

**OFFICE OF PERSONNEL
MANAGEMENT****5 CFR Part 532**

[Docket ID: OPM–2023–0018]

RIN 3206–AO61

**Prevailing Rate Systems; Redefinition
of the Northeastern Arizona and Utah
Appropriated Fund Federal Wage
System Wage Areas****AGENCY:** Office of Personnel
Management.**ACTION:** Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is issuing a final rule to redefine the geographic boundaries of the Northeastern Arizona and Utah appropriated fund Federal Wage System (FWS) wage areas for pay-setting purposes. The final rule will redefine Washington County, UT, and several National Parks portions of Garfield, Grand, Iron, San Juan, and Wayne Counties, UT, to the Northeastern Arizona wage area.

DATES:

Effective date: This regulation is effective December 15, 2023.

Applicability date: This change applies on the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning on or after December 15, 2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ana Paunoiu, by telephone at (202) 606–2858 or by email at *pay-leave-policy@opm.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 15, 2023, OPM issued a proposed rule (88 FR 55423) to redefine the geographic boundaries of the Northeastern Arizona and Utah appropriated fund FWS wage areas. The rulemaking proposed to redefine Washington County, UT; and the Bryce Canyon, Capitol Reef, and Canyonlands National Parks portions of Garfield County, UT; the Arches and Canyonlands National Parks portions of Grand County, UT; the Cedar Breaks National Monument and Zion National Park portions of Iron County, UT; the Canyonlands National Park portion of San Juan County, UT; and the Capitol Reef and Canyonlands National Parks portions of Wayne County from the Utah wage area to the Northeastern Arizona wage area. The Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee, the national labor-management committee responsible for advising OPM on matters concerning the pay of FWS employees, reviewed and recommended these changes by consensus.

The 30-day comment period ended on September 15, 2023. OPM received one

public comment expressing general concerns about economic growth around National Parks that is outside the scope of this rulemaking. Therefore, this final rule adopts the proposed rule at 88 FR 55423 without change.

Expected Impact of This Rule

Section 5343 of title 5, U.S. Code, provides OPM with the authority and responsibility to define the boundaries of FWS wage areas. Any changes in wage area boundaries can have the long-term effect of increasing pay for FWS employees in affected locations. OPM expects this rule to impact approximately 100 FWS employees. Of the changes this rule implements, the most significant change in terms of the number of impacted employees would be in Washington County, UT, where approximately 32 FWS employees would be affected. Considering the small number of employees affected, OPM does not anticipate this rule will have a substantial impact on the local economies or a large impact in the local labor markets. However, OPM will continue to study the implications of such impacts in this or future rules as needed, as this and future changes in wage area definitions may impact higher volumes of employees in geographical areas and could rise to the level of impacting local labor markets.

Regulatory Review

Executive Orders 13563, 12866, and 14094 direct agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, distributive impacts, and equity). This rule is not a “significant regulatory action” under the provisions of Executive Order 14094 and, therefore, was not reviewed by OMB.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Director of OPM certifies that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

Federalism

OPM has examined this rule in accordance with Executive Order 13132, Federalism, and have determined that this rule will not have any negative impact on the rights, roles and responsibilities of State, local, or tribal governments.

Civil Justice Reform

This rule meets the applicable standard set forth in Executive Order 12988.

Unfunded Mandates Act of 1995

This rule will not result in the expenditure by State, local, and tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$100 million or more in any year and it will not significantly or uniquely affect small governments. Therefore, no actions were deemed necessary under the provisions of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995.

Congressional Review Act

Subtitle E of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (known as the Congressional Review Act or CRA) (5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.*) requires most final rules to be submitted to Congress before taking effect. OPM will submit to Congress and the Comptroller General of the United States a report regarding the issuance of this rule before its effective date. The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs in the Office of Management and Budget has determined that this rule is not a major rule as defined by the CRA (5 U.S.C. 804).

Paperwork Reduction Act

This rule does not impose any reporting or record-keeping requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act.

List of Subjects in 5 CFR Part 532

Administrative practice and procedure, Freedom of information, Government employees, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Wages.

Office of Personnel Management.

Kayyonne Marston,
Federal Register Liaison.

Accordingly, OPM amends 5 CFR part 532 as follows:

**PART 532—PREVAILING RATE
SYSTEMS**

■ 1. The authority citation for part 532 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 5343, 5346; § 532.707 also issued under 5 U.S.C. 552.

