

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service****Northwest Sacramento Provincial Advisory Committee (PAC)****AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Northwest Sacramento Provincial Advisory Committee will meet on October 22 and 23, 1997 at the conference room in the United Way Building, 2280 Benton Drive, Redding, CA. On October 22, the meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. and adjourn at 5:00 p.m. The meeting on October 23 will resume at 8:00 a.m. and adjourn at 3:00 p.m. Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Northwest Forest Plan Implementation; (2) Evaluation of the Watershed Analysis Process; (3) Upper Clear Creek Watershed Analysis Status; and (4) public comment periods. All PAC meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathy Hammond, USDA, Klamath National Forest, at 1312 Fairlane Road, Yreka, CA 96097; telephone 916-842-6131, (FTS) 700-467-1360.

Dated: October 6, 1997.

Kathy L. Hammond,
PAC Coordinator.

[FR Doc. 97-26986 Filed 10-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration****United States Standards for Beans****AGENCY:** Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, USDA.**ACTION:** Notice.

The Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) is revising the voluntary United States Standards for Beans by changing the name of the class Black Turtle Soup beans to Black beans and establishing a separate grade chart for Cranberry beans. These changes were requested by the industry in order to improve the usability of the United States Standards for Beans.

Section 203(c) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, as amended, directs and authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture "to develop and improve standards of quality, condition, quantity, grade, and packaging and recommend and demonstrate such standards in order to encourage

uniformity and consistency in commercial practices * * *." The Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) is committed to carrying out this authority in a manner that facilitates the marketing of agricultural commodities and makes copies of official standards available upon request.

The Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) published a notice in the **Federal Register** on August 1, 1997 (62 FR 41335), that it was proposing to change the name of the class Black Turtle Soup beans to Black beans and to establish a separate grade chart for Cranberry beans.

GIPSA received only one comment in response to that notice. The Michigan Bean Shippers Association asked that GIPSA proceed with implementing the changes and stated "The changes * * * will definitely be beneficial to U.S. world bean commerce." GIPSA has determined that establishing a separate grade chart for Cranberry beans and renaming the class Black Turtle Soup beans as Black beans will improve the usability of U.S. Standards for Beans.

Since these changes to the standards were recommended and reviewed by the affected trade and are consistent with current practices in the trade, they will become effective on November 10, 1997.

The United States Standards for Beans do not appear in the Code of Federal Regulations but are maintained by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The revised United States Standards for Beans are available either by accessing GIPSA's Home Page on the Internet at: www.usda.gov/gipsa/strulreg/standard/beans or by contacting the Audiovisual, Regulatory and Training Staff, GIPSA, USDA, STOP 3649, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-3649; telephone (202) 720-1734; FAX (202) 720-4628.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1621 *et seq.*

Dated: October 3, 1997.

James R. Baker,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 97-26897 Filed 10-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-EN-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration Pilot Program for Barge Inspection Services on Selected Rivers****AGENCY:** Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).**ACTION:** Notice with comment period.

SUMMARY: GIPSA is announcing its intent to conduct a pilot program allowing more than one official agency to provide barge inspection services within a single geographic area on the Mississippi River and/or other selected rivers. GIPSA is requesting comments on the specific pilot programs described below, and GIPSA also is announcing that it will consider suggestions for other possible pilot programs in lieu of those listed below.

DATES: Comments must be postmarked, or sent by telecopier (FAX) or electronic mail by November 15, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments must be sent to Neil E. Porter, Director, Compliance Division, STOP 3604 (Room 1647-S), 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-3604. Telecopier (FAX) users may send comments to the automatic telecopier machine at 202-690-2755, attention: Neil E. Porter.

All comments received will be made available for public inspection during regular business hours at the above address located at Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Neil E. Porter, telephone 202-720-8262.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Sections 7(f) and 7A of the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act), were amended by the U.S. Grain Standards Act Amendments of 1993 (Pub. L. 103-156) on November 24, 1993, to authorize GIPSA's Administrator to conduct pilot programs allowing more than one official agency to provide official services within a single geographic area without undermining the declared policy of the Act. The purpose of pilot programs is to evaluate the impact of allowing more than one official agency to provide official services within a single geographic area.

GIPSA considered several possible pilot programs as announced in the March 14, 1994, **Federal Register** (59 FR 11759) and the March 10, 1995, **Federal Register** (60 FR 13113). In the September 27, 1995, **Federal Register** (60 FR 49828) GIPSA announced two pilot programs, Timely Service and Open Season, starting on November 1, 1995, and ending on October 31, 1996. These two pilot programs were extended to October 31, 1999, as announced in the October 3, 1996, **Federal Register** (61 FR 51674).

