

technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Marlene M. Betts, Assistant to the Chief, Meat Grading and Certification Branch, Livestock and Seed Program, AMS, USDA, STOP 0248, Room 2628-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0248. 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: August 4, 1999.

Robert L. Leverette,

Acting Deputy Administrator, Livestock and Seed Program.

[FR Doc. 99-20876 Filed 8-11-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 98-020-2]

Fruit Fly Cooperative Control Program; Draft Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has prepared a draft environmental impact statement for the Fruit Fly Cooperative Control Program. This document analyzes potential environmental effects of cooperative efforts to control exotic fruit fly pests in the United States. We are requesting public comments on the draft environmental impact statement, and notifying the public of the comment period and public meetings for the draft environmental impact statement.

DATES: We invite you to comment on the draft environmental impact statement. We will consider all comments that we receive by October 12, 1999. The public meetings will be held in (1) Washington, DC, on August 16, 1999; (2) Tampa, FL, on August 18, 1999; (3) Miami, FL, on August 20, 1999; (4) Brownsville, TX, on August 23, 1999; and (5) Los Angeles, CA, on August 25, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Please send your comment and three copies to: Mr. Harold T. Smith, Environmental Protection Officer, Environmental Analysis and Documentation, PPD, APHIS, 4700 River Road, Unit 149, Riverdale, MD 20737-1228.

Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. 98-020-2.

You may read any comments that we receive on the draft environmental impact statement in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690-2817 before coming.

Copies of the draft environmental impact statement are available for review between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays at the following locations:

APHIS Reading Room, room 1141, South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC;
USDA, APHIS Library, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD;
USDA, APHIS, PPQ, 9580 Micron Avenue, Suite I, Sacramento, CA 95827;
USDA, APHIS, PPQ, 3505 Boca Chica Boulevard, Suite 360, Brownsville, TX 78521-4065;
USDA, APHIS, PPQ, 3505 25th Avenue, Building 1 North, Gulfport, MS 39501; and
USDA, APHIS, PPQ, Blason II, 1st Floor, 505 South Lenola Road, Moorestown, NJ 08057.

Interested persons may obtain a copy of the draft environmental impact statement by writing to any of the last four addresses listed above (those beginning with USDA, APHIS, PPQ) or to the address listed below under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

The public meeting will be held at the following locations and times:

- (1) South Agriculture Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC, on August 16, 1999, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.;
- (2) Ramada Airport Inn and Conference Center, 5303 West Kennedy Boulevard, Tampa, FL, on August 18, 1999, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.;
- (3) Doubletree Grand Hotel, 1717 North Bayshore, Miami, FL, on August 20, 1999, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.;
- (4) Holiday Inn Fort Brown, 1900 East Elizabeth Street, Brownsville, TX, on August 23, 1999, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.; and
- (5) Embassy Suites Los Angeles/Downey, 8425 Firestone Boulevard, Downey, CA, on August 25, 1999, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Harold T. Smith, Environmental Protection Officer, Environmental Analysis and Documentation, PPD, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 149, Riverdale, MD 20737-1228; (301) 734-8565.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Many fruit fly species are serious pests of agriculture throughout the World and represent a threat to the agriculture and ecology of the United States. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), in cooperation with other Federal and State organizations, is proposing a national program, a broad strategy, to respond to that threat. The national program includes what formerly were separate cooperative programs to control various fruit fly pest species.

APHIS, with the assistance of its cooperators, has developed a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) that analyzes a range of program alternatives and their associated components, including exclusion, detection and prevention, and control. The EIS focuses principally on the potential environmental effects of the control measures, but maintains a secondary focus on the identification of strategies for the reduction of risk in fruit fly programs.

We published a notice of intent to prepare an EIS in the **Federal Register** on March 20, 1998 (63 FR 13614-13615, Docket No. 98-020-1). The notice of intent requested comments from the public concerning issues that should be addressed in the EIS. Comments from the public during the formal scoping period were considered by APHIS for the development of the draft.

Major Issues

The comments received from the public helped us to determine the principal focus and issues of the draft EIS. The document analyzes the following broad alternatives: (1) No action, (2) a nonchemical program, and (3) an integrated program. The draft focuses principally on the potential environmental effects of control components (especially chemicals) but also focuses on the identification of strategies to reduce risk in fruit fly programs.

