

support the first two components. The third component will be developed through a government/industry partnership, in which animal movement information will be maintained in private and/or State databases. USDA will operate a portal system that will enable animal health officials to submit requests for information to the animal tracking databases (ATDs) when investigating an animal disease event. The USDA's objective is to support the privatization of the animal tracking information component of the NAIS in the most practical, timely, and least burdensome manner possible.

On April 7, 2006, we published in the **Federal Register** (71 FR 17805–17806, Docket No. APHIS–2006–0030) a notice announcing the availability of three documents related to the NAIS: A document providing an update on the implementation plans, including operational milestones and participation goals; a document describing how private and State animal tracking databases (ATDs) may be integrated into the NAIS to provide animal health officials with animal movement information when conducting a disease investigation; and a template for a cooperative agreement (CA) that organizations that wish to participate in the ATD component of the NAIS may enter into with APHIS for that purpose.

The second of the three documents referred to above, entitled "Integration of Private and State Animal Tracking Databases with the NAIS; Interim Development Phase," presented our initial plans for moving forward with the implementation of the Animal Trace Processing System (ATPS), a system for processing animal movement data. The document described a two-phase implementation plan, consisting of an interim/development phase, which began in 2006, and an implementation phase, which is targeted for early 2007. The document also provided data standards and basic technical requirements that databases must meet to be eligible for participation in the interim/development phase.

In order to participate in this interim/development phase, an organization with an ATD must complete a "Request for Evaluation of Interim Private/State Animal Tracking Database" to initiate an APHIS review of its system. If its system meets the interim requirements, the organization may then enter into a CA with APHIS. The CA provides for a government and industry collaborative process for the development of the technical details for the integration of private and State ATDs to ensure that animal health officials have the information when necessary to perform

their duties. Entering into a CA does not imply that an organization's ATD will be eligible to participate in the NAIS as a fully compliant system after ATPS implementation is completed and final eligibility requirements are established.

Since the April 2006 notice, we have revised the CA. This notice announces the availability of the revised CA.

The revised CA may be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nais> or on the Regulations.gov Web site.<sup>1</sup> You may request paper copies of the document by calling or writing to the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Please refer to the title of the document ("Cooperative Agreement Between APHIS and Organizations with Qualifying Systems for Interim/Development Phase") when requesting copies.

Done in Washington, DC, this 20th day of July 2006.

**Kevin Shea,**

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

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**BILLING CODE 3410–34–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Foreign Agricultural Service

#### Notice of a Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

**AGENCY:** Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, this notice announces the Department's intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the Dairy Tariff-Rate Import Quota Licensing program.

**DATES:** Comments should be submitted no later than September 26, 2006 to be assured of consideration.

*Additional Information and Comments:* Contact Bettyann Gonzales, Dairy Import Specialist, STOP 1021, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250–1021, telephone (202) 720–1344.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

<sup>1</sup> To view the revised CA and the other documents referenced in this notice, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, click on the "Advanced Search" tab, and select "Docket Search." In the Docket ID field, enter APHIS–2006–0030, then click on "Submit." Clicking on the Docket ID link in the search results page will produce a list of all documents in the docket.

*Title:* Dairy Tariff-Rate Import Quota Licensing Program.

*OMB Number:* 0551–0001.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* December 31, 2006.

*Type of Request:* Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

*Abstract:* The currently approved information collection supports the Dairy Tariff-Rate Import Quota Regulation (the Regulation) (7 CFR 6.20–6.37) which governs the administration of the import licensing system applicable to most dairy products subject to tariff-rate quotas (TRQs). The TRQs were established in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) as a result of entry of certain provisions in the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (Pub. L. 103–465) that converted existing absolute quotas to TRQs. Imports of nearly all cheese made from cow's milk (except soft-ripened cheese such as Brie) and certain non-cheese dairy products (including butter and dried milk) are subject to TRQs and the Regulation. Licenses are issued each quota year to eligible applicants and are valid for twelve months (January 1 through December 31). Only licensees may enter specified quantities of the subject dairy articles at the applicable in-quota tariff-rates. Importers who do not hold licenses may enter dairy articles only at the over-quota tariff-rates.

Each quota year, all applicants must submit form FAS 923 (rev. 7–96). This form, available online, requires applicants to: (1) Certify they are either an importer, manufacturer or exporter of certain dairy products; (2) certify they meet the eligibility requirements of § 6.23 of the Regulation; and (3) submit documentation required by § 6.23 and § 6.24 as proof of eligibility for import licenses. Applicants for non-historical licenses must also submit form FAS 923–A (rev. 7–96) (cheese) and/or FAS 923–B (rev. 7–96) (non-cheese dairy products). This form requires applicants to request licenses in descending order of preference for specific products and countries listed on the form.

