

§ 301.86–8 Attachment and disposition of certificates and limited permits.

(a) A certificate or limited permit required for the interstate movement of a regulated article must, at all times during the interstate movement, be:

(1) Attached to the outside of the container containing the regulated article; or

(2) Attached to the regulated article itself if not in a container; or

(3) Attached to the consignee's copy of the accompanying waybill. If the certificate or limited permit is attached to the consignee's copy of the waybill, the regulated article must be sufficiently described on the certificate or limited permit and on the waybill to identify the regulated article.

(b) The certificate or limited permit for the interstate movement of a

regulated article must be furnished by the carrier or the carrier's representative to the consignee listed on the certificate or limited permit upon arrival at the location provided on the certificate or limited permit.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0579–0322)

§ 301.86–9 Costs and charges.

The services of the inspector during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays) will be furnished without cost. APHIS will not be responsible for any costs or charges incident to inspections or compliance with the provisions of the quarantine and regulations in this subpart, other than for the services of the inspector.

PART 305—PHYTOSANITARY TREATMENTS

■ 3. The authority citation for 7 CFR part 305 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 7701–7772 and 7781–7786; 21 U.S.C. 136 and 136a; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.3.

■ 4. In § 305.2, in the table in paragraph (g), the entries for “Automobiles” and “Construction equipment without cabs”; the first entry for “Used farm equipment with cabs”; and the entries for “Used farm equipment without cabs” and “Used containers” are revised to read as follows:

§ 305.2 Approved treatments.

* * * * *
(g) * * *

Article	Pest	Treatment
Automobiles	<i>Globodera rostochiensis</i> and <i>G. pallida</i> .	T406–c, steam cleaning: Steam at high pressure until all soil is removed. Treated surfaces must be thoroughly wet and heated.
Construction equipment without cabs.	<i>G. rostochiensis</i> and <i>G. pallida</i>	SS T–406d.
Used farm equipment with cabs	<i>G. rostochiensis</i> and <i>G. pallida</i>	T406–c, steam cleaning: Steam at high pressure until all soil is removed. Treated surfaces must be thoroughly wet and heated.
Used farm equipment without cabs	<i>G. rostochiensis</i> and <i>G. pallida</i>	SS T–406d.
Used containers	<i>G. rostochiensis</i> and <i>G. pallida</i>	SS T–406d.

* * * * *
Done in Washington, DC, this 5th day of September 2007.
Kevin Shea,
Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.
[FR Doc. E7–17842 Filed 9–11–07; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

7 CFR Part 770

RIN 0560–AG87

Indian Tribal Land Acquisition Program Loan Writedowns

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency, USDA.
ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule revises the Farm Service Agency (FSA) Indian Tribal Land Acquisition Program (ITLAP) regulations as required by the Native American Technical Corrections Act of 2006. The regulations pertaining to rental value write-down of ITLAP loans

will not require a market value rent study where the land is actually rented. The actual rents received shall be used to determine the rental value of the property for write-down purposes.

DATES: *Effective Date:* October 12, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mel Thompson, Senior Loan Officer, Farm Service Agency; telephone: 202–720–7862; Facsimile: 202–690–1196; E-mail: *mel_thompson@wdc.usda.gov*. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audio tape, etc.) should contact the USDA Target Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice and TDD).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Discussion of the Final Rule

This rule revises the write-down servicing regulations of the Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Indian Tribal Land Acquisition Loan Program (ITLAP) to comply with section 203 of the Native American Technical Corrections Act of 2006, Public Law 109–221 (25 U.S.C. 494a) (“NATCA”).

A. Background

ITLAP loans assist Native American tribes or tribal corporations with the acquisition of land interests within the tribal reservation or in an Alaskan community as set out in 7 CFR part 770. Loan funds may be used to acquire land, land interests and appurtenances which will be used for the benefit of the tribe or its members, pay costs for loan closing, and refinance non-USDA debts the applicant incurred to purchase the land in certain situations. During the life of the ITLAP loan the borrower has a number of servicing options available based on changes in their loan status. The servicing options available depend on each borrower's circumstances and can include reamortization, consolidation, interest rate reduction, deferral, land exchanges, debt writedown, release of reserve accounts, or a combination thereof.

B. Writedown Requirements

Under 7 CFR 770.10(e) the Agency may reduce the unpaid principal and interest on an ITLAP loan based, in part, on the land sale value or rental value of

the ITLAP property. The option used is as requested by the borrower or, if it requests both, the write-down is based on which option provides the greatest debt reduction. To be eligible for either writedown option the borrower must be in a persistent poverty county, have a per capita income for individual enrolled tribal members of less than 50 percent of the Federal poverty income rate, and have a tribal unemployment rate in excess of 50 percent.

