DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by June 16, 2006 to be assured of consideration.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Application for an Annual Food Security Supplement to the Current Population Survey, Beginning in December 2006.

Type of Request: Approval to collect information on household food insecurity.

OMB Number: 0536–0043. Expiration data: N/A.

Abstract: The U.S. Census Bureau will supplement the December Current Population Survey, beginning in 2006, with questions regarding household food shopping, food sufficiency, coping mechanisms and food scarcity, and concern about food sufficiency. A similar supplement has been appended to the CPS annually since 1995. The last collection was in December 2005. Copies of the information to be collected can be obtained from the address in the preamble. ERS is responsible for conducting studies and evaluations of the Nation’s food assistance programs that are administered by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), U. S. Department of Agriculture. The Department spends about $46 billion each year to ensure access to nutritious, healthful diets for all Americans. The Food and Nutrition Service administers the 15 food assistance programs of the USDA including Food Stamps, Child Nutrition, and WIC programs. These programs, which serve 1 in 5 Americans, represent our Nation’s commitment to the principle that no one in our country should lack the food needed for an active healthy life. They provide a safety net to people in need. The programs’ goals are to provide needy persons with access to a more nutritious diet, to improve the eating habits of the Nation’s children, and to help America’s farmers by providing an outlet for the distribution of food purchased under farmer assistance authorities.

These data will be used to monitor the prevalence of food security and the prevalence and severity of food insecurity among the Nation’s households. The prevalence of these conditions as well as year-to-year trends in their prevalence will be estimated at the national level and for population subgroups. The data will also be used to monitor the amounts that households spend for food and their use of community food pantries and emergency kitchens. These statistics along with research based on the data will be used to identify the causes and consequences of food insecurity, and to assess the need for, and performance of, domestic food assistance programs. The data will also be used to improve the measurement of food security and to develop measures of additional aspects and dimensions of food security. This consistent measurement of the extent and severity of food insecurity will aid in policy decision making. The supplemental survey instrument was developed in conjunction with food security experts nationwide as well as survey method experts within the Census Bureau and was recently reviewed by the Committee on National Statistics of the National Research Council. This supplemental information will be collected by both personal visit and telephone interviews in conjunction with the regular monthly CPS interviewing. All interviews, whether by personal visit or by telephone, are conducted using computers.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this data collection is estimated to average 7.6 minutes for each household that responds to the laborforce portion of the CPS.

Respondents: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 56,200.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 7,155 hours.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments should be sent to the address in the preamble. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.


Susan Offutt, Administrator, Economic Research Service.

[FR Doc. E6–5343 Filed 4–11–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–18–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

The Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), today terminated the certification of a petition for trade adjustment assistance (TAA) that was by the Tropical Fruit Growers of South Florida, Inc., representing Florida lychee producers. Florida lychee producers are no longer eligible for TAA benefits in fiscal year 2006.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Upon investigation, the Administrator determined that U.S. imports of fresh lychees declined 3 percent between 2004 and 2005. Therefore, imports were no longer a contributing factor for program eligibility—a requirement for TAA program eligibility and therefore insufficient grounds to re-certify this petition.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Jean-Louis Pajot, Coordinator, Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers, FAS, USDA. (202) 720–2916, e-mail: trade.adjustment@fas.usda.gov.


Michael W. Yost, Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.

[FR Doc. E6–5402 Filed 4–11–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–10–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Millville Peak/Logan Peak Road Relocation Project, Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Cache County, UT

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The Forest Supervisor of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest gives notice of the agency’s intent to prepare an environmental impact statement on a proposal to relocate a total of about 5 miles of the Millville Peak and Logan
Peak Roads (Forest Roads 20168 and 20042, respectively) due to road damage and safety concerns. The relocation would place construction in adjacent roadless areas.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by May 12, 2006. The draft environmental impact statement is expected to be published in November 2006, with public comment on the draft material accepted for a period of 45 days, and the final environmental impact statement is expected in March, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Rob Cruz, District Ranger, Logan Ranger District, 1500 East Highway 89, Logan, Utah 84321, ATTN: Millville Peak/Logan Peak Road EIS. Or, e-mail comments to: comments-intermtn-wasatch-cache-logan@fs.fed.us.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Evelyn Silbersenn, Environmental Coordinator, Logan Ranger District, 1500 East Highway 89, Logan, Utah 84321. (435) 755–3620.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose and Need for Action

The purpose of the Millville Peak/Logan Peak Road Relocation Project is for public safety, resource improvement, and to provide a safe, reliable, ground access route for maintenance of the State-owned communications facility at Logan Peak.

The State of Utah, Information Technology Services, owns a high voltage electrical power line buried beneath the surface of a portion of the public access roadways, Millville Peak Road (Forest Road 20168) and Logan Peak Road (Forest Road 20042). The power line, installed nearly twenty years ago, serves the State-owned radio communications facility located at Logan Peak. The tower houses microwave equipment for several local, state, and national public safety entities providing a vital link in their communications systems. Normal vehicular and off-highway recreational traffic on the roadway, combined with irregular road maintenance and seasonal erosion, have severely damaged the surface of the roadway to the site, exposing the power line at several locations. The potential for death and serious injury is significant around those locations where the cable has been exposed. Severe damage to the roadway also impacts accessibility to the communications facility at Logan Peak.

The first two-thirds of the 16-mile roadway accessing the communications site have been repaired and maintained where the cable could be buried deeper and the road maintained with additional gravel and installation of proper drainage. However, along the later section where the roadway gets excessively steep and rocky, road damage has resulted in the cable becoming increasingly exposed. Travel on this section of the road is unsafe and limits access to the communications facility on Logan Peak. The cable can no longer be safely covered and the road damage cannot be corrected by maintenance.

