

established for entry: 1,498,212 metric tons raw value of raw sugar under subheading 1701.11.10 of the HTS, and 253,117 metric tons raw value of certain sugars, syrups, and molasses under subheadings 1701.12.10, 1701.91.10, 1701.99.10, 1702.90.10, and 2106.90.44 of the HTS.

DATES: *Effective Dates:*

Raw cane sugar TRQ—October 1, 2005.
Refined sugar TRQ—September 8, 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robert Curtis, Director, Import Policies and Programs Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, AgStop 1021, South Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250—1021 or telephone (202) 720—2916, fax to (202) 720—0876, or e-mail Robert.Curtis@fas.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Paragraph

(a)(i) of Additional U.S. Note 5 to chapter 17 of the HTS provides as follows: “The aggregate quantity of raw cane sugar entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, under subheading 1701.11.10, during any fiscal year, shall not exceed in the aggregate an amount (expressed in terms of raw value), not less than 1,117,195 metric tons, as shall be established by the Secretary of Agriculture, (* * * the Secretary’), and the aggregate quantity of sugars, syrups and molasses entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, under subheadings 1701.12.10, 1701.91.10, 1701.99.10, 1702.90.10 and 2106.90.44, during any fiscal year, shall not exceed in the aggregate an amount (expressed in terms of raw value), not less than 22,000 metric tons, as shall be established by the Secretary. With either the aggregate quantity for raw cane sugar or the aggregate quantity for sugars, syrups and molasses other than raw cane sugar, the Secretary may reserve a quota quantity for the importation of specialty sugars as defined by the United States Trade Representative.” Paragraph (a)(iv) provides as follows: “Sugar entering the United States during a quota period established under this note may be charged to the previous or subsequent quota period with the written approval of the Secretary.”

The provisions of paragraphs (a)(i) and (a)(iv) of Additional U.S. Note 5 to chapter 17 of the HTS authorize the Secretary to establish the fiscal year TRQ amounts (expressed in terms of raw value) of raw cane sugar and certain other sugars, syrups, and molasses that may be entered under the subheadings of the HTS subject to the lower tier of duties and to charge to those amounts sugar that is entered prior to the beginning of the fiscal year. Allocations

of the TRQ amounts among supplying countries and areas will be made by the United States Trade Representative.

Notice: In accordance with paragraph (a)(i) of Additional U.S. Note 5 to chapter 17 of the HTS, the Secretary of Agriculture announced on August 12, August 19, and December 2, 2005, that an aggregate quantity of up to 1,498,212 metric tons, raw value, of raw cane sugar described in subheading 1701.11.10 of the HTS may be entered or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption during the period from October 1, 2005, through September 30, 2006. This amount includes the minimum amount authorized by the HTS (1,117,195 metric tons, raw value) and an additional amount of 387,017 metric tons, raw value, which represents the amount of the domestic cane sugar allotment that the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) estimates will not be filled in FY 2006. CCC is reassigning this deficit quantity to imports, pursuant to section 359e(b)(1)(D) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1359ee(b)(1)(D)).

The TRQ is allocated among supplying countries and areas by the United States Trade Representative. Because of changes occurring over time in the domestic marketing of cane sugar, certain shipping pattern restrictions used in previous years are no longer being imposed.

On August 12, September 9, and December 2, 2005, an aggregate quantity of up to 253,117 metric tons, raw value, was announced, for certain refined sugars, syrups, and molasses described in subheadings 1701.12.10, 1701.91.10, 1701.99.10, 1702.90.10, and 2106.90.44 of the HTS to be entered or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption during the fiscal year 2006 quota period, ending September 30, 2006. Out of this quantity of 253,117 metric tons, 28,656 metric tons was reserved for the importation of specialty sugars.

To allow for the orderly marketing of non-specialty, refined sugars, 117,039 metric tons were allowed to be entered beginning September 8, 2005. This amount was allocated among supplying countries and areas by the United States Trade Representative. In addition, four global-origin tranches of 34,019 metric tons were established opening December 9, 2005, December 29, 2005, January 10, 2006, and January 24, 2006. Beginning with the December 9, 2005 tranche, sugar entering under the global refined TRQ was allowed in containers of 120 metric tons or less.

To allow for the orderly marketing of 28,656 metric tons of specialty sugar, 1,656 metric tons were allowed to enter under a first tranche opening October

26, 2005, followed by three tranches of 9,000 metric tons opening November 9, 2005, March 15, 2006, and June 7, 2006. All specialty sugars were allowed to enter under the first tranche. The second, third and fourth tranches are reserved for organic sugar and other specialty sugars not currently commercially produced in the United States of reasonably available from domestic sources.

Signed at Washington, DC the 18th day of January, 2006.

A. Ellen Terpstra,

Administrator Foreign Agricultural Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Affirmation of the Total Amount of the Fiscal Year 2006 Tariff-Rate Quota for Sugar and Certain Imported Sugars, Syrups, and Molasses (Refined Sugar) Imported From Mexico

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Affirmation.

SUMMARY: This notice establishes the aggregate quantity of 250,383 metric tons, raw value, of sugar that may enter the United States Customs Territory from Mexico during fiscal year (FY) 2006 under the market access provisions of Chapter 7, Annex 703.2 of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) under subheadings 1701.11.10, 1701.12.10, 1701.91.10, 1701.99.10, 1702.90.10, and 2106.90.44 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS).