In a rental value write-down, FSA reduces the unpaid principal and interest on the loan approved for the writedown so that the annual loan payment for the remaining term of each loan equals the average of annual rental value of the land purchased with the loan. The rental value writedown option was provided along with a few other changes to ITLAP regulations in a final rule published on February 11, 2005 (70 FR 7165). For determining the value of the property, that rule replaced the requirement for a full appraisal (i.e., combining comparable sales, income, and cost approaches) with a requirement for a study of the rental income of properties similar to and near the land purchased with ITLAP funds. See 7 CFR 770.2 and 770.10(e)(4).

C. Changes Required by the NATCA

Section 203 of the NATCA (effective May 12, 2006) provides:

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any actual rental proceeds from the lease of land acquired under * * * [ITLAP program authority] (25 U.S.C. 488) certified by the Secretary of the Interior shall be deemed—

- (1) To constitute the rental value of that land; and
- (2) To satisfy the requirement for appraisal of that land.

Thus, this rule amends the definition of “rental value”, as it pertains to ITLAP, to provide that actual rents received will be used to determine the average rental value and the amount of write-down, rather than market rent, in accordance with the statute. Five years of data will be requested and yield the most reliable average, but the Agency will accept fewer years data if that is all that is available. If no actual rents have been received, then the borrower must provide a 5-year market value rent study. The economic and other effects of this change are difficult to estimate; however, it likely will reduce the borrower’s costs, eliminate the time required to complete an appraisal, and reduce FSA’s application processing time. On the other hand, the administrative costs to the Government will likely increase due to the change in

calculating the amount of debt to be forgiven by rental value write-down.

D. Summary of Economic Impacts

Under the new write-down rules required under Section 203 of the NATCA, ITLAP borrowers will be able to use a 5-year average of actual rental income received on the land purchased with the ITLAP loan to determine any write-down amount requested. This provision increases the likelihood that principal and accrued interest write-downs will occur in the program and that higher ITLAP loan subsidy rates will follow. FSA estimates that a total of 3 current ITLAP borrowers will meet the new write-down criteria and the estimated costs of this rule are based upon the assumption that all 3 borrowers are likely to take advantage of the lower standards imposed by NATCA. These 3 borrowers owe approximately \$20 million on loans that originally totaled \$31 million. FSA estimates the taxpayer costs will increase by as much as \$5 million as a result of write-downs to these 3 borrowers. Furthermore, future taxpayer costs are expected to increase slightly as a result of higher subsidy costs resulting from higher loan losses.

Notice and Comment

The notice and comment provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553 and the Statement of Policy of the Secretary of Agriculture effective July 24, 1971, (36 FR 13804), relating to notices of proposed rulemaking and public participation in rulemaking, provide that certain rules may go forward without public notice and comment when they are in the public interest. This regulation adopts changes mandated in the NATCA Section 203. Accordingly, this rule is published without requesting public comment and will be effective 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register**.

Executive Order 12866

This rule has been determined under Executive Order 12866 to be significant and was reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

In accordance with the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA), 5 U.S.C. 601, the Agency has determined that there will be no significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. There are currently 24 ITLAP borrowers with 105 loans totaling \$52 million. However, only about four are likely to be affected by this rule. The RFA requires agencies to consider the impact of their regulatory proposals on small

entities, minimize small entity impacts, and provide their analyses for public comment. This rule affects Indian Tribes, and such Tribes are not small businesses as defined by and subject to the Regulatory Flexibility Act. Nevertheless, this rule provides a substantial reduction in cost to Tribes applying for debt write-down. Thus, to the extent an Indian Tribe may be affected by this rule, there are no negative impacts.

Environmental Evaluation

The environmental impacts of this rule have been considered consistent with the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*, the regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), and the FSA regulations for compliance with NEPA, 7 CFR part 1940, subpart G. FSA has determined that this rule will not have a significant impact on the human or natural environment and therefore requires no further environmental review.

Executive Order 12988

This rule has been reviewed in accordance with E.O. 12988, Civil Justice Reform. In accordance with that Executive Order: (1) All State and local laws and regulations that are in conflict with this rule will be preempted; (2) no retroactive effect will be given to this rule; and (3) administrative proceedings in accordance with 7 CFR parts 11 and 780 must be exhausted before requesting judicial review.

Executive Order 12372

As stated in the Notice related to 7 CFR part 3015, subpart V (48 FR 29115, June 24, 1983) the programs and activities within this rule do not require consultation with state and local officials under the scope of Executive Order 12372.

Unfunded Mandates

Title II of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA), Public Law 104–4, requires Federal agencies to assess the effects of their regulatory actions on state, local, and tribal governments or the private sector of expenditures of \$100 million or more in any one year. This rule contains no Federal mandates, as defined by title II of the UMRA; therefore, this rule is not subject to sections 202 and 205 of the UMRA.

