

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Agricultural Marketing Service**

[Docket No. FV06-930-3NC]

Notice of Request for Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) intention to request an extension for and revision to a currently approved information collection for Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin, Marketing Order No. 930.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by December 11, 2006.

Additional Information or Comments: Contact John Heffernan, Marketing Specialist, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 0237, Washington, DC 20250-0237; telephone number (202) 720-8139, fax number (202) 720-8938, or e-mail address: moab.docketclerk@usda.gov.

Small business may request information on this notice by contacting Jay Guerber, Regulatory Fairness Representative, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 0237, Washington, DC 20250-0237; telephone number (202) 720-2491, fax number (202) 720-8938, or e-mail address: jay.guerber@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Title: Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin, Marketing Order No. 930.

OMB Number: 0581-0177.

Expiration Date of Approval: May 31, 2007.

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

Abstract: Marketing order programs provide an opportunity for producers of fresh fruits, vegetables and specialty crops, in a specified production area, to work together to solve marketing problems that cannot be solved individually. Order regulations help ensure adequate supplies of high quality product and adequate returns to

producers. Under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 (AMAA), as amended (7 U.S.C. 601-674) industries enter into marketing order programs. The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to oversee the order operations and issue regulations recommended by a committee of representatives from each commodity industry.

The information collection requirements in this request are essential to carry out the intent of the AMAA, and to administer the program, which has operated since 1996.

The tart cherry marketing order (7 CFR part 930) regulates the handling of tart cherries in the States of Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin, hereinafter referred to as the "order". The order authorizes volume regulations that provide for a reserve pool in times of heavy cherry supplies. Other major marketing order provisions not currently in use include minimum grade and size regulations and authorization for market research and development projects, including paid advertising.

The order, and rules and regulations issued thereunder, authorize the Cherry Industry Administrative Board (Board), the agency responsible for local administration of the order, to require handlers and growers to submit certain information. Much of this information is compiled in aggregate and provided to the industry to assist in carrying out marketing decisions.

The Board has developed forms as a means for persons to file required information with the Board relating to tart cherry inventories, shipments, diversions, and other information needed to effectively carry out the requirements of the order, and their use is necessary to fulfill the intent of the AMAA. This order regulates tart cherries that are frozen or processed in another form, therefore, reporting requirements will be in effect all year. A USDA form is used to allow growers to vote on amendments or continuance of the marketing order. In addition, tart cherry growers and handlers who are nominated by their peers to serve as representatives on the Board must file nomination forms with the Secretary. Formal rulemaking amendments to the order must be approved in grower referenda conducted by the Secretary. In addition, USDA may conduct a referendum to determine industry support for continuation of the order. Finally, handlers are asked to sign an agreement to indicate their willingness to comply with the provisions of the order if the order is amended. These forms are included in this request.

The forms covered under this information collection require the minimum information necessary to effectively carry out the requirements of the order, and their use is necessary to fulfill the intent of the AMAA as expressed in the order, and the rules and regulations issued under the order.

The information collected is used only by authorized representatives of the USDA, including AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs regional and headquarters staff, and authorized employees of the Board. Authorized Board employees and the industry are the primary users of the information, and AMS is the secondary user.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .182 hours per response.

Respondents: Tart cherry growers and for-profit businesses handling fresh and processed tart cherries produced in Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 943.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 4.96.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 853 hours.

Comments: Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of the information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) 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; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) 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 reference OMB No. 0581-0177 and the Tart Cherry Marketing Order No. 930, and be mailed to Docket Clerk, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0237; telephone number (202) 720-8139, fax number (202) 720-8938, or e-mail address: moab.docketclerk@usda.gov. Comments should reference the docket number and the date and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**. All comments received will be available for public inspection in the Office of the Docket Clerk during regular USDA business

hours at 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC.

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.

Dated: October 3, 2006.

Lloyd C. Day,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

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BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Plantation Fuel Reduction, Eldorado National Forest, El Dorado County, CA

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: The USDA, Forest Service, Eldorado National Forest will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for a proposal to treat approximately 4,637 acres of selected plantations on the Georgetown and Pacific Ranger Districts. The proposal will involve mechanical precommercial thinning and control of competitive vegetation using mechanical and chemical treatments.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by November 3, 2006. The draft environmental impact statement is expected in January 2007 and the final environmental impact statement is expected May 2007.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Tim Dabney, District Ranger, Georgetown Ranger District, 7600 Wentworth Springs Road, Georgetown, CA 95634, Attention: Plantation Fuel Reduction Project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tim Howard, Project Leader, Georgetown Ranger Station, 7600 Wentworth Springs Road, Georgetown, CA 95634, or by telephone at 530-333-4312 or by e-mail at thoward@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose and Need for Action

It is the purpose of the Plantation Fuel Reduction Project to begin the process of enhancing forest health, vigor, growth, resilience to fire, and sustainability of the desired vegetation of the plantations, and thereby improve, maintain, and perpetuate the other dependent resources as directed in the Eldorado Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) as amended

by the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment, 2004 (SNFPA).

The specific purpose and need of the Proposed Action is to: Reduce present and future fuel loads; alter the vegetative structure in plantations to reduce the risk of loss to wildland fire by maintaining flame lengths below six feet (four feet in defense and threat zones); reduce rate of spread and increase the fire line production rates; maintain the effectiveness of fuel treatments for more than five years; improve forest health, and, maintain valuable wildlife habitat and to create conditions that accelerate the development of old forest characteristics.

Proposed Action

The Georgetown and Pacific Ranger Districts propose precommercial thinning and control of competitive vegetation using mechanical and chemical treatments of vegetation on approximately 4,637 acres of selected conifer plantations about 20 air miles north and east of Placerville, California on the Eldorado National Forest in El Dorado County. The legal description is: T.11N., R.11E.; T.11N., R.13E; T.11N.; R.14E; T.11N., R.15E; T.12N., R.11E.; T12N., R.13E.; T.12N., R14E; T.12N., R.15E.; T13N., R.11E.; T.13N., R.12E.; T.13N., R.13E.; T.13N., R.14E.; T.13N., R.15E.; T.14N., R.12E.; T.14N., R.13E.; and, T.14N., R.14E. The project proposal would involve the following timber stand improvement activities: (1) Mechanical mastication treatment of approximately 3,039 acres using low ground pressure equipment to flail or "masticate" undesirable vegetation and conifers. Follow-up chemical treatment with ground-based application of herbicides (2,738 acres of foliar treatment using a 3% glyphosate solution and 301 acres of foliar treatment using a 1.5% triclopyr solution) within one year following the completion of mechanical mastication activities. (2) Hand cut treatment of approximately 136 acres using hand tools. Follow-up chemical treatment with ground-based application of herbicides (136 acres of foliar treatment using a 3% glyphosate solution) within one year following the completion of hand cutting activities. (3) Chemical treatment of approximately 1,462 acres (1,193 acres of foliar treatment using a 3% glyphosate solution and 269 acres of foliar treatment using a 1.5% triclopyr solution). Follow-up chemical treatment (1,193 acres of foliar treatment using a 3% glyphosate solution and 269 acres of foliar treatment using a 1.5% triclopyr solution), if necessary, three to five years after the initial treatment.

The proposed project activities would begin in 2007 and with the goal of being completed by 2015, dependent upon funding.

Lead and Cooperating Agencies

The lead agency will be the U.S.D.A. Forest Service.

Responsible Official

Tim Dabney, Georgetown District Ranger is the responsible Official. As the responsible official he will document the decision and reasons for the decision in the Record of Decision. That decision will be subject to Forest Service appeal regulations (36 CFR Part 215).

Nature of Decision To Be Made

The decision to be made is whether to adopt and implement the proposed action, an alternative to the proposed action, or take no action to conduct fuel reduction and timber stand improvement treatments in plantations.

Scoping Process

Public participation will be especially important at several points during the analysis. The Forest Service will be seeking information, comments, and assistance from the Federal, State, and local agencies and other individuals or organizations who may be interested in or affected by the proposed action. To facilitate public participation, information about the proposed action will be mailed to all who express interest in the proposed action and notification of the public scoping period will be published in the Mountain Democrat, Placerville, CA.

Comments submitted during the scoping process should be in writing and should be specific to the proposed action. The comments should describe as clearly and completely as possible any issues the commenter has with the proposal. The scoping process includes: (1) Identifying the potential issues; (2) Identifying issues to be analyzed in depth; (3) Eliminating nonsignificant issues or those previously covered by a relevant previous environmental analysis; (4) Exploring additional alternatives; and, (5) Identifying potential environmental effects of the proposed action and alternatives.

Comment Requested

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