

Notices

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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

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. No. AMS-PY-07-0101]

Notice of Request for an Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) intention to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget, for an extension of, and revision to a currently approved information collection in support of the Regulations Governing the Voluntary Grading of Shell Eggs.

DATES: Comments received by November 13, 2007 will be considered.

Additional Information or Comments: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> or to David Bowden, Jr., Chief, Standards, Promotion & Technology Branch; Poultry Programs, AMS, U.S. Department of Agriculture; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 0259; Washington, DC 20250-0259, (202) 690-3148. Comments should reference the docket number and the date and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register** and will be available for public inspection in the Office of the Docket Clerk, Poultry Programs, AMS, USDA, Room 3953-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0259 during regular business hours, or can be viewed at: <http://www.regulations.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Regulations Governing the Voluntary Grading of Shell Eggs—7 CFR part 56.

OMB Number: 0581-0128.

Expiration Date of Approval: May 31, 2008.

Type of Request: Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (60 Stat. 1087-1091, as amended; 7 U.S.C. 1621-1627) (AMA) directs and authorizes the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to develop standards of quality, grades, grading programs, and services which facilitate trading of agricultural products and assure consumers of quality products which are graded and identified under USDA programs.

To provide programs and services, section 203(h) of the AMA (7 U.S.C. 1622(h)) directs and authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to inspect; certify and identify; and identify the grade, class, quality, quantity, and condition of agricultural products under such rules and regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, including assessment and collection of fees for the cost of the service.

The regulations in 7 CFR part 56 provide a voluntary program for grading shell eggs on the basis of U.S. standards, grades and weight classes. In addition, the shell egg industry and users of the products have requested development and provision of other types of voluntary services under these regulations; e.g., contract and specification acceptance services and certification of quantity. Voluntary grading service is available on a resident basis or on an as-needed bases. The AMA requires Agency costs be assessed and collected from respondents who request voluntary program services. Information provided during the request is used by the Agency to determine cost assessments.

The information collection requirements in this request are essential to carry out the intent of the AMA, to provide the respondents the type of service they request, and to administer the program. The information request requires personal data, such as name, type of business, address and description of service requested.

The information collected is used only by authorized representatives of

USDA (AMS, Poultry Programs' national staff; regional directors and their staffs; Federal-State supervisors and their staffs; and resident Federal-State graders, which includes State agencies) to administer and to conduct and carry out requested grading services. The Agency is the primary user of the information. Information is also used by authorized State agencies under a cooperative agreement with AMS.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.238 hours per response.

Respondents: State or local governments, businesses or other for-profits, Federal agencies or employees, small businesses or organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 630.

Estimated Total Annual Responses: 23,130.50.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 36.72.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 5,513.64 hours.

Copies of this information collection may be obtained from David Bowden, Jr., Chief, Standards, Promotion, & Technology Branch, at (202) 690-3148.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to: David Bowden, Jr., Chief, Standards, Promotion & Technology Branch; Poultry Programs, AMS, U.S. Department of Agriculture; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 0259; Washington, DC 20250-0259. All comments received will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the above address and may be viewed at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: September 10, 2007.

Kenneth C. Clayton,

Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. E7-18112 Filed 9-13-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Black Hills National Forest, Northern Hills Ranger District, South Dakota, West Rim Project Area

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: The Forest Service will prepare an environmental impact statement on a proposal to implement multiple resource management actions within the West Rim Project Area to implement the amended Black Hills National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan. The West Rim Project Area covers approximately 43,028 acres of National Forest System land and approximately 10,129 acres of interspersed private land southwest of Spearfish, South Dakota. A 1/2 mile buffer around all parcels of private land is identified as Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). Proposed actions include a combination of vegetation and fuels treatments to reduce fire hazard, reduce mountain pine beetle susceptibility, and improve vegetative diversity. The proposed action includes approximately 6,800 acres of commercial thinning, 3,500 acres of overstory removal, 13,700 acres of pre-commercial thinning, 2,300 acres of commercial seed cuts, 470 acres of fuel reduction treatments, and up to 13,800 acres of prescribed burning. Approximately 25 miles of new road construction would be necessary to carry out the proposed vegetation management actions.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by October 15, 2007. The draft environmental impact statement is expected to be available February 2008 and the final environmental impact statement is expected to be completed by July 2008.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to: Rhonda O'Byrne, District Ranger, Northern Hills Ranger District, 2014 North Main Street, Spearfish, SD 57783. Telephone number: (605) 642-4622. E-

mail: *comments-rocky-mountain-black-hills-northern-hills@fs.fed.us* with "West Rim Project" as the subject.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Chris Stores, Assistant District Planner, Northern Hills Ranger District, 2014 North Main Street, Spearfish, SD 57783. Telephone number: (605) 642-4622.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of and Need for Action

The purpose of and need for the actions proposed in the West Rim project area is to reduce fire hazard and the risk of mountain pine beetle infestation and to increase vegetative diversity. All actions are intended to move toward or achieve related forest Plan Goals and Objectives, consistent with forest Plan Standards and Guidelines.

Proposed Action

Proposed actions include the following:

Reduce the acres at moderate-to-high fire hazard by thinning stands to decrease crown proximity and by reducing fuel accumulations. Thinning may use commercial or non-commercial methods. Fuel reduction treatments could include logging, chipping, crushing, piling and burning, construction of fuel breaks, and broadcast prescribed burning.

Reduce acres at high or medium susceptibility to mountain pine beetle by thinning stands and changing stand structure. Commercial and non-commercial (including prescribed burning) methods may be used.

Increase vegetative diversity through understory or overstory thinning, including commercial and non-commercial timber harvest. Remove ponderosa pine from hardwood, meadow, and riparian areas. Manage known location of old growth for old growth characteristics.

Road construction and maintenance activities necessary to access areas proposed for timber harvest. New roads would be closed following harvest, and existing roads that are not in the National Forest System could also be closed in conjunction with this project.

The Forest Service is the sole responsible agency for this project; no cooperators are participating in project planning.

Responsible Official

Rhonda O'Byrne, District Ranger, Northern Hills Ranger District, 2014 North Main Street, Spearfish, SD 57783.

Nature of Decision To Be Made

The decision to be made is whether or not to approve the proposed action or

alternatives at this time. No Forest Plan amendments are proposed.

Scoping Process

Comments and input regarding the proposed action are being requested from the public and other interested parties in conjunction with this notice of intent. The comment period will be open for thirty days, beginning on the date of publication of this notice of intent. An open house to gather comments from local individuals and groups will be held on September 19, 2007, at the Northern Hills Ranger District office in Spearfish, SD. Also, response to the draft EIS will be sought from the interested public beginning approximately in February 2008.

Comment Requested

This notice of intent initiates the scoping process which guides the development of the environmental impact statement. It is our desire to involve interested parties and especially adjacent landowners in identifying the issues related to proposed activities. Comments will assist in identification of key issues and opportunities to develop project alternatives and mitigation measures.

Early Notice of Importance of Public Participation in Subsequent Environmental Review: A draft environmental impact statement will be prepared for comment. The comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will be 45 days (beginning approximately February 15, 2008) from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, it is important to give reviewers notice 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 (*City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, 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