

# 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

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 98-107-1]

#### Availability of Memorandum of Understanding With the Forest Service, USDA

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** We are advising the public that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Wildlife Services, and the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture, has been renewed until September 3, 2003, and is available for examination by the public. The MOU establishes guidelines and policy for managing animal damage on National Forest System lands by clarifying the roles and cooperative responsibilities of the Forest Service and APHIS's Wildlife Services in the management of programs under the Animal Damage Control Act of 1931, as amended.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the MOU are available for public inspection at USDA, room 1141, South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect the MOU are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the reading room. Copies of the MOU may be obtained by contacting the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Martin Mendoza, Jr., Director, Operational Support, Wildlife Services, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 87, Riverdale, MD 20737-1234, (301) 734-7921.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the Animal Damage Control Act of March 2, 1931, as amended (7 U.S.C. 426-426c), the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to manage wildlife on National Forest System lands to protect humans, and prevent damage to agriculture, forests, wild game animals, fur-bearing animals, and birds.

The Secretary has assigned responsibility for managing wildlife damage to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Wildlife Services. The U.S. Forest Service is responsible for management of wildlife on National Forest System lands. In June of 1993, both agencies signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which served to: (1) Identify responsibilities of the respective agencies and foster a partnership in discharging the Federal obligation under the Animal Damage Control Act, as amended, for the management of wild vertebrates causing damage on National Forest System lands; (2) establish general guidelines to assist field personnel in carrying out their animal damage management responsibilities consistent with policies of the U.S. Forest Service and Wildlife Services; and (3) strengthen the cooperative approach to animal damage management on National Forest System lands through exchange of information and mutual program support.

The MOU was set to expire after 5 years, and was renewed on September 3, 1998. This notice informs the public that the MOU is available for public inspection.

Done in Washington, DC, this 6th day of November 1998.

**Joan M. Arnoldi,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 98-30392 Filed 11-12-98; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-34-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Alaska Region; Legal Notices Required Under 36 CFR Part 215

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with 36 CFR Part 215, Deciding Officers in the Alaska Region will publish Notices of Proposed

Actions and Notices of Decisions Subject to Administrative Appeal in the Legal Notice Section of the newspapers listed in the Supplementary Information Section of this Notice. As provided in 36 CFR 215.5, such notices shall constitute legal evidence that the agency has given timely and constructive Notice of Proposed Actions and Notice of Decisions Subject to Administrative Appeal. Newspaper publication of Notices of Proposed Actions and Notices of Decisions is in addition to direct notice to persons who have requested notice in writing and to persons known to be interested in or affected by a specific proposal or decision.

**DATES:** Use of these papers for purposes of publishing Legal Notices of Proposed Actions and Notices of Decisions Subject to Administrative Appeal shall begin November 1, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cherie Shelley, Regional Appeals Coordinator, Alaska Region, USDA Forest Service, EPB, P.O. Box 21628, Juneau, Alaska 99802-1628, Telephone (907) 586-8855.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Deciding Officers in the Alaska Region will give Legal Notices of Proposed Actions and Notices of Decisions Subject to Administrative Appeal in the following newspapers which are listed by Forest Service administrative unit. Where more than one newspaper is listed for any unit, the first newspaper listed is the primary newspaper which shall be used to constitute legal evidence that the agency has given timely and constructive Notice of Proposed Actions and Notice of Decisions Subject to Administrative Appeal. As provided at 36 CFR 215.6, the time frame for public comment on proposed actions shall be based on the date of publication of the Notice in the primary newspaper.

Decisions by the Regional Forester:

*Juneau Empire*, published daily except Saturday and official holidays in Juneau, Alaska, for decisions affecting National Forest System lands in the State of Alaska and for any decisions of Region-wide impact.

*Anchorage Daily News*, published daily in Anchorage, Alaska, for decisions affecting National Forest System lands in the State of Alaska and for any decisions of Region-wide impact. Decisions by Chugach Forest

Supervisor and the Glacier District Ranger, Chugach National Forest:

*Anchorage Daily News*, published daily in Anchorage, Alaska.

Decisions by the Cordova District Ranger, Chugach National Forest:

*Anchorage Daily News*, published daily in Anchorage, Alaska.

*Cordova Times*, published weekly in Cordova, Alaska.

Decisions by the Seward District Ranger, Chugach National Forest:

*Anchorage Daily News*, published daily in Anchorage, Alaska.

*Seward Phoenix Log*, published weekly in Seward, Alaska.

*Peninsula Clarion*, published daily except Saturday, Sunday, and official holidays in Kenai, Alaska.