After licenses are issued, § 6.26 requires licensees to surrender by October 1 on form FAS 924–A, License Surrender Form, any license amount that a licensee does not intend to enter that year. These amounts are reallocated, to the extent practicable, to existing licensees for the remainder of that year based on requests submitted on form FAS 924–B, Application for Additional License Amounts. Form 924A and 924B requires the licensee to complete a scannable table listing the surrendered amount by license number,

or listing the additional amounts requested by dairy article, supplying country and amount requested, in descending order of preference.

The estimated total annual burden of 426 hours in the OMB inventory for the currently approved information collection will be decreased by 135 hours to 291 hours. The estimated public reporting burden for this collection of currently approved FAS 923, FAS 923-A and 923-B (one form) (rev. 7-96) is estimated to average 270 hours; and FAS 924-A and FAS 924-B (one form) is 21 hours. The estimated decrease in burden hours is based on the agency's new online program, the Dairy Accelerated Importer Retrieval and Information Exchange System (DAIRIES).

*Estimate of burden:* The average burden, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering data needed, completing forms, and record keeping is estimated at .50 hour for form FAS 923, 923-A, 923-B (rev. 7-96) and .15 hour for form 924-A, 924-B.

*Respondents:* Importers and manufacturers of cheese and non-cheese dairy products, and exporters of non-cheese dairy products.

*Estimated number of respondents:* 540 for form FAS 923, 923-A, 923-B (rev. 7-96) and 140 for form 924-A, 924-B (rev. 7-96).

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1

*Estimated Total Annual Burden:* 291 hours.

*Requests for Comments:* Send comments regarding (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; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Bettyann Gonzales, Dairy Import Specialist, Stop 1021, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1021, or telephone (202) 720-1344 or e-mail [gonzalesb@fas.usda.gov](mailto:gonzalesb@fas.usda.gov).

Persons with disabilities who require an alternative means for communication of information (Braille, large print, audiotope, etc.) should contact USDA's Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice

and TDD). All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments also will become a matter of public record. FAS is committed to compliance with the Government Paperwork Elimination Act (GPEA), which requires Government agencies, in general, to provide the public the option of submitting information or transacting business electronically to the maximum extent possible. Electronic submission of the information collection was implemented September 2005 in compliance with the GPEA.

Signed at Washington, DC on July 20, 2006.

**Michael W. Yost,**

*Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.*

[FR Doc. 06-6526 Filed 7-27-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-10-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### **Aerial Application of Fire Retardant Environmental Assessment, in Accordance With the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (47 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.)**

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed action to conduct an environmental analysis and prepare an environmental assessment; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Forest Service proposes to conduct an environmental analysis and prepare an environmental assessment on the continued nationwide aerial application of fire retardant for fire suppression. The responsible official for this action is Dale Bosworth, Chief of the Forest Service. The Forest Service invites comments at this time on the proposed action.

**DATES:** Comments must be received, in writing, on or before August 28, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** The scoping letter and other information related to the proposed action are available at <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/retardant/index.html>. Written comments concerning this notice should be addressed to USFS Fire Retardant EA, c/o The Content Analysis Group, P.O. Box 2000, Bountiful, UT 84001-2000. Comments may also be sent electronically to [fireas@contentanalysisgroup.com](mailto:fireas@contentanalysisgroup.com), or via facsimile to 801-397-2601. Please prepare electronic files in either rich text format (.rft) or as a Microsoft Word document (.doc).

All comments, including names and addresses when provided, are placed in the record and are available for public

inspection and copying. The public may electronically inspect comments received and should call 801-517-1037 to obtain Web site address and a password. The public may also inspect comments hardcopy at the USDA Forest Service in Salt Lake City, Utah. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to 801-517-1037 to facilitate entry to the building.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Please contact Chris Wehrli, interdisciplinary team leader, at 202-205-1332.

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Forest Service will conduct an environmental analysis and prepare an environmental assessment to determine whether the continued nationwide aerial application of fire retardant to fight fires would result in any significant environmental impacts.

It is important that those interested in this proposed action participate at this time. To be most helpful, comments should be as specific as possible. Written comments provide a record of concerns and will be considered to conduct an environmental analysis and prepare an environmental assessment. The Forest Service is seeking information, comments, and assistance from federal, state, and local agencies, tribes, and other individuals or organizations that might be interested in or affected by the proposal.

After completing a detailed environmental analysis and a review and response to the public comments received on the proposed action, the Forest Service will prepare an environmental assessment and a Decision Notice that will be signed by the Chief of the Forest Service.

The Forest Service is working to restore fire-adapted ecosystems through prescribed fire, other fuel treatments and wildland-fire use. However, in some circumstances, fire must be suppressed. For example, fires might need to be suppressed to protect and preserve natural resources, critical habitat for threatened and endangered species, and protect life and property. Fire retardant is one of the tools used to suppress fires.

The Forest Service is taking two mitigation measures to lessen the impact of fire retardant on the environment. First, after the 2006 fire