Executive Order 13132

The policies contained in this rule do not have any substantial direct effect on states, on the relationship between the

national government and the states, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. Nor does this rule impose substantial direct compliance costs on state and local governments.

Paperwork Reduction Act

The information collections were previously approved under OMB control number 0560-0198, but the package was retired since there are less than ten respondents annually and the collections are, therefore, not subject to the Paperwork Burden Act. The number of estimated annual respondents is not increased by this rule.

Federal Assistance Program

The changes affect the following program listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance: 10.421—Indian Tribes and Tribal Corporation Loans.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 770

Agriculture, Credit, Indians, Rural areas, Loan programs.

■ Accordingly, for the reasons stated in the preamble, 7 CFR part 770 is amended as follows:

PART 770—INDIAN TRIBAL LAND ACQUISITION LOANS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 770 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 301, 25 U.S.C. 488.

■ 2. Amend § 770.2 by revising the definition of “rental value” in paragraph (b) to read as follows:

§ 770.2 Abbreviations and definitions.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

Rental value for the purpose of rental value write-downs, equals the average actual rental proceeds received from the lease of land acquired under ITLAP. If there are no rental proceeds, then rental value will be based on market data according to § 770.10(e)(4).

* * * * *

■ 3. Amend § 770.10 by revising paragraph (e)(4)(iii) to read as follows:

§ 770.10 Servicing.

* * * * *

(e) * * *

(4) * * *

(iii) The borrower provides a record of any actual rents received for the land for the preceding 5 years, which will be used to calculate the average rental value. This record must be certified by the Department of the Interior. For land that has not been leased or has not received any rental income, the borrower must provide a market value rent study report for the preceding 5

years, which identifies the average annual rental value based on the market data. The market value rent study report must be prepared by a certified general appraiser and meet the requirements of USPAP.

* * * * *

Signed in Washington, DC, on September 6, 2007.

Teresa C. Lasseter,

Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. E7-18032 Filed 9-11-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

7 CFR Part 981

[Docket No. AMS-FV-07-0051; FV07-981-2 FR]

Almonds Grown in California; Change in Requirements for Interhandler Transfers of Almonds

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule revises the requirements for interhandler transfers of almonds under the administrative rules and regulations of the California almond marketing order (order). The order regulates the handling of almonds grown in California and is administered locally by the Almond Board of California (Board). This rule requires handlers who transfer almonds to other handlers to report to the Board whether or not the almonds were treated to achieve a 4-log reduction in *Salmonella* bacteria (*Salmonella*). This action will help the Board track treated and untreated almonds and facilitate administration of its mandatory *Salmonella* treatment program.

DATES: *Effective Date:* September 13, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Maureen T. Pello, Assistant Regional Manager, or Kurt J. Kimmel, Regional Manager, California Marketing Field Office, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, Telephone: (559) 487-5901, Fax: (559) 487-5906, or E-mail: Maureen.Pello@usda.gov, or Kurt.Kimmel@usda.gov.

Small businesses may request information on complying with this regulation by contacting Jay Guerber, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., STOP 0237, Washington,

DC 20250-0237; Telephone: (202) 720-2491, Fax: (202) 720-8938, or E-mail: Jay.Guerber@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This final rule is issued under Marketing Order No. 981, as amended (7 CFR part 981), regulating the handling of almonds grown in California, hereinafter referred to as the “order.” The order is effective under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as amended (7 U.S.C. 601-674), hereinafter referred to as the “Act.”

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) is issuing this rule in conformance with Executive Order 12866.

This final rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform. This rule is not intended to have retroactive effect. This final rule will not preempt any State or local laws, regulations, or policies, unless they present an irreconcilable conflict with this rule.

The Act provides that administrative proceedings must be exhausted before parties may file suit in court. Under section 608c(15)(A) of the Act, any handler subject to an order may file with USDA a petition stating that the order, any provision of the order, or any obligation imposed in connection with the order is not in accordance with law and request a modification of the order or to be exempted therefrom. A handler is afforded the opportunity for a hearing on the petition. After the hearing, USDA would rule on the petition. The Act provides that the district court of the United States in any district in which the handler is an inhabitant, or has his or her principal place of business, has jurisdiction to review USDA’s ruling on the petition, provided an action is filed not later than 20 days after the date of the entry of the ruling.

This final rule revises the requirements for interhandler transfers of almonds under the administrative rules and regulations of the order. This rule require handlers who transfer almonds to other handlers to report to the Board whether or not the almonds were treated to achieve a 4-log reduction in *Salmonella*. A mandatory treatment program to reduce the potential for *Salmonella* in almonds took effect in September 2007. This action will enable the Board to track treated and untreated almonds and help facilitate administration of its mandatory treatment program. This action was unanimously recommended by the Board at a meeting on March 28, 2007.

Section 981.55 of the order provides authority for handlers to, upon notice to and under supervision of the Board,