There is a need to eliminate the public safety hazard posed by the exposed electrical power cable and a need to improve ground access to this vital communications facility located on Logan Peak.

Proposed Action

The Forest Service proposes to relocate a total of about 5 miles of the Millville Peak and Logan Peak Roads. The new roadways would be relocated away from the cable and designed to maintain an 8% or lower grade. They would be relocated up to one quarter mile from the existing roadways (at the greatest extent) and would have a maintenance level of 2; the same as the existing roads. The old roadways would be physically closed and revegetated.

The Millville Peak Road forms a part of the boundary between the Mount Logan North Roadless Area (19, 197 acres) and the Mount Logan South Roadless Area (17,001 acres). The section of road to be relocated would be constructed near the edge of the two roadless areas.

The management prescriptions within which the road would be relocated, Management Prescriptions 3.1w (Watershed Emphasis) and 2.7 (Special Interest Areas), allow no road construction. Re-alignment of the road within the 3.1w or 2.7 management prescriptions would necessitate a non-significant amendment of the Forest Plan.

Possible Alternatives

A no action alternative will be considered as well as any other alternatives that may be developed in response to significant issues.

Responsible Official

The Responsible Official is Faye Krueger, Forest Supervisor, Wasatch-Cache National Forest, 8236 Federal Building, 125 South State Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84138.

Nature of Decision To Be Made

The decision to be made is whether or not to relocate this section of the Millville Peak and Logan Peak Roads and if so, where and to what degree.

Scoping Process

The Forest Service invites comments and suggestions on the scope of the analysis to be included in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). In addition, the Forest Service gives notice that it is beginning a full environmental analysis and decision-making process for this proposal so that interested or affected people may know how they can participate in the environmental analysis and contribute to the final decision. This notice of intent initiates the scoping process which guides the development of the environmental impact statement. The Forest welcomes any public Service comments on the proposal.

Preliminary Issues

Preliminary issues identified by the interdisciplinary team include the effects on the roadless character of the Mount Logan North and Mount Logan South Roadless Areas, the effects on motorized recreation challenge opportunities, access to routes that connect to the portion of the Millville Peak Road that would be relocated (such as Forest Road 20126), effects on snowmobile opportunities and experience from the new road cut just below Logan Peak, the potential for new weed infestations from the new road cut, effects on threatened, endangered, and sensitive plant and wildlife species, and the effectiveness of the old Millville and Logan Peak Road closures in preventing future (unauthorized) use.

Comment Requested

This notice of intent initiates the scoping process which guides the development of the environmental impact statement.

Early Notice of Importance of Public Participation in Subsequent Environmental Review

A draft environmental impact statement will be prepared for comment. The comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of availability in the Federal Register.

The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of draft environmental impact statements must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and aligned with the agency to the reviewer’s position and contentions.

Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v.
NRDC, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft environmental impact statement stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement may be waived or dismissed by the courts. City of Angoon v. Hodel, 803 F.2d 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and Wisconsin Heritage, Inc. v. Harris, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the 45-day comment period so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final environmental impact statement.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the draft environmental impact statement should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft environmental impact statement or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points.

Comments received, including the names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposal and will be available for public inspection. [Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7 and 1508.22; Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, Section 21]

Faye L. Krueger,  
Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 06–3482 Filed 4–11–06; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 3410–11–M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration  
[06–GL–S]  
Designation for the State of Texas Area

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) announces the designation of Intercontinental Grain Inspections, Inc. (Intercontinental), to provide official inspection services under the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act).

DATES: Effective Date: April 10, 2006.

ADDRESSES: USDA, GIPSA, John R. Sharpe, Division Director, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647–S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250–3604.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John R. Sharpe at 202–720–8262, e-mail John.R.Sharpe@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512–1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

In the February 1, 2006, Federal Register (71 FR 5232), GIPSA announced that Global Grain Inspection Services, Inc. (Global), asked GIPSA to voluntarily cancel their designation to provide domestic grain inspection services in the area for which they were designated in the State of Texas effective April 9, 2006. Accordingly, Global’s designation will cease effective April 9, 2006, and GIPSA asked persons or organizations interested in providing official grain inspection services in the State of Texas to submit an application for designation by March 3, 2006.

There were three applicants for the Texas geographic area: A company proposing to do business as Gulf Country Inspection Service, Inc (Gulf); a company proposing to do business as Intercontinental Grain Inspections, Inc. (Intercontinental), a subsidiary of Société Générale de Surveillance North America, Inc. (SGS); and South Texas Grain Inspection LLC (South Texas), a proposed organization being formed by the Corpus Christi Grain Exchange, Inc. (CCGE), to function under a trust. Gulf and Intercontinental indicated they would be willing to accept more or less geographic area previously designated to Global in order to provide needed service to all requestors. South Texas applied only for the Texas Counties named in the February 1, 2006, Federal Register. GIPSA asked for comments on Gulf, Intercontinental, and South Texas, in the March 14, 2006, Federal Register.

Comments were due by March 29, 2006. GIPSA received a total of 17 comments by the closing date. GIPSA received 1 comment from a grain association supporting Gulf for designation. We received 7 comments supporting Intercontinental for designation; 4 of which were from grain elevators in the area, 2 from prospective employees, and 1 from a border bridge owner. GIPSA received 8 comments supporting South Texas for designation; 7 of which were from grain industry in the area and one from a congressional office. The final commenter, a grain company official, supported both Intercontinental and South Texas.

GIPSA evaluated all available information regarding the designation criteria in Section 7(f)(l)(A) of the Act and, according to Section 7(f)(l)(B), determined that Intercontinental is better able to provide official services in the geographic area specified in the February 1, 2006, Federal Register, for which it applied. Also, GIPSA designated for 18 months only, effective April 10, 2006, and terminating