The March 14, 1994, **Federal Register** Notice requested comments on a possible pilot program for barges on selected rivers or portions of rivers as defined by GIPSA. This was one of five potential pilots being considered. GIPSA received 41 comments. Seven

specifically talked about the pilot programs for barges. Of those seven, five supported the program for barges, and two did not. Subsequently, GIPSA determined that this proposed pilot program was too narrow in scope for the initial round of pilot programs.

Subsequently, some official agencies expressed their belief that a pilot program on the Mississippi River would be beneficial because there is some uncertainty over the boundary lines between official agencies along the Mississippi River. At one point GIPSA considered the boundary to be the middle of a river. Official agencies found this very difficult to work with, and GIPSA subsequently changed the boundary definition to the edge of a river. The middle of a river was viewed as an open area to be served by either contiguous official agency.

In 1993, because of flooding along the Mississippi River, GIPSA granted a temporary exception for certain types of barge inspections along portions of the Illinois, Mississippi, and Missouri Rivers. This exception made the covered river areas open to any official agency for probe sampling and inspections to expedite barge traffic. GIPSA noted no problems as a result of this exception.

In addition, some facilities located along the Mississippi River (Birds Point Terminal, Bertrand, Missouri; Peavey, St. Louis, Missouri; ADM, Winona, Minnesota; and Consolidated Grain, Caruthersville, Missouri) have received services from alternative official agencies under the existing pilot programs. There have been no significant problems resulting from the barge inspections on the Mississippi River under the existing pilot programs.

GIPSA is requesting comments on the four barge pilot program options described below.

1. Barges on the Mississippi River may be sampled by probe by any official agency; or

2. Barges on the Mississippi River may be sampled by probe at any location by the official agency designated to serve the geographic area within which the barge was loaded; or

3. Barges on all rivers may be sampled by probe by any official agency; or

4. Barges on all rivers may be sampled by probe at any location by the official agency designated to serve the geographic area within which the barge was loaded.

GIPSA will consider comments on other possible pilot programs.

Official agencies desiring to participate in this pilot program would be asked to submit their plans to provide official services under such a pilot program to Compliance Division.

This pilot program will start approximately January 1, 1998, and run concurrently with the two existing pilot programs ending October 31, 1999. During this time, GIPSA will monitor these pilot programs. If, at any time, GIPSA determines that a pilot program is having a negative impact on the official system or is not working as intended, the pilot program may be modified or discontinued.

Authority: Pub. L. 94-582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 *et seq.*).

Dated: October 6, 1997.

Neil E. Porter,

Director, Compliance Division.

[FR Doc. 97-26899 Filed 10-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-EN-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration; Solicitation of Nominations for Members of the Grain Inspection Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, USDA.

ACTION: Notice to solicit nominees.

SUMMARY: The Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) is announcing that nominations are being sought for persons to serve on the Federal Grain Inspection Service Advisory Committee.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under authority of section 20 of the United States Grain Standards Act (Act) Pub. L. 97-35, the Secretary of Agriculture established the Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee) on September 29, 1981, to provide advice to the Administrator on implementation of the Act. Section 14(c) of the United States Grain Standards Act Amendments of 1993, Pub. L. 103-156, extended the authority for the Advisory Committee through September 30, 2000.

The Advisory Committee presently consists of 15 members, appointed by the Secretary, who represent the interests of grain producers, processors, handlers, merchandisers, consumers, and exporters, including scientists with expertise in research related to the policies in section 2 of the Act. Members of the Committee serve without compensation. They are reimbursed for travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, for travel away from their homes or regular places of business in performance of Committee service, as authorized under section 5703 of title 5, United States Code. Alternatively, travel

expenses may be paid by Committee members.

Nominations are being sought for persons to serve on the Advisory Committee to replace the five members and four alternate members whose terms expire in December 1997.

Persons interested in serving on the Advisory Committee, or in nominating individuals to serve, should contact: James R. Baker, Administrator, GIPSA, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 3601, Washington, D.C. 20250-3601, in writing and request Form AD-755, which must be completed and submitted to the Administrator at the above address not later than December 9, 1997.

Nominations are open to all individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, mental or physical handicap, or marital status. To ensure that recommendations of the committee take into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the Department, membership shall include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

The final selection of Advisory Committee members and alternates will be made by the Secretary.

Dated: October 3, 1997.

James R. Baker,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 97-26898 Filed 10-9-97; 8:45 am]

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COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Additions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed additions to Procurement List.

SUMMARY: The Committee has received proposals to add to the Procurement List services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE: November 10, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Square 3, Suite 403, 1735 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-3461.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Milkman (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41