain National Forest System lands at risk from wildland fire or are currently experiencing (or show imminent risk to) insect and disease epidemics (HFRA 2003, p. 15). Section 1 02(a)(4) of the HFRA authorizes expedited vegetation management projects where conditions such as the existence of an insect or disease epidemic “* * * (poses) a significant threat to an ecosystem component, or forest or rangeland resource on the Federal land or adjacent non-Federal land.” (Ibid. p. 20).

Title 1 of HFRA encourages federal agencies to involve state and local governments and citizens when developing plans and projects for vegetation treatment on federal and adjacent non-federal lands (Ibid., p. 7). A stewardship contract will be let upon reaching the project decision and implementation. The Record of Decision will disclose whether and where the Forest Supervisor decides to provide integrated restoration proposals for both the terrestrial and aquatic environments.

DATES: A public mailing outlining the project timeline and public involvement opportunities is planned the summer and fall of 2008. Individuals who want to receive this mailing should contact us within 30 days of the publication of this NOI. To be most useful, comments concerning the scope of this project should be received by July 30, 2008. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement is anticipated in the spring or summer of 2009 followed by a 45-day public comment period. The Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision should be completed by the spring of 2010.

ADDRESSES: Please send written comments to the Pintler Ranger District, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Attn: Charlene Bucha Gentry, East Deer Lodge Valley Landscape Restoration Management EIS, 88 Business Loop, Philipsburg, MT 59858. The FAX number is (406) 859–3689. E-Mail comments can be submitted to the project leader, dfletcher@fs.fed.us.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions about the proposal and EIS should be directed to Charlene Bucha Gentry, District Ranger, Pintler Ranger District, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, 88 Business Loop, Philipsburg, MT 59858; telephone (406) 859–3211 or David Fletcher, Interdisciplinary Team Leader, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Butte Ranger District/SO Annex, 1820 Meadowlark Lane, Butte, MT 59701 telephone (406) 494–0235. E-mail

comments can be sent to dfletcher@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: The 39,000 acre East Deer Lodge Valley Landscape Restoration Management Project is located in southwest Montana and is bounded by the Clark Fork River along Interstate 90 on the west and the Continental Divide above the Deer Lodge Valley on the east located within the Pintler Ranger District of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Deer Lodge County. In 2006 a Memorandum of Understanding established the Forest Stewardship Partnership between a diverse group of individuals and the Forest Service to provide framework for cooperation and coordination between the Forest Service and the members of the Forest Stewardship Partnership to engage in joint project planning within the project area.

Purpose and Need: The purpose and need for the East Deer Lodge Valley Landscape Restoration Management Project is to: (1) Restore terrestrial and aquatic conditions and processes in the project area, including goals, objectives, management prescriptions, and standards and guidelines set forth in the Forest Plan; (2) respond to needs and opportunities identified in the East Deer Lodge Valley Landscape Assessment of 2008; (3) capture the economic value of dead and dying mountain pine beetle infested and high risk trees; and (4) implement the Regional Integrated Restoration and Protection Strategy to help move the project area towards greater diversity, resiliency, and complexity; (5) incorporate Title 1 of HFRA which contains provisions to expedite hazardous fuel reduction and forest restoration projects on certain National Forest System lands that are at risk from wildland fire or are currently experiencing (or show imminent risk to) insect and disease epidemics (HFRA 2003, p. 15).

Proposed Action: The proposed action of the East Deer Lodge Valley Landscape Restoration Management Project is to: (1) Improve the health, vigor and resilience of up to approximately 2,200 acres of forest stands of infected, dead and high risk trees; (2) treat approximately 13,900 acres of mixed conifer trees by a) cutting followed by prescribed burning to restore and maintain grass and shrub communities and b) reducing hazardous fuels that are at risk from wildfire; (3) prescribe thinning on approximately 600 acres of smaller understory trees situated under mature mixed conifer forests followed with prescribed burning. The majority