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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 97-077N]

Availability of Survey Results From a Nutritional Analysis of Meat and Poultry Products

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is announcing the availability of results from the "Nutritional Analysis of Meat and Poultry Products," a survey conducted to determine the accuracy of the nutrition labeling of meat and poultry products. The products, which were statistically representative of nationally available products under the mandatory nutrition labeling program, were analyzed under contract for specific nutrients. The survey found that approximately 92 percent of all tested nutrients had values consistent with labeling claims.

ADDRESSES: Submit written requests for single copies of the summary or the full report to the FSIS Docket Room, Docket #97-077N, Attn: Ms. Diane Moore, Room 102, Cotton Annex Building, 300 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 6, 1993, FSIS published a final rule entitled "Nutrition Labeling of Meat and Poultry Products" (58 FR 632) with corrections on August 18, 1993, (58 FR 43787) and technical amendments on September 10, 1993, (58 FR 47624). The final rule permits voluntary nutrition labeling on single-ingredient, raw meat and poultry products and establishes mandatory nutrition labeling

for all other meat and poultry products, with certain exemptions.

In 1996, Covance (formerly Corning Hazelton) Laboratories was awarded a contract to analyze samples of meat and poultry products for specified nutrients in order to provide an overall assessment of the accuracy of nutrition labeling. The survey was conducted as part of FSIS' effort to verify that nutrition information, which is provided by food manufacturers, is accurate and consistent with the Agency's regulatory requirements. In addition, the survey responds to the General Accounting Office (GAO) recommendation that FSIS and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) develop a coordinated strategy to evaluate the overall effectiveness of Federal food labeling regulations.

Three hundred products were analyzed in the survey. The sampling design was developed using A.C. Nielsen's Scantrack Tapes. Covance analyzed all samples for protein, total fat, saturated fat, cholesterol, sodium, moisture, and ash. Calories, calories from fat, and carbohydrate values were calculated for all products. Covance also analyzed products with label nutrient values greater than 6 percent of the Daily Value for fiber, vitamins A and C, calcium, and iron.

FSIS evaluated the data to determine whether the label values were within the regulatory specifications for compliance, and 92 percent were consistent with labeling values. These results are comparable to those obtained by FDA in a similar study conducted in December 1996.

Done in Washington, DC, on: December 16, 1997.

Thomas J. Billy,

Administrator.

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BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Whiskey Campo Resource Management Project, Boise National Forest, Elmore County, ID

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; intent to prepare environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The Mountain Home Ranger District of the Boise National Forest will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for a resource management project in the Whiskey Campo project area, located approximately 5 miles west of Featherville, Idaho, in the middle to upper elevation of the Trinity Creek watershed. The project area encompasses about 12,870 acres of National Forest System land.

Approximately 5,550 acres of the project area are located within the Whiskey Jack Inventoried Roadless Area (RARE No. 02009) and about 900 acres of the project area are located within the Rainbow Inventoried Roadless Area (RARE No. 02008). Access is via Forest Development Road (FDR) 172. The project area is located about 130 road miles east of Boise, Idaho.

The agency invites written comments and suggestions on the scope of the analysis. The agency also hereby gives notice of the environmental analysis and decisionmaking process that will occur on the proposal so that interested and affected people are aware of how they may participate and contribute to the final decision.

Proposed Action

Timber Stand Management Activities—Approximately 2,000 acres of forested land would be commercially thinned and underburned with low severity prescribed fire. Some salvage harvest of large diameter, beetle-infested Douglas-fir would occur in these stands. On approximately 5,000 acres of forested land, bark beetle infested and severely dwarf mistletoe infested trees would be salvage harvested.

Helicopter yarding would be done on approximately 6,000 acres. Skyline yarding would be done on approximately 200 acres. A combination of tractor and offroad jammer (excavator) yarding would be done on approximately 800 acres.