

should be received in writing by January 5, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to USDA Forest Service, Helena National Forest, 2880 Skyway Drive, Helena, MT 59601.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charlie Hester, Team Leader, (406) 362-4265.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The current Travel Management Plan for the Helena National Forest was approved in June 1994. Since then, site-specific travel management has been completed or is nearing completion on approximately 500,000 acres. These recent efforts have generally prohibited cross-country motorized travel by restricting motorized vehicles, except snowmobiles, to designated routes. These areas are not affected by this proposal.

The remaining areas that do not have recent decisions or decisions pending are the focus of this proposal. The proposal retains current area and route closures and restrictions except where specific changes are identified. The major change proposed is to limit motorized vehicles, except snowmobiles, to designated Forest Development Road and Forest Developmental trails. Designations will specify the classes of vehicles permitted and the authorized period of use.

Motorized use has increased substantially over most areas in the past 10-15 years as off-highway vehicles have become more stable, maneuverable and powerful and riders have become more skilled. This increased use has resulted in the creation of networks of user-created routes often resulting in undesirable impacts to soils, watersheds, vegetation and wildlife resources. Conflicts between motorized and non-motorized users have also become more common and intense. The intent of this proposal is to provide opportunities for motorized activities without duly impacting other forest resources or uses.

The Forest Service is seeking information and scoping comments from Federal, State and local agencies as well as individuals and organizations that may be interested in, or affected by, the proposed action. The Forest Service invites written comments and suggestions related to the proposal. Information received will be used in preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. For the most effective use, comments should be submitted to the Forest Service within 30 days from the date of publication of the Notice in the **Federal Register**.

The Forest Service expects to release a Draft Environmental Impact Statement in August 2001. A Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision are expected in April 2002.

The comment period on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

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. (*Wisconsin Heritage, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (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.).

The responsible official is Thomas J. Clifford, Forest Supervisor, Helena National Forest, 2880 Skyway Drive, Helena, MT 59601.

Thomas J. Clifford,
Helena Forest Supervisor.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

[00-04-A]

Opportunity for Designation in the Fremont (NE), Muncie (IN), and West Lafayette (IN) Areas, and Request for Comments on the Official Agencies Serving These Areas

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The designations of the official agencies listed below will end in August 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:

- East Indiana Grain Inspection, Inc. (East Indiana)
- Fremont Grain Inspection Department, Inc. (Fremont); and
- Titus Grain Inspection, Inc. (Titus).

DATES: Applications and comments must be postmarked or sent by telecopier (FAX) on or before December 31, 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, SW., 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, SW., during regular business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart at 202-720-8525, e-mail 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
East Indiana	Muncie, IN	09/01/2000	08/31/2001
Fremont	Fremont, NE	09/01/1998	08/31/2001
Titus	West Lafayette, IN	09/01/1998	08/31/2001

a. Pursuant to section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, in the States of Indiana and Ohio, is assigned to East Indiana.

In Indiana:

Bounded on the North by the northern and eastern Grant County lines; the northern Blackford, and Jay County lines;

Bounded on the East by the eastern Jay, Randolph, Wayne, and Union County lines;

Bounded on the South by the southern Union and Fayette County lines; the eastern Rush County line south to State Route 244; State Route 244 west to the Rush County line; and

Bounded on the West by the western Rush and Henry County lines; the southern Madison County line west to State Route 13; State Route 13 north to State Route 132; State Route 132 northwest to Madison County; the western and northern Madison County lines; the northern Delaware County line; the western Blackford County line north to State Route 18; State Route 18 west to County Highway 900E; County Highway 900E north to the northern Grant County line.

Darke County, Ohio.

b. Pursuant to section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, in the States of Iowa and Nebraska, is assigned to Fremont.

Carroll (west of U.S. Route 71); Clay (west of U.S. Route 71); Crawford; Dickinson (west of U. S. Route 71); Harrison (east of State Route 183); O'Brien (north of B24 and east of U.S. Route 59); Osceola (east of U.S. Route 59); and Shelby Counties, Iowa.

In Nebraska:

Bounded on the North by U.S. Route 20 east to the Pierce County line; the eastern Pierce County line; the northern Wayne, Cuming, and Burt County lines east to the Missouri River;

Bounded on the East by the Missouri River south-southeast to State Route 91;

State Route 91 west to the Dodge County line; the eastern and southern Dodge County lines west to U.S. Route 77; U.S. Route 77 south to the Saunders County line;

Bounded on the South by the southern Saunders, Butler, and Polk County lines; and

Bounded on the West by the western Polk County line north to the Platte River; the Platte River northeast to the western Platte County line; the western and northern Platte County lines east to U.S. Route 81; U.S. Route 81 north to U.S. Route 20.

The following grain elevators, located outside of the above contiguous geographic area, are part of this geographic area assignment: Farmers Cooperative, and Krumel Grain and Storage, both in Wahoo, Saunders County, Nebraska (located inside Omaha Grain Inspection Service, Inc.'s, area).

Fremont's assigned geographic area does not include the following grain elevators inside Fremont's area which have been and will continue to be serviced by the following official agencies: Hastings Grain Inspection, Inc.: Huskers Cooperative Grain Company, Columbus, Platte County, Nebraska; and Omaha Grain Inspection Service, Inc.: Farmers Coop Business Assn., Rising City, Butler County, Nebraska; and Farmers Coop Business Association (2 elevators), Shelby, Polk County, Nebraska.

c. Pursuant to section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, in the State of Indiana, is assigned to Titus.

