

NAPPO Executive Committee

August 18, 1998, Grand Rapids, Michigan, United States.

October 19, 1998, Halifax, Canada.
Up-to-date information on NAPPO policies, standard setting activities, U.S. participants, and meeting agendas and dates is available on the NAPPO web page at <http://www.nappo.org>. Interested individuals may also contact Mr. Alfred Elder, Acting Deputy Administrator, PPQ, APHIS, room 302-E, Whitten Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250.

Comments on standards being considered or to be considered by any of the OIE, IPPC, or NAPPO committees or working groups listed above may be sent to APHIS as directed under the heading **ADDRESSES**.

Done in Washington, DC, this 9th day of July, 1998.

Craig A. Reed,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 98-18839 Filed 7-14-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service**

Texas Blowdown Changed Condition Analysis, National Forests and Grasslands in Texas, Angelina, Montgomery, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, and Walker Counties, Texas

AGENCY: Forest Service.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice is to announce that the U.S. Forest Service will prepare an analysis of storm-damaged areas on the Angelina, Sabine, and Sam Houston National Forests to determine changed conditions due to a catastrophic windstorm. The changed condition analysis will be used to identify proposed actions for site preparation and reforestation on national forest lands extensively damaged by the February 1988 windstorm. Initial plans are for the analysis to consider only areas within Management Area 1—Upland Forest Ecosystems and Management Area 2—Red cockaded Woodpecker (RCW) Emphasis on the three affected National Forests. The analysis will determine the existing conditions of these management areas, the desired future conditions for the areas as directed in the 1996 Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) for the National Forests and Grassland in Texas (NFGT), and potential

management actions to achieve the desired future conditions.

In addition to the determination of appropriate reforestation needs, the information gathered in this process would be used to analyze the need to amend the forest plan's allocation of Management Area 2 on the Angelina and Sabine National Forests due to changed conditions on these forest caused by the storm damage.

Public involvement will be requested and accepted continually throughout these efforts. Public involvement will also be conducted as part of "scoping" following the issuance on the Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement based on the results of the Changed Condition Analysis.

DATES: The Texas Blowdown Changed Condition Analysis is scheduled to be completed by October 1998.

ADDRESSES: Requests for information, and comments concerning the notice can be sent to: Team Leader, Texas Blowdown Changed Condition Analysis, National Forests and Grasslands in Texas, 701 North First Street, Lufkin, Texas 75961.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Keith Baker, Project Environmental Coordinator. Phone: 409-344-6205 (New Waverly, TX).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Background on the Changed Conditions and Actions Taken to Date

On the afternoon of February 10, 1998, a storm with hurricane-force winds struck the forests of east Texas. The storm left a path of destruction from near Houston to Toledo Bend Reservoir, a distance of approximately 150 miles. Approximately 103,000 acres of national forest land on the Sabine, Angelina and Sam Houston National Forests were damaged by the windstorm. The LRMP had allocated the majority of the lands affected by the storm to Management Area 1 (upland forest ecosystems) and Management Area 2 (red-cockaded woodpecker emphasis). Other Management Areas (MAs) were also affected, including MA-4 (streamside management zones), MA-8 (special area management), MA-9 (recreation area management), and MA-10 (administrative and special use sites).

The Forest Service categorized the storm damage severity and extent on the three affected national forests as follows:

- extensive damage—loss of greater than 60 percent of the existing trees (11,600 acres),
- moderate damage—loss of 30 to 60 percent of the existing trees (65,400 acres), and

- light damage—loss of 10 to 30 percent of the existing trees (26,000 acres).

The NFGT determined that an emergency response was needed to meet three objectives: (A) reduce the potential for high intensity wildfires spreading into the intermingled private ownerships that include individual homes, subdivisions, and rural communities; (B) minimize further damage to RCW and bald eagle habitat; and (C) reduce the risk of anticipated bark beetle attack to living trees that could kill additional federal and private timber, RCW habitat, and bald eagle habitat. The Forest Service requested approval for alternative arrangements for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) from the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) to expedite the removal of the blown down and damaged timber. On March 10, 1998, CEQ approved the Forest Service's request for alternative arrangements and the NFGT undertook actions to remove blown down and damaged trees to meet the three objectives. As part of these alternative arrangements, the Forest Service and CEQ agreed that the actions taken to reforest the damaged areas of the three affected national forests would be analyzed and the effects disclosed in an Environmental Impact Statement.

2. Preparation of the Texas Blowdown Changed Condition Analysis

The objectives of the Changed Condition Analysis are twofold: (1) to provide the basis for reforestation proposals in the storm damaged areas of the NFGT and (2) to analyze the need to adjust land allocations to MA-2 on the Angelina and Sabine National Forests to meet LRMP objectives for red-cockaded woodpecker habitat. The analysis will synthesize a range of information about the affected areas, including inventories of existing vegetation and special features such as heritage sites, threatened, endangered, and sensitive species; potential vegetation as guided by the Ecological Classification System (ECS) developed in conjunction with the Kisatchie National Forest and the Nature Conservancy; and management direction from the 1996 LRMP.

