

### Public Scoping Process

As previously discussed, APHIS seeks public comment on petitions deemed complete through notices published in the **Federal Register**. In accordance with our process, on August 19, 2020, APHIS solicited comments on the petition for 60 days and received 4,320 comments from the academic sector, farmers, non-governmental organizations, nonprofit organizations, industry, Tribes, and unaffiliated individuals.

APHIS is seeking additional public comment on this notice of intent to prepare an EIS to help identify potential alternatives, as well as relevant information, studies, and/or analyses that we should consider in evaluating the potential impacts of the proposed action on the quality of the human environment. Those who have already submitted comments on the ESF petition need not resubmit—we will consider these comments in development of the EIS. To promote informed NEPA analysis and decisionmaking, comments should be as specific as possible and explain why the issues raised are important for consideration in the EIS. Comments should include, where possible, references and data sources supporting the information provided in the comment. We encourage the submission of data, studies, or research to support your comments.

APHIS will accept written comments for a period of 30 days from the date of this notice. The petition is available for public review, and copies are available as indicated under **ADDRESSES** and **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** above.

### Schedule for the Decision-Making Process

As part of the decision-making process regarding the petition, we are preparing a plant pest risk assessment (PPRA) and the EIS that is the subject of this notice. We plan to complete the PPRA within 6 months, and the EIS and record of decision (ROD) within 2 years of the date of this notice. This schedule is tentative and subject to extension.

Once we have reviewed the comments received in response to this notice, we will prepare and make available a draft EIS for a review and comment for a period of 45 days. A notice for public comment on the draft EIS will be provided in the **Federal Register**, and the draft EIS and associated documents will be made available on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

The commenting and review process on the draft EIS will be conducted in accordance with CEQ's NEPA regulations. Comments will be invited

from State, Tribal, and local governments and agencies, industry, environmental organizations, academia, and the public. APHIS will review all comments received on the draft EIS, provide responses to substantive comments, and incorporate relevant issues raised in the comments into development of a final EIS.

We will announce the availability of the final EIS in the **Federal Register** and file the final EIS together with comments and responses with the EPA, Office of Federal Activities, consistent with EPA's procedures and CEQ's filing requirements. The EPA will publish a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing the final EIS. APHIS will issue a ROD on the final EIS and petition 30 days after the EPA notifies the public that the final EIS has been completed and submitted. If necessary, APHIS may extend these timeframes.

*Authority:* 7 U.S.C. 7701–7772 and 7781–7786; 31 U.S.C. 9701; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.3.

Done in Washington, DC, this 2nd day of August 2021.

**Michael Watson,**

*Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 2021–16771 Filed 8–5–21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410–34–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### U.S. Codex Office

#### Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Fats and Oils

**AGENCY:** U.S. Codex Office, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on September 20, 2021. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft United States (U.S.) positions to be discussed at the 27th Session of the Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, which will convene virtually, October 18–26, 2021. The U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius and the Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 27th Session of the CCFO and to address items on the agenda.

**DATES:** The public meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2021, from 2:00–4:00 p.m. EDT.

**ADDRESSES:** The public meeting will take place via Video Teleconference only. Documents related to the 27th Session of the CCFO will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFO&session=27>. Dr. Paul South, U.S. Delegate to the 27th Session of the CCFO, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: [paul.south@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:paul.south@fda.hhs.gov).

**REGISTRATION:** Attendees must register to attend the public meeting here: <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltdeCspjoiEdPA0lHBseYMWHn9UDDhdY>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For further information about the 27th Session of the CCFO, contact U.S. Delegate, Dr. Paul South, [paul.south@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:paul.south@fda.hhs.gov), +1 (240) 402–1640.

For further information about the public meeting contact: U.S. Codex Office, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4861, South Agriculture Building, Washington, DC 20250. Phone (202) 720–7760, Fax: (202) 720–3157, Email: [uscodex@usda.gov](mailto:uscodex@usda.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

Codex was established in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization. Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

The Terms of Reference of the Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO) are:

(a) To elaborate worldwide standards for fats and oils of animal, vegetable and marine origin including margarine and olive oil.

The CCFO is hosted by Malaysia. The United States attends the CCFO as a member country of Codex.

#### Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items on the Agenda for the 27th Session of the CCFO will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Adoption of the Agenda.

- Matters referred to the Committee by the CAC and other Codex Subsidiary Bodies.

- Matters of Interest arising from FAO/WHO and from the 90th and 91st Meeting of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA).

- Proposed draft revision to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CXS 210–1999):

- Sunflower seed oil—Revision of composition: Section 3.1—GLC ranges of fatty acid composition—ranges of oleic and linoleic acid.

- Sunflower seed oil—Revision to composition—Physical and chemical parameters (refractive index, saponification value, iodine values and relative density).

- Inclusion of avocado oil in the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CXS 210–1999).

- Proposed draft revision to the Standard for Olive Oils and Olive Pomace Oils (CXS 33–1981): Revision of Sections 3, 8 and Appendix.

- Review of the List of Acceptable Previous Cargoes (Appendix II to CXC 36–1987).

- Consideration of the proposals for new work and or amendments to existing Codex Standards—Replies to CL 2019/54–FO, including a proposal from the United States to revise the Codex Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CSX 210–1999) to include high oleic acid soya bean oil.

#### Public Meeting

At the September 20, 2021, public meeting, draft U.S. positions on the agenda items will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to Dr. Paul South, U.S. Delegate for the 27th Session of the CCFO (see **ADDRESSES**). Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 27th Session of the CCFO.

#### Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, the U.S. Codex Office will announce this **Federal Register** publication on-line through the USDA web page located at: <http://www.usda.gov/codex>, a link that also offers an email subscription service providing access to information related to Codex. Customers can add or delete their subscription themselves and have the option to password protect their accounts.

#### USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

No agency, officer, or employee of the USDA shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, or political beliefs, exclude from participation in, deny the benefits of, or subject to discrimination any person in the United States under any program or activity conducted by the USDA.

#### How To File a Complaint of Discrimination

To file a complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which may be accessed online at [https://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain\\_combined\\_6\\_8\\_12.pdf](https://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain_combined_6_8_12.pdf), or write a letter signed by you or your authorized representative. Send your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by mail, fax, or email.

**Mail:** U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250–9410.

**Fax:** (202) 690–7442, Email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice and TDD).

Done at Washington DC, on August 3, 2021.

**Mary Frances Lowe,**

*U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.*

[FR Doc. 2021–16794 Filed 8–5–21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Information Collection; Forest Products Removal Permits and Contracts

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Forest Service is seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on the renewal with revisions of a currently approved information collection, *Forest Products Removal Permits and Contracts*. The revision pertains to the inclusion of the sale of Christmas trees through *Rec.gov*. The agency began providing that option in calendar year 2020, and the public may now buy—and print—a Christmas

tree permit online versus traveling to a Forest Service office. The option to purchase a permit in-person is still available.

**DATES:** Comments must be received in writing on or before October 5, 2021 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

**ADDRESSES:** Commenters are encouraged to submit comments by email, if possible. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- **Email:** [glen.vanzandt@usda.gov](mailto:glen.vanzandt@usda.gov).
- **Mail:** Director, Forest Management, USDA, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090–6090.
- **Hand Delivery/Courier:** Forest Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 1103, Washington, DC 20250.

Comments submitted in response to this notice may be made available to the public through relevant websites and upon request. For this reason, please do not include in your comments information of a confidential nature, such as sensitive personal information or proprietary information. If you send an email comment, your email address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the internet. Please note that responses to this public comment request containing any routine notice about the confidentiality of the communication will be treated as public comments that may be made available to the public notwithstanding the inclusion of the routine notice.

The public may request an electronic copy of the draft supporting statement and/or any comments received be sent via return email. Requests should be emailed to [glen.vanzandt@usda.gov](mailto:glen.vanzandt@usda.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Glen Van Zandt, Forest Management Staff, by phone 202–617–1095 or by email at [glen.vanzandt@usda.gov](mailto:glen.vanzandt@usda.gov). Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the hearing-impaired (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339 24 hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** Forest Products Removal Permits and Contracts.

**OMB Number:** 0596–0085.

**Expiration Date of Approval:** December 31, 2021.

**Type of Request:** Renewal with revisions of a currently approved information collection.

**Abstract:** Under 16 U.S.C. 551 *Protection of National Forests; Rules*