The draft EIS is now available for review and comment. We are seeking input from the public, including private citizens, organizations, industry, and other government agencies.

Preparation of the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

APHIS will consider all comments received by the close of the comment period in the development of the final EIS for the Fruit Fly Cooperative Control Program. A notice announcing the availability of the final document will be published in a subsequent **Federal Register** notice.

This notice is issued in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), (2) regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1b), and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

Done in Washington, DC, this 3rd day of August 1999.

Bobby R. Acord,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 99–20820 Filed 8–11–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–U

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service****Information Collection; Request for Comments; Land Exchanges**

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Forest Service announces its intention to reinstate, without change, a previously approved information collection. This information collection will provide the Forest Service with the information to complete an Agreement to Initiate and an Exchange Agreement when cooperating in land exchanges with non-Federal parties. Forest Service personnel collect the information from non-Federal land exchange parties.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing on or before October 12, 1999.

ADDRESSES: All comments should be addressed to Jack L. Craven, Director, Lands Staff, Mail Stop 1124, Forest Service, USDA, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, D.C. 20090–6090.

Comments also may be submitted via facsimile to (202) 205–1604 or by email to: lands/wo@fs.fed.us.

The public may inspect comments received in the Office of the Director, Lands Staff, 201 14th Street, SW, Washington, DC. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to (202) 205–

1248 to facilitate entrance into the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James M. Williams, Lands Specialist, at (202) 205–1248 or Kathleen L. Dolge, Realty Specialist, at (202) 205–1248.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

Land exchanges are discretionary, voluntary, real estate transactions between the Secretary of Agriculture, acting by and through the Forest Service, and non-Federal land exchange parties. Land exchanges can be initiated by a non-Federal party, an agent of a landowner, a broker, a third party, or a non-Federal public agency.

Each land exchange requires preparation of an Agreement to Initiate as required by § 254.4 of title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), which specifies the preliminary, non-binding intentions of the non-Federal land exchange party and of the Forest Service in pursuing a land exchange.

As the land exchange proposal develops, the Forest Service and the non-Federal land exchange party may enter into a binding Exchange Agreement pursuant to 36 CFR, § 254.14. The Exchange Agreement is a legally binding document delineating the conditions that must be met to complete the land exchange.

Data from this information collection can be unique to each land exchange and are not available from other sources.

Description of Information Collection

The following describes the information collection to be reinstated:

Title: Agreement to Initiate.

OMB Number: 0596–0105.

Expiration Date of Approval: May 31, 1998.

Type of Request: Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved information collection.

Abstract: The data collected are used by the agency to facilitate a mutually beneficial land exchange between the Forest Service and a non-Federal partner.

The Agreement to Initiate is a non-binding document. Respondents answer questions in the Agreement to Initiate that include the description of properties being considered in the land exchange; an implementation schedule of action items, such as the relocation of any tenants occupying the land; and the identification of the party responsible for each action item, as well as target dates for completion of each action item.

Respondents are non-Federal land exchange parties. Forest Service

personnel collect the information by phone, in face-to-face meetings with land exchange parties, or by requesting in a letter to the exchange party that the requested information be submitted by mail.

Data gathered in the information collection are not available from other sources.

Estimate of Burden: 1 hour.

Type of Respondents: Non-Federal land exchange parties.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 100.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 100 hours.

Description of Information Collection

The following describes the information collection to be reinstated:

Title: Exchange Agreement.

OMB Number: 0596–0105.

Expiration Date of Approval: May 31, 1998.

Type of Request: Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved information collection.

Abstract: The data collected are used by the agency to facilitate a mutually beneficial land exchange between the Forest Service and a non-Federal land exchange partner.

The Exchange Agreement is a legally binding document. Respondents will be asked questions, such as the identification of the non-Federal land exchange parties; the description of the lands and interests to be exchanged, such as roads; the identification of all reserved and outstanding interests, such as roads, minerals, and easements; and all other terms and conditions necessary to complete an exchange.

Respondents are non-Federal land exchange parties. Forest Service personnel collect the information by phone, in face-to-face meetings with land exchange parties, or by requesting in a letter to the land exchange party that the requested information be submitted by mail.

Data gathered in this information collection are not available from other sources.

Estimate of Burden: 1 hour.

Type of Respondents: Non-Federal land exchange partners.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 100.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 100 hours.

Comment Is Invited

The agency invites comments on the following: (a) Whether the proposed