■ 2. In Appendix C to subpart B, amend the table by revising the wage area listings for the States of Arizona and Utah to read as follows:

Appendix C to Subpart B of Part 532— Appropriated Fund Wage and Survey Areas

Definitions of Wage Areas and Wage Area Survey Areas

* * * *

ARIZONA

Northeastern Arizona

Survey Area

Arizona:

Apache
Coconino
Navajo

New Mexico:

McKinley
San Juan

Area of Application. Survey area plus:

Colorado:

Dolores
Gunnison (Only includes the Curecanti
National Recreation Area portion)

La Plata
Montezuma

Montrose

Ouray

San Juan

San Miguel

Utah:

Garfield (Only includes the Bryce Canyon,
Capitol Reef, and Canyonlands National
Parks portions)

Grand (Only includes the Arches and
Canyonlands National Parks portions)

Iron (Only includes the Cedar Breaks
National Monument and Zion National
Park portions)

Kane

San Juan

Washington

Wayne (Only includes the Capitol Reef and
Canyonlands National Parks portions)

Phoenix

Survey Area

Arizona:

Gila
Maricopa

Area of Application. Survey area plus:

Arizona:

Pinal
Yavapai

Tucson

Survey Area

Arizona:

Pima

Area of Application. Survey area plus:

Arizona:

Cochise
Graham
Greenlee
Santa Cruz

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UTAH

Utah

Survey Area

Utah:

Box Elder
Davis
Salt Lake
Tooele
Utah
Weber

Area of Application. Survey area plus:

Utah:

Beaver
Cache
Carbon
Daggett
Duchesne
Emery
Garfield (Does not include the Bryce
Canyon, Capitol Reef, and Canyonlands
National Parks portions)
Grand (Does not include the Arches and
Canyonlands National Parks portions)
Iron (Does not include the Cedar Breaks
National Monument and Zion National
Park portions)

Juab

Millard

Morgan

Piute

Rich

Sevier

Sanpete

Summit

Uintah

Wasatch

Wayne (Does not include the Capitol Reef
and Canyonlands National Parks
portions)

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

7 CFR Part 457

[Docket ID FCIC–23–0007]

RIN 0563–AC84

Early Harvest Insurance Flexibility for Sugar Beets

AGENCY: Federal Crop Insurance
Corporation, U.S. Department of
Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Final rule with request for
comments.

SUMMARY: The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) is amending the Common Crop Insurance Regulations, Sugar Beet Crop Insurance Provisions. This rule makes the early harvest adjustment an option, providing producers with maximum flexibility to tailor their insurance policy to meet the unique risk management needs of their operation. This rule also incorporates comments to improve the early harvest adjustment that were received on a prior final rule amending the Sugar Beet Crop Insurance Provisions, published in the

Federal Register on November 29, 2019. The changes will be effective for the 2024 and succeeding crop years for counties with a contract change date on or after November 30, 2023, and for the 2025 and succeeding crop years for counties with a contract change date prior to November 30, 2023.

DATES:

Effective date: November 30, 2023.

Comment date: We will consider comments that we receive by the close of business January 16, 2024. FCIC will consider the comments received and may conduct additional rulemaking in the future based on the comments.

ADDRESSES: We invite you to submit comments on this rule. You may submit comments by going through the Federal eRulemaking Portal as follows:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID FCIC–23–0007. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

All comments will be posted without change and will be publicly available on www.regulations.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Francie Tolle; telephone (816) 926–7829; or email francie.tolle@usda.gov. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication should contact the USDA Target Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice) or (844) 433–2774 (toll-free nationwide).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

FCIC serves America's agricultural producers through effective, market-based risk management tools to strengthen the economic stability of agricultural producers and rural communities. FCIC is committed to increasing the availability and effectiveness of Federal crop insurance as a risk management tool. Approved Insurance Providers (AIPs) sell and service Federal crop insurance policies in every state through a public-private partnership. FCIC reinsures the AIPs who share the risks associated with catastrophic losses due to major weather events. FCIC's vision is to secure the future of agriculture by providing world class risk management tools to rural America.

Federal crop insurance policies typically consist of the Basic Provisions, the Crop Provisions, the Special Provisions, the Commodity Exchange Price Provisions, if applicable, other applicable endorsements or options, the actuarial documents for the insured agricultural commodity, the Catastrophic Risk Protection Endorsement, if applicable, and the applicable regulations published in 7