

Standards for Frozen Field Peas and Frozen Black-Eye Peas. It was specifically requested that the "individual attributes" system of grading, be incorporated into the revision. "Individual attributes" provide statistically derived acceptable quality levels (AQL's) based on the tolerances in the grade standards.

The current standards are based on an older "attributes" model. It is proposed that the standards be modified to convert them to the improved "individual attributes" grading system, similar to the U.S. grade standards for canned green and wax beans (58 FR 4295, January 14, 1993).

AMS prepared a discussion draft of the frozen field peas, frozen black-eye peas standard, and distributed copies for input to AFFI and the National Food Processors Association (NFPA). Input from the above groups was used to develop the proposed standards.

Proposed by Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS

Based on the results of the information gathered, AMS prepared and published a notice proposing to revise the U.S. Grade Standards for Frozen Field Peas and Frozen Black-Eye Peas in the **Federal Register** February 9, 2000, with a 60-day comment period, proposing changes to the United States Standards for Grades of Frozen Field Peas and Frozen Black-Eye Peas in the **Federal Register** (65 FR 7486).

AMS received comments on the Notice from AFFI. AFFI recommended changing part of the product description to include a provision that "Frozen peas may contain succulent, unshelled pods of the field pea plant or small sieve round type succulent pods of the green bean plant as an optional ingredient used as a garnish." The purpose of the recommendation is to make the standards consistent with current industry practices. Changes in mechanical harvesting have lowered the supply of "snaps" (immature pods) from the field pea plant. Snaps were customarily used as a garnish. In order to maintain the custom, the industry wants to use the succulent pod of the green pea plant, which are readily available, using current harvesting practices. This recommendation has merit. Accordingly, we are incorporating this change into the standard.

AFFI also recommended that the second category for "Color Defectives" in Table Ii, "AQL's and Tolerances for Defects in White Acre Frozen Peas", of the proposed draft of the grade standards be eliminated along with the corresponding footnotes. We are

dropping the footnote and the second category, as AFFI recommends, because both were left in the table inadvertently. Since Table II refers to White acre peas only, footnote 2/ "For Crowder Peas Only" and the second category "Color Defectives" (for crowder peas), do not apply.

Based on these changes, the revisions would modify the standards to present them in a simplified easy-to-use format. Consistent with recent revisions of other U.S. grade standards, definitions of terms and easy-to-read tables would replace the textual descriptions. These changes are intended to facilitate better understanding and more uniform application of the grade standards.

This revision becomes effective 30 days after date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1621-1627.

Dated: November 6, 2001.

A.J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 01-28271 Filed 11-9-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Forest Counties Payments Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Forest Counties Payments Committee has scheduled a meeting on November 14, 2001, to discuss how it will provide Congress with the information specified in Section 320 of the Fiscal Year 2001 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. In order to develop its recommendations to Congress, the Committee would like to hear from both elected officials and the general public. The meeting will consist of a business session, which is open to public attendance, from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon and a public input session from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m.

DATES: The meeting will be held on November 14, 2001.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Doubletree Club Hotel, 475 West Parkcenter Boulevard, Boise, Idaho 83706.

Those who cannot be present may submit written responses to the questions listed under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** in this notice to Randle G. Phillips, Executive Director, Forest Counties Payments Committee, P.O. Box 34718, Washington, DC 20043-4713, or electronically to rphillips01@fs.fed.us.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Randle G. Phillips, Executive Director, Forest Counties Payments Committee, (202) 208-6574; or via e-mail at rphillips01@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 320 of the 2001 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (Pub L. 106-389) authorizes the payments to States and counties from monies derived from receipts collected on Federal lands. These payments are to be used for the benefit of public education and other public purposes. The Act also created a Forest Counties Payments Committee to gather input from the public and elected officials to help develop recommendations to Congress on a long-term solution for making payments to eligible States and counties in which Federal lands are situated. The Committee will evaluate the methods and use of these payments. The Committee will also consider the impact on eligible States and counties of revenues from the historic multiple use of Federal lands; evaluate the economic, environmental, and social benefits which accrue to counties containing Federal lands; evaluate the expenditures by counties on activities occurring on Federal lands which are Federal responsibilities; and monitor payments and implementation of the Act.

At the November 14 meeting in Boise, the Committee asks that respondents provide information that is responsive to the following questions:

1. Do counties receive their fair share of federal revenue-sharing payments made to eligible States?
2. What difficulties exist in complying with, and managing all of the federal revenue-sharing payments programs? Are some more difficult than others?
3. What economic, social, and environmental costs do counties incur as a result of the presence of public lands within their boundaries?
4. What economic, social, and environmental benefits do counties realize as a result of public lands within their boundaries?
5. What are the economic and social effects from changes in revenues generated from public lands over the past 15 years, as a result of changes in management on public lands in your State or county?
6. What actions has your State or county taken to mitigate any impacts associated with declining economic conditions, or revenue-sharing payments?
7. What effects, both positive and negative, have taken place with education and highway programs that are attributable to the management of

public lands within your State or county?

