

7701–7772), the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to prohibit or restrict the importation, entry, or movement of plants and plant pests to prevent the introduction of plant pests into the United States or their dissemination within the United States. The regulations contained in “Subpart-Plants for Planting” (7 CFR 319.37–1 through 319.37–14) prohibit or restrict, among other things, the importation of living plants, plant parts, and seed for propagation. These regulations allow small lots of seed to be imported into the United States under an import permit with specific conditions, including seed packet labeling, as an alternative to a phytosanitary certificate requirement.

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS’ Plant Protection and Quarantine program will issue a permit indicating the applicable conditions for importation if, after reviewing the application, the articles are deemed eligible to be imported into the United States under the conditions specified in the permit. Permits would be issued at the discretion of APHIS to any importer, whether an individual or an organization, who would then send the permit to the overseas supplier. A certificate of inspection in the form of a label is required to be attached to each carton of the articles and to an airway bill of lading or delivery tick accompanying the articles. Each seed packet must be clearly labeled with the name of the collector/shipper, the country or origin, and the scientific name at least to the genus level, and preferably to the species level. Without the information APHIS could not verify that imported nursery stock does not present significant risk of introducing plant pests and plant disease into the United States.

Description of Respondents: Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 1,600.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 740.

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Title: Special Needs Request Under the Plant Protection Act.

OMB Control Number: 0579–0291.

Summary of Collection: The Plant Protection Act (PPA) (7 U.S.C. 7701 *et seq.*) gives authority to the Secretary of Agriculture to prohibit or restrict the importation, entry, exportation, or movement in interstate commerce of any plant, plant product, biological control organism, noxious weed, article, or means of conveyance if the Secretary

determines that the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the introduction of plant pests or noxious weed into the United States. The Secretary has delegated this authority to the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), which administers regulations to implement the PPA. Regulations governing the interstate movement of plants, plant products, and other articles are contained in 7 CFR part 301, “Domestic Quarantine Notices.” The domestic quarantine regulations is a process by which a State or political subdivision of a State can request approval to impose prohibitions or restrictions on the movement in interstate commerce of specific articles that are in addition to the prohibitions and restrictions imposed by APHIS.

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS believes that specific information, which would be considered along with more general information available to APHIS, would be necessary for the Administrator to be able to determine whether to grant or deny a request for a special need exemption. The administrator’s determination would be based upon his or her review of the information submitted by the State or political subdivision in support of its request and would take into account any comments received.

Description of Respondents: State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 1.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 160.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

July 2, 2012.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Comments regarding (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c)

ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) 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 should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395–5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250–7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720–8681.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Title: 1890 Land Grant Institutions: Rural Entrepreneurial Program Outreach Initiative.

OMB Control Number: 0570–0041.

Summary of Collection: Rural Business Service’s mission is to encourage 1890 Institutions to improve the quality of life in rural America by financing community facilities and businesses, providing technical assistance and creating effective strategies for rural development. Funding has been allocated to support the Outreach Initiative developed to help future entrepreneurs and businesses in rural communities that have the most economic need. Funds are awarded on a competitive basis using specific selection criteria.

Need and Use of the Information: The information collected will be used to determine (1) eligibility; (2) the specific purpose for which the funds will be utilized; (3) time frames or dates by which activities surrounding the use of funds will be accomplished; (4) feasibility of the project; (5) applicants’ experience in managing similar activities; and (6) the effectiveness and innovation used to address critical issues vital to the development and sustainability of businesses. Without

this information there would be no basis on which to award funds.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; Farms; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 18.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Quarterly.

Total Burden Hours: 728.