The inventory information will be used to define the existing conditions within the blowdown-affected areas. The ECS information and LRMP direction will provide the basis for the desired future conditions. Comparing the existing conditions to the desired future conditions will identify the management opportunities to meet the objectives of the LRMP.

Once opportunities have been determined, management practices, such as those for site preparation and reforestation or for changes in MA-2 allocations, will be identified and developed into a Proposed Action. The Changed Condition Analysis is scheduled to be completed on or about October 1998.

3. Public Involvement in the analysis Process

The concerns and expectations of National Forest constituents played a significant role in the development of the 1996 LRMP. The February windstorm brought sudden and unexpected changes to the biological and social components of the NFGT, particularly on the Angelina and Sabine National Forests. It is important to involve the public as the Forest Service develops the analysis and determines the opportunities for management actions. Since the analysis will not be a "decision document" and will not involve the NEPA process, formal public involvement through scoping will not be done. The NFGT has been regularly informing the public about the progress of the ongoing storm recovery actions through regular information updates. The NFGT will contact the interested public with information about the analysis and offer the opportunity for participation in the analysis process.

4. Issuing the Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement

The NFGT will issue a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) after developing proposed actions based on the Changed Condition Analysis. The NOI will include a description of preliminary proposed actions, issues, and alternatives. The public will be asked to comment on these items as part of the scoping process under NEPA. Public comments will be used to further refine the proposed action, issues, and alternatives, and the range of alternatives to be considered in the EIS.

Dated: July 9, 1998.

Ronnie Raum,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 98-18823 Filed 7-14-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission For OMB Review; Comment Request

DOC has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for

clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

Agency: Bureau of the Census.

Title: Survey of Income and Program Participation 1996 Panel Wave 9.

Form Number(s): SIPP 16905(L)

Director's Letter, CAPI Instrument.

Agency Approval Number: 0607-0813.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Burden: 117,800 hours.

Number of Respondents: 77,700.

Avg Hours Per Response: Half an hour.

Needs and Uses: The Bureau of the Census conducts the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) to collect information from a sample of households concerning the distribution of income received directly as money or indirectly as in-kind benefits. SIPP data are used by economic policymakers, the Congress, state and local governments, and Federal agencies that administer social welfare and transfer payment programs such as the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Department of Agriculture.

The SIPP is a longitudinal survey, in that households in the panel are interviewed 12 times at 4 month intervals or waves over the life of the panel, making the duration of the panel about 4 years. The next panel of households will be introduced in the year 2000.

The survey is molded around a central core of labor force and income questions, health insurance questions, and questions concerning government program participation that remain fixed throughout the life of a panel. The core questions are asked at Wave 1 and are updated during subsequent interviews. The core is supplemented with additional questions or topical modules designed to answer specific needs.

This request is for clearance of the topical modules to be asked during Wave 9 of the 1996 Panel. The core questions have already been cleared. Topical modules for waves 10 through 12 will be cleared later. The topical modules for Wave 9 are: 1) Assets, Liabilities, and Eligibility, 2) Medical Expenses/Utilization of Health Care Services, and 3) Work Related Expenses and Child Support Paid. Wave 9 interviews will be conducted from December 1998 through March 1999.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Frequency: Every 4 months.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Title 13 U.S.C., Section 182.

OMB Desk Officer: Nancy Kirkendall, (202) 395-7313.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, room 5312, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Nancy Kirkendall, OMB Desk Officer, room 10201, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: July 9, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 98-18854 Filed 7-14-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Showcase Exhibit of U.S. Exports

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Showcase Exhibit of U.S. Exports.

SUMMARY: The International Trade Administration ("ITA") of the Department of Commerce announces an exhibition of exported U.S. products and services. The exhibition will showcase U.S. exports by displaying successfully exported products and services at ITA headquarters in Washington, D.C., to highlight the benefits of exporting and the impact of exports on the U.S. economy. Companies and trade associations are encouraged to express interest in providing exhibit material. The energy sector will be the next industrial sector to be represented.

DATES: July 15, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: *On the energy sector exhibit only, please contact:* Mr. John Rasmussen, Office of Energy, Infrastructure, and Machinery; U.S. Department of Commerce/ITA; Room 4056; Washington, D.C. 20230; Telephone (202) 482-1889; fax (202) 482-0170.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

ITA is showcasing U.S. exports by exhibiting successfully exported products and services at its headquarters in Washington, D.C., to