DATES: *Effective Date:* October 1, 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robert Curtis, Director, Import Policies and Programs Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, AgStop 1021, South Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250—1021 or telephone (202) 720—2916, fax to (202) 720—0876, or e-mail Robert.Curtis@fas.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Annex 703.2 of the NAFTA provides for trade in sugar and syrup goods based on annual estimates of net production surpluses in the United States and Mexico beginning in 2001, the seventh marketing year of the agreement. To facilitate estimates of supply and demand prior to the beginning of each marketing year, Section A, paragraph 13, of the Annex provides for bilateral consultations before July 1.

In addition to duty-free access to the U.S. sugar market under NAFTA, Mexico may enter under the provisions of Additional U.S. Note 5 of chapter 17 of the HTS 2,954 metric tons, raw value, of duty-free sugar under subheadings 1701.12.10, 1701.91.10, 1701.99.10, 1702.90.10 and 2106.90.44 during a FY 2006 quota period which opened September 8, 2005.

Notice: I hereby give notice, in accordance with Annex 703.2 of the NAFTA, that an aggregate quantity of up to 250,383 metric tons, raw value, of sugar described in subheadings 1701.11.10, 1701.12.10, 1701.91.10, 1701.99.10, 1702.90.10 and 2106.90.44, of the HTS may be entered or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption during the period from October 1, 2005, through September 30, 2006. The quantity is based upon the Department's projection of Mexico's net production surplus of sugar which is available for export to the United States. The entire amount, which is authorized for duty-free entry, is accounted for by the domestic cane sugar marketing allotment that the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) estimates will not be filled in FY 2006. CCC is reassigning this deficit quantity to imports, pursuant to section 359e(b)(1)(D) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1359ee(b)(1)(D)).

I have further determined that all entries of sugar entered from Mexico under the provisions of Annex 703.2 of the NAFTA during FY 2006 require Certificates for Quota Eligibility issued by the USDA Licensing Authority.

Signed at Washington, DC the 18th day of January, 2006.

A. Ellen Terpstra,

Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.
[FR Doc. E6-1030 Filed 1-26-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Notice of Lewis and Clark County Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the authorities in the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463) and under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106-393) the Helena National Forest's Lewis and Clark County Resource Advisory Committee will meet on Monday February 27 from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m. in Helena, Montana, for a business

meeting. The meeting is open to the public.

DATES: Monday, February 27, 2006.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the conference room at the Helena Chamber of Commerce, 225 Cruse Avenue, Helena, MT 59601.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Duane H. Harp, Designated Forest Official (DFO), District Ranger, Helena Ranger District, Helena National Forest, at (406) 449-5490.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Agenda topics for this meeting include review of projects proposed for funding and public comment as authorized under Title II of Pub. L. 106-393. If the meeting location is changed, notice will be posted in local newspapers, including the Helena Independent Record.

Dated: January 20, 2006.

Duane H. Harp,

District Ranger.

[FR Doc. E6-1028 Filed 1-26-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Notice for Requests for Proposals for Guaranteed Loans Under the Section 538 Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing Program (GRRHP) for Fiscal Year 2006

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is a request for proposals for loan guarantees under the section 538 Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing Program (GRRHP) pursuant to 7 CFR 3565.4 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 subject to the availability of funding. FY 2006 funding for the section 538 program is \$99 million. Applicants will submit proposals in the form of "RESPONSES." The commitment of program dollars will be made to applicants of selected responses that have fulfilled the necessary requirements for obligation. The commitment of program dollars will be made to applicants of selected responses that have fulfilled the necessary requirements for obligation, to the extent an appropriation act provides funding for GRRHP for FY 2006. Expenses incurred in developing applications will be at the applicant's risk. The following paragraphs outline the timeframes, eligibility requirements, lender responsibilities, and the overall response and application processes.

The GRRHP operates under 7 CFR part 3565. The GRRHP Origination and Servicing Handbook (HB-1-3565) is

available to provide lenders and the general public with guidance on program administration. HB-1-3565, which contains a copy of 7 CFR part 3565 in Appendix 1, can be found at the Rural Development Instructions Web site address <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/regs/hblist.html#hbw6>.

Eligible lenders are invited to submit responses for the development or acquisition with rehabilitation of affordable rental housing to serve rural America. In addition, this fiscal year, guarantees will be available for the revitalization, repair, and transfer cost of existing direct section 515 housing (transfer costs are subject to Agency approval and must be an eligible use of loan proceeds as listed in 7 CFR 3565.205). In order to be considered, direct section 515 housing projects must need repairs and/or undergo revitalization of a minimum of \$6,500 per unit.

The Rural Housing Service (RHS) will review responses submitted by eligible lenders, on the lender's letterhead, and signed by both the prospective borrower and lender. Although a complete application is not required in response to this Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), eligible lenders may submit a complete application concurrently with the response. However, submitting a complete application will not have an effect on the response's score.

DATES: The RHS will review and score all responses received through June 16, 2006. Those responses that are selected that subsequently submit complete applications and meet all Federal environmental requirements will receive commitments to the extent an appropriation act provides funding for GRRHP for FY 2006 until all funds are expended. Responses received prior to June 16, 2006, that meet program criteria, but score less than 25 points or score 25 points or more but have a development cost ratio of equal to or more than 70 percent may be selected for obligation after June 16, 2006, with the highest scoring responses receiving priority as long as funds remain available. The Agency will continue to select the highest scoring NOFA responses received after June 16, 2006, notwithstanding the score, as long as the response meets program criteria and funds remain available. A notice will be placed in the **Federal Register** when all funds are committed for FY 2006.

Eligible lenders mailing a response or application must provide sufficient time to permit delivery to the "Submission Address" on or before the closing deadline date and time. Acceptance by