8. What relationship, if any, should exist between federal revenue-sharing programs, and management activities on public lands?

9. What alternatives exist to provide equitable revenue-sharing to States and counties and promote "sustainable forestry"?

10. What has been your experience regarding implementation of Pub L. 106-291, The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act?

Dated: November 5, 2001.

Tim DeCoster,

Acting Deputy Chief, Programs and Legislation.

[FR Doc. 01-28410 Filed 11-9-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Newfound and Sandymush Creeks Watershed Project Buncombe and Madison County, NC

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of a Finding Of No Significant Impact.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; the Council on Environmental Quality Guidelines (40 CFR part 1500); and the Natural Resources Conservation Service Regulations (7 CFR part 650); the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, gives notice that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared for the Newfound and Sandymush Creeks Watershed Project, Buncombe and Madison County, North Carolina.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary K. Combs, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 4405 Bland Road, Suite 205, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609, telephone (919) 873-2101.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The environmental assessment of this federally assisted action indicates that the project will not cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. As a result of these findings, Mary K. Combs, State Conservationist, has determined that the preparation and review of an environmental impact statement are not needed for this project.

The project purpose is to reduce sediment and nutrient damage. The

planned works of improvement include 378 acres of Sod Rotation, 208 acres of Grassed Waterways/Field Borders, 520 acres of Cropland Conversion to Grass, 680 acres of Grassland Management and Improvement, 23 acres of Stream Protection Systems for cropland, 46 Stream Protection Systems for livestock operations, 9 Animal Waste Management Systems for dairies and 3 Animal Feed Waste Management Systems for beef operations. The project will treat 2,600 acres of cropland, improve 680 acres of grassland, stabilize 6,900 linear feet of stream bank and install 12 animal waste treatment systems.

The Notice of a Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been forwarded to the Environmental Protection Agency and to various federal, state and local agencies and interested parties. A limited number of copies of the FONSI are available to fill single copy requests at the above address. Basic data developed during the environmental assessment are on file and may be reviewed by contacting Jacob Crandall, Assistant State Conservationist for Water Resources at 4405 Bland Road, Suite 205, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609.

No administrative action on implementation of the proposal will be taken until 30 days after the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

Mary K. Combs,

State Conservationist.

[FR Doc. 01-28263 Filed 11-9-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Notice of Proposed Change to Section IV of the Virginia Field Office Technical Guide

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

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

SUMMARY: It has been determined by the NRCS State Conservationist for Virginia that changes must be made in the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide specifically in practice standards: #560, Access; #326, Clearing and Snagging; #324, Deep Tillage; #432, Dry Hydrant; #412, Grassed Waterway; #603, Herbaceous Wind Barriers; #468, Lined Waterway or Outlet; #512, Pasture and

Hayland Planting; #378, Pond; #521C, Pond Sealing or Lining, Bentonite Treatment; #521B, Pond Sealing or Lining, Soil Dispersant; #533, Pumping Plant for Water Control; #344, Residue Use; #391, Riparian Forest Buffer; #646, Shallow Water Management; #606, Subsurface Drain; #608, Surface Drainage, Main or Lateral; #313, Waste Storage Facility; #359, Waste Treatment Lagoon; and #644, Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management to account for improved technology. These practices will be used to plan and install conservation practices on cropland, pastureland, woodland, and wildlife land.

DATES: Comments will be received for a 30-day period commencing with the date of this publication.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Inquire in writing to M. Denise Doetzer, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), 1606 Santa Rosa Road, Suite 209, Richmond, Virginia 23229-5014; Telephone number (804) 287-1665; Fax number (804) 287-1736. Copies of the practice standards will be made available upon written request to the address shown above or on the Virginia NRCS web site: <http://www.va.nrcs.usda.gov/DataTechRefs/Standards&Specs/EDITstds/EditStandards.htm>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 343 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 states that revisions made after enactment of the law to NRCS State technical guides used to carry out highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the law shall be made available for public review and comment. For the next 30 days, the NRCS in Virginia will receive comments relative to the proposed changes. Following that period, a determination will be made by the NRCS in Virginia regarding disposition of those comments and a final determination of change will be made to the subject standards.

Dated: October 30, 2001.

M. Denise Doetzer,

State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Richmond, Virginia.

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