Bounded on the North by the northern Pulaski County line;

Bounded on the East by the eastern and southern Pulaski County lines; the eastern White County line; the eastern Carroll County line south to State Route 25; State Route 25 southwest to Tippecanoe County; the eastern Tippecanoe County line;

Bounded on the South by the southern Tippecanoe County line; the eastern and southern Fountain County lines west to U.S. Route 41; and

Bounded on the West by U.S. Route 41 north to the northern Benton County line; the northern Benton County line east to State Route 55; State Route 55 north to U.S. Route 24; U.S. Route 24 east to the White County line; the western White and Pulaski County lines.

The following grain elevators, located outside of the above contiguous geographic area, are part of this geographic area assignment: Kentland Elevator & Supply, Inc., Boswell, Benton County; ADM, Dunn, Benton County; ADM, Raub, Benton County (located inside Champaign-Danville Grain Inspection Departments, Inc.'s, area); and The Andersons, Delphi, Carroll County; Frick Services, Inc., Leiters Ford, Fulton County; and Cargill, Inc., Linden, Montgomery County (located inside Frankfort Grain Inspection, Inc.'s, area).

Titus' assigned geographic area does not include the following grain elevators inside Titus' area which have been and will continue to be serviced by the following official agency: Schneider Inspection Service, Inc.: Cargill, Inc., and Farmers Grain, both in Winamac, Pulaski County.

2. Opportunity for Designation

Interested persons, including East Indiana, Fremont, and Titus, are hereby given the opportunity to apply for designation to provide official services in the geographic areas specified above under the provisions of section 7(f) of the Act and section 800.196(d) of the regulations issued thereunder. Persons wishing to apply for designation should contact the Compliance Division at the address listed above for forms and information.

DESIGNATION TERMS

East Indiana	09/01/2001 to 06/30/2004
Fremont	09/01/2001 to 06/30/2004
Titus	09/01/2001 to 06/30/2004

3. Request for Comments

GIPSA also is publishing this notice to provide interested persons the opportunity to present comments on the East Indiana, Fremont, and Titus official agencies. Commenters are encouraged to submit pertinent data concerning the East Indiana, Fremont, and Titus official agencies including information on the timeliness, cost, quality, and scope of services provided. All comments must be submitted to the Compliance Division at the above address.

Applications, comments, and other available information will be considered in determining which applicant will be designated.

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

Dated: November 16, 2000.

Neil E. Porter,

Director, Compliance Division.

[FR Doc. 00–30499 Filed 11–30–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–EN–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration**

[00–02–S]

Designation for the Minnesota, Virginia, Frankfort (IN), and Indianapolis (IN) 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):

- Minnesota Department of Agriculture (Minnesota);
- Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (Virginia);
- Frankfort Grain Inspection, Inc. (Frankfort); and
- Indianapolis Grain Inspection and Weighing Service, Inc. (Indianapolis).

EFFECTIVE DATES: January 1, 2001 for Minnesota; February 1, 2001 for Virginia; and March 1, 2001 for Frankfort and Indianapolis.

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, e-mail 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.

In the March 1, 2000, **Federal Register** (65 FR 11036), GIPSA asked persons interested in providing official services

in the geographic areas assigned to Minnesota to submit an application for designation. Applications were due by March 30, 2000. In the June 1, 2000, **Federal Register** (65 FR 35044), GIPSA asked persons interested in providing official services in the geographic areas assigned to Virginia, Frankfort, and Indianapolis to submit an application for designation. Applications were due by June 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 and June 1, 2000 **Federal Registers**, for which they applied. Interested persons may obtain official services by calling the telephone numbers listed below.

Official agency	Designation start	Designation end	Telephone
Minnesota	01/01/2001	09/30/01	612–341–7190
Virginia	02/01/2001	12/31/2003	757–494–2464
Frankfort	03/01/2000	12/31/2003	765–258–3624
Indianapolis	03/01/2000	12/31/2003	317–899–2337

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

Dated: November 16, 2000.

Neil E. Porter,

Director, Compliance Division.

[FR Doc. 00–30498 Filed 11–30–00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Natural Resources Conservation Service****Notice of Proposed Change to the Natural Resources Conservation Service—Arizona's Section IV of the Field Office Technical Guide**

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed changes in the NRCS Arizona Section IV of the Field Office Technical Guide for review and comment.

SUMMARY: It is the intention of NRCS Arizona to issue a series of new conservation practice standards in its

Section IV of the Field Office Technical Guide. These new standards include Nutrient Management (Code 590) and Waste Management System (Code 312).

DATES: Comments will be received on or before January 2, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Inquire in writing to Noller Herbert, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), 3003 N. Central Ave., Suite 800, Phoenix, AZ, 85012–2945.

Copies of these standards are available from the NRCS, attention: Noller Herbert, 3003 N. Central Avenue, Suite 800, Phoenix, AZ 85012–2945 or can be downloaded from the NRCS Arizona ftp site: <ftp://ftp.az.nrcs.usda.gov/fotg/sec4/draft>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 343 of the Federal Agriculture