Charlene Parker,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2012-16609 Filed 7-6-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2012-0052]

Oral Rabies Vaccine Trial; Availability of an Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for comments.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has prepared an environmental assessment relative to an oral rabies vaccination field trial in New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Vermont, and West Virginia. The environmental assessment analyzes the use of an experimental rabies vaccine in field safety and immunogenicity trials in portions of New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Vermont, and West Virginia. The proposed field trial is necessary to evaluate a wildlife rabies vaccine that will produce sufficient levels of population immunity in raccoons and striped skunks. We are making the environmental assessment available to the public for review and comment.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before August 8, 2012.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=APHIS-2012-0052-0001>.

- *Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:* Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2012-0052, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238.

The environmental assessment and any comments we receive may be viewed at <http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=APHIS-2012-0052> or

in our reading room, which is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 799-7039 before coming.

This notice and the environmental assessment are also posted on the APHIS Web site at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/ws/ws_nepa_environmental_documents.shtml.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. Richard Chipman, Acting Rabies Program Coordinator, Wildlife Services, APHIS, 59 Chennell Drive, Suite 7, Concord, NH 03301; (603) 223-9623. To obtain copies of the environmental assessment, contact Ms. Beth Kabert, Environmental Coordinator, Wildlife Services, 140-C Locust Grove Road, Pittstown, NJ 08867; (908) 735-5654, fax (908) 735-0821, email: beth.e.kabert@aphis.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Wildlife Services (WS) program in the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) cooperates with Federal agencies, State and local governments, and private individuals to research and implement the best methods of managing conflicts between wildlife and human health and safety, agriculture, property, and natural resources. Wildlife-borne diseases that can affect domestic animals and humans are among the types of conflicts that APHIS-WS addresses. Wildlife is the dominant reservoir of rabies in the United States.

One of the activities undertaken by APHIS-WS to address rabies is an Oral Rabies Vaccination (ORV) program involving the distribution of baits containing vaccinia-rabies glycoprotein (V-RG) vaccine to stop the spread of specific raccoon (eastern States), coyote (Texas), and gray fox (Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona) rabies virus variants to new areas. While this vaccine has proven to be orally effective in raccoons, coyotes, and foxes, it does not produce detectable levels of population immunity in striped skunks. Because skunks infected with raccoon rabies likely serve as a source of perpetuating and maintaining this rabies virus variant (i.e., raccoon rabies), they may compromise the effectiveness of our ORV program.

APHIS-WS is the lead agency regarding a proposed action that will test the safety and immunogenicity of a new human adenovirus type 5-rabies

glycoprotein recombinant virus (AdRG1.3) rabies vaccine in an effort to find a rabies vaccine that will be safe and immunogenic in a variety of animal species including raccoons, skunks, foxes, and coyotes. The proposed field trial would take place within approximately 10,483 square miles of portions of New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Vermont, and West Virginia, including portions of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service National Forest System lands, excluding Wilderness Areas. The proposed field trial is a collaborative effort among APHIS-WS; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; the vaccine manufacturer (Artemis Inc.); the appropriate agriculture, health, and wildlife agencies for the states of New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Vermont, and West Virginia; the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources; and the Quebec Ministry of Natural Resources and Wildlife.

APHIS' review and analysis of the proposed action are documented in detail in an environmental assessment (EA) titled "Field Trial of an Experimental Rabies Vaccine, Human Adenovirus Type 5 Vector in New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Vermont, and West Virginia" (May 2012). The EA analyzes a number of environmental issues or concerns with the oral rabies vaccine and activities associated with ORV field trials, such as capture and handling animals for monitoring and surveillance purposes. The EA also analyzes alternatives to the proposed action, including no action (continuation of the current program, which involves field trials in West Virginia only) and no ORV field trials. We are making the EA available to the public for review and comment. We will consider all comments that we receive on or before the date listed under the heading DATES at the beginning of this notice.

The EA may be viewed on the Regulations.gov Web site or in our reading room (see **ADDRESSES** above for instructions for accessing Regulations.gov and information on the location and hours of the reading room). In addition, paper copies may be obtained by calling or writing to the individual listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

The EA has been prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), (2) regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA