Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket No. FV96-930-1NC]

Notice of Request To Approve an 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 an information collection for a proposed marketing order for tart cherries. Information collection approval is necessary at this time since tart cherry growers and handlers who are nominated to serve as representatives on the Cherry Industry Administrative Board (Board) would need to file nomination forms and background acceptance statements with the Secretary of Agriculture. The proposed marketing order includes Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin, Marketing Order No. 930.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by November 26, 1996, to be assured of consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS:

Contact Teresa L. Hutchinson, Marketing Specialist, Northwest Marketing Field Office, Fruit and Vegetable Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, 1220 SW Third Avenue, Room 369, Portland OR 97204, Tel: (503) 326–2724, Fax (503) 326–7440.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin, Marketing Order No. 930.

OMB Number: 0581–0177. Expiration Date of Approval: 3 years from date of approval.

Type of Request: Approval of the collection of information under a new proposed marketing order for tart cherries.

Abstract: Marketing order programs provide an opportunity for producers of fresh fruits, vegetables and specialty crops, in a specified production area, to work together to solve marketing problems that cannot be solved individually. Order regulations help ensure adequate supplies of high quality product and adequate returns to producers. Under the Agricultural

Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 [7 U.S.C. 601–674], (AMAA), as amended, industries enter into marketing order programs. The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to oversee the orders' operations and issue regulations recommended by a committee of representatives from each commodity industry.

The information collection requirements in this request are essential to carry out the intent of the AMAA, to provide the respondents the type of service they request, and to administer the proposed tart cherry marketing order program.

If an order is implemented, the Board would have to be established. The Board is the organization responsible for local administration of the marketing order. This would entail individuals that are nominated to complete qualification statements to ensure such person is qualified to serve on the Board.

The information collected is used only by authorized representatives of the Department of Agriculture (USDA), including AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Division regional and headquarter's staff, and authorized employees of the Board. AMS is the primary user of the information and authorized committee employees are the secondary user.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.2602 hours per response.

Respondents: Tart cherry producers and for-profit businesses handling fresh and processed tart cherries produced in Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Estimated Number of Respondents:

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 0.854.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 373 hours.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the functioning of the proposed tart cherry marketing order program and USDA's oversight of that program; (2) the accuracy of the collection burden estimate and the validity of methodology and assumptions used in estimating the burden on respondents; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information requested; and (4) ways to minimize the burden, including use of automated or electronic technologies.

Send comments to: Teresa L. Hutchinson, Northwest Marketing Field Office, Fruit and Vegetable Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, 1220 SW Third Avenue, Room 369, Portland OR 97204. All comments received will be available for public inspection during regular business hours.

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

Dated: September 23, 1996.

Robert C. Keeney,

Director, Fruit and Vegetable Division. [FR Doc. 96–24780 Filed 9–26–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

[Docket No. FV96-923-1 NC]

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

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments requested.

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 an extension for and revision to a currently approved information collection for Sweet Cherries Grown in Designated Counties in Washington, Marketing Order No. 923, and Fresh Prunes Grown in Designated Counties in Washington and Umatilla County, Oregon, Marketing Order No. 924.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by November 26, 1996, to be assured of consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Contact Teresa L. Hutchinson, Marketing Specialist, Northwest Marketing Field Office, Fruit and Vegetable Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1220 SW Third Avenue, Room 369, Portland, OR 97204, Tel: (503) 326–2724, Fax: (503) 326–7440.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Washington Sweet Cherries

Title: Sweet Cherries Grown in Designated Counties in Washington, Marketing Order No. 923.

OMB Number: 0581–0133. Expiration Date of Approval: April 30,

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

Washington-Oregon Prunes

Title: Fresh Prunes Grown in Designated Counties in Washington and Umatilla County, Oregon, Marketing Order No. 924. OMB Number: 0581–0134. Expiration Date of Approval: March 31, 1997.

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

Abstract: Marketing order programs provide an opportunity for producers of fresh fruits, vegetables and specialty crops, in a specified production area, to work together to solve marketing problems that cannot be solved individually. Marketing order regulations help ensure adequate supplies of high quality product and adequate returns to producers. Under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 (AMAA), as amended (7 U.S.C. 601–674), marketing order programs are established if favored in referendum among producers. Such a process determines if the handling of the commodity is to be regulated. The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to oversee marketing order operations and issue regulations recommended by a committee of representatives from each commodity industry.

The information collection requirements in this request are essential to carry out the intent of the AMAA, to provide the respondents the type of service they request, and to administer the Washington cherry marketing order program and the Washington-Oregon fresh prune marketing order program. Both programs have been operating since 1957 and 1960, respectively.

Both marketing orders authorize the issuance of grade, size, quality, maturity, pack, container, inspection, and reporting requirements. In addition, the Washington prune order also authorizes the issuance of container marking requirements. Both the Washington cherry order and Washington prune order also authorize the establishment of marketing research and development projects. The Washington prune order also authorizes the establishment of production research. Regulatory provisions apply to Washington cherries and prunes shipped both within and out of the production area to any market, except those specifically exempt. These forms enable the committees, and thus, the Secretary to better monitor exempt shipments and ensure compliance with provisions of the marketing orders and the AMAA.

Under the Washington cherry and prune marketing orders, producers and handlers are nominated by their respective peers. These nominees then serve as representatives on their respective committees and must file nomination forms with the Secretary.

Formal rulemaking amendments to the orders must be approved in referenda conducted by the Secretary. Also, the Secretary may conduct a continuance referendum to determine industry support for continuation of these marketing order programs. Handlers are asked to sign an agreement to indicate their willingness to abide by the provisions of the respective orders whenever an order is amended. These forms are included in this request.

The information collected is used only by authorized representatives of the USDA, including AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Division regional and headquarters staff, and authorized employees of the committee. AMS is the primary user of the information and authorized committee employees are the secondary users.

These forms require the minimum information necessary to effectively carry out the requirements of the orders, and their use is necessary to fulfill the intent of the AMAA as expressed in both orders, and the rules and regulations issued under the orders.

Washington Cherries

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.199 hours per response.

Respondents: Cherry producers and for-profit businesses handling sweet cherries produced in designated counties in Washington.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,265.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 0.273.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 69 hours.

Washington-Oregon Prunes

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.248 hours per response.

Respondents: Prune producers and for-profit businesses handling fresh prunes produced in designated counties in Washington and Umatilla County, Oregon.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 413.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 0.22.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 23 hours.

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 through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments should reference either or both OMB No. 0581–0133 (Washington Cherry Marketing Order No. 923), and OMB No. 0581–0134 (Washington-Oregon Prune Marketing Order No. 924), and be sent to USDA in care of Teresa L. Hutchinson, Marketing Specialist, Northwest Marketing Field Office, Fruit and Vegetable Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1220 SW Third Avenue, Room 369, Portland, OR 97204. All comments received will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same address.

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 23, 1996.

Robert C. Keeney,

Director, Fruit and Vegetable Division. [FR Doc. 96–24781 Filed 9–26–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

[MT-960-1990-00-CCAM; MTM 84500]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement; Notice of Public Meetings; Montana, Wyoming

AGENCY: Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, with concurrence from the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, proposes to withdraw, for 20 years, approximately 22,000 acres of Federal mineral estate, and any non-Federal minerals that may be acquired in the future, from location and entry under the mining laws. This mineral withdrawal is being proposed to protect the watersheds within the drainages of