Decisions by the Tongass Forest Supervisor:

*Juneau Empire*, published daily except Saturday and official holidays in Juneau, Alaska, for decisions affecting National Forest System lands on the Chatham Area of the Tongass National Forest.

*Ketchikan Daily News*, published daily except Saturday and official holidays in Ketchikan, Alaska, for decisions affecting National Forest System lands on the Ketchikan Area of the Tongass National Forest.

*Petersburg Pilot*, published weekly in Petersburg, Alaska, for decisions affecting National Forest System lands on the Stikine Area of the Tongass National Forest.

Decisions by the Assistant Forest Supervisor for the Chatham Area, the Yakutat District Ranger, the Hoonah District Ranger, the Juneau District Ranger, and the Admiralty National Monument Ranger, Chatham Area of the Tongass National Forest:

*Juneau Empire*, published daily except Saturday and official holidays in Juneau, Alaska.

Decisions by the Sitka District Ranger, Chatham Area of the Tongass National Forest:

*Daily Sitka Sentinel*, published daily except Saturday and official holidays in Sitka, Alaska.

Decisions by all Deciding Officers of the Ketchikan Area of the Tongass National Forest:

*Ketchikan Daily News*, published daily except Sunday and official holidays in Ketchikan, Alaska.

Decisions by the Assistant Forest Supervisor for the Stikine Area and the Petersburg District Ranger, Stikine Area of the Tongass National Forest:

*Petersburg Pilot*, published weekly in Petersburg, Alaska.

Decisions by the Wrangell District Ranger, Stikine Area of the Tongass National Forest:

*Wrangell Sentinel*, published weekly in Wrangell, Alaska.

Dated: October 29, 1998.

**James Gladen,**

*Acting Regional Forester.*

[FR Doc. 98-30427 Filed 11-12-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Natural Resources Conservation Service

#### Notice of Proposed Changes to Section IV of the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) of the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Oklahoma

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of proposed changes in Section IV of the FOTG of the NRCS in Oklahoma for review and comment.

**SUMMARY:** It is the intention of NRCS in Oklahoma to issue a new and revised conservation practice standards Section IV of the FOTG. The new standard is Contour Buffer Strips (Code 332). The revised standard is Riparian Forest Buffer (Code 391A). These practices may be used in conservation systems that treat highly erodible land.

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

**ADDRESSES:** Address all requests and comments to Keith Vaughan, State Resource Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), 100 USDA, Suite 203, Stillwater, OK 74074-2655. Copies of these standards will be made available upon written request. You may submit electronic requests and comments to Keith.Vaughan@ok.usda.gov.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Keith Vaughan, 405-742-1240.

**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 Oklahoma will receive comments relative to the proposed changes. Following that period, a determination will be made by the NRCS in Oklahoma regarding disposition of those comments and a

final determination of changes will be made.

Dated: October 21, 1998.

**Ronnie L. Clark,**

*State Conservationist, Stillwater, Oklahoma.*

[FR Doc. 98-30345 Filed 11-12-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Telephone Bank

#### Determination of the 1988 Fiscal Year Interest Rates on Rural Telephone Bank Loans

**AGENCY:** Rural Telephone Bank, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of 1998 fiscal year interest rates determination.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with 7 CFR 1610.10, The Rural Telephone Bank (Bank) fiscal year 1998 cost of money rates have been established as follows: 5.96% and 5.71% for advances from the liquidating account and financing account, respectively (fiscal year is the period beginning October 1 and ending September 30).

Except for loans approved from October 1, 1987, through December 21, 1987, where borrowers elected to remain at interest rates set at loan approval, all loan advances made during fiscal year 1998 under Bank loans approved in fiscal years 1998 through 1991 shall bear interest at the rate of 5.96% (the liquidating account rate). All loan advances made during fiscal year 1998 under Bank loans approved during or after fiscal year 1992 shall bear interest at the rate of 5.71% (the financing account rate).

The calculation of the Bank's cost of money rates for fiscal year 1998 for the liquidating account are provided in Tables 1 and 2. Since the calculated rates are greater than the minimum rate (5.00%) allowed under 7 U.S.C. 948(b)(3)(A), the cost of money rates for the liquidating account and financing account are set at 5.96% and 5.71%, respectively. The methodology required to calculate the cost of money rates is established in 7 CFR 1610.10(c).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jonathan P. Claffey, Acting Director, Advanced Telecommunications Services Staff, Rural Utilities Service, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., STOP 1701, Room 2919, South Building, Washington, DC 20250, telephone number (202) 720-0530.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 ("Credit Reform") (2 U.S.C. § 661a, et seq.) implemented a system to reform the budgetary accounting and