

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket No. AMS-FV-09-0066; FV09-926-1NC]

Notice of Request for Extension 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 of a currently approved information collection for Data Collection, Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements Applicable to Cranberries Not Subject to the Cranberry Marketing Order, 7 CFR Part 926.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by January 25, 2010.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Contact Valerie L. Emmer-Scott, Marketing Specialist, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., STOP 0237, Washington, DC 20250-0237; Tel: (202) 205-2829, Fax: (202) 720-8938, or Internet: <http://www.regulations.gov>. All comments should reference the docket number and the date and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register** and will be made available for public inspection in the Office of the Docket Clerk during regular business hours, or can be viewed at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Small business may request information on this notice by contacting Jay Guerber, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, 1400

Independence Avenue, SW., STOP 0237, room 1406-S, Washington, DC 20250-0237; telephone (202) 720-2491; Fax (202) 720-8938, or E-mail: Jay.Guerber@ams.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Data Collection Requirements Applicable to Cranberries Not Subject to the Cranberry Marketing Order, 7 CFR Part 926.

OMB Number: 0581-0222.

Expiration Date of Approval: May 31, 2010.

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

Abstract: A Federal marketing order for cranberries (M.O. 929) regulates the handling of cranberries grown in 10 States and is applicable to regulated handlers under the order. Public Law 106-78, enacted October 22, 1999, amended section 8(d) of the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 (AMAA), as amended (7 U.S.C. 601-674). If a cranberry order is in effect, the amendment authorizes the Secretary to require persons engaged in the handling or importation of cranberries and cranberry products not subject to the reporting requirements of the Federal cranberry marketing order to maintain adequate records and report information on sales, acquisitions, and inventory information to USDA or the Cranberry Marketing Committee (Committee). Such persons include handlers, producer-handlers, processors, brokers, and importers. The Committee collects this information. The data collection and reporting requirements helps the Committee make more informed recommendations to USDA for regulations authorized under the cranberry marketing order, (7 CFR Part 929).

Although a final rule, published in the **Federal Register** on April 4, 2007 (72 FR 16265) suspended the reporting requirements under 7 CFR Part 926, AMS is requesting that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approve a one-hour placeholder for future use of this information collection should the suspension be lifted and the reporting requirements re-implemented.

The information collection requirements in this request are essential to carry out the intent of the AMAA, and to administer the program, which was implemented in 2005.

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 Committee. Authorized Committee 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 .083 hours per response.

Respondents: Cranberry importers and brokers who acquire and sell cranberries and cranberry products, and maintain inventories of cranberries and cranberry products; and handlers, producer-handlers, and processors not subject to the cranberry marketing order who produce, handle, acquire, sell and maintain beginning and ending inventories of cranberries and cranberry products.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 12.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 1 hour.

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. 0581-0222 and the Data Collection and Reporting Requirements Applicable to

Cranberries Not Subject to the Cranberry Marketing Order, 7 CFR Part 926, and be mailed to Docket Clerk, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0237; Telephone: (202) 205-2829; Fax (202) 720-8938; or Internet: <http://www.regulations.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 Ave., SW, Washington, DC, room 1406-S.

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: November 17, 2009.

Rayne Pegg,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. E9-28154 Filed 11-23-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Black Hills National Forest, Northern Hills Ranger District, South Dakota, Nautilus Project

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: The Forest Service will prepare an environmental impact statement on a proposal to implement multiple resource management actions within the Nautilus Project area to implement the amended Black Hills National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan. The Nautilus Project area covers approximately 41,302 acres of National Forest System land and approximately 5,699 acres of interspersed private land northwest of Rapid City, South Dakota. Mountain pine beetle infestations are present within and adjacent to the project area. Therefore, the Nautilus environmental impact statement will be analyzed under the provisions of Title IV of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act. Proposed actions include a combination of vegetation and fuels treatments to reduce mountain pine beetle susceptibility, reduce fire hazard, improve watershed conditions, provide for a diversity of wildlife habitat, and provide for research forestry opportunities. The proposed action includes approximately 7,157 acres of

commercial thinning, 7,311 acres of overstory removal, 10,954 acres of precommercial thinning, 2,134 acres of commercial seed cuts, 191 acres of group selection, 466 acres of individual tree selection, 764 acres of hardwood enhancement, 206 acres of meadow enhancement, 836 acres of old growth management, 354 acres of product-other-than-log thinning, and 411 acres of stand-alone prescribed burning, in addition, approximately 30,629 acres will be analyzed for prescribed burning following timber harvest although it is expected that approximately 10,000 acres of that total will actually be burned over a 10-15 year period. Approximately 15 miles of new road construction would be necessary to carry out the proposed vegetation management actions.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis are requested by December 21, 2009. The draft environmental impact statement is expected to be available April 2010 and the final environmental impact statement is expected to be completed by July 2010.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to: Rhonda O'Byrne, District Ranger, Northern Hills Ranger District, 2014 North Main Street, Spearfish, SD 57783. Telephone number: (605) 642-4622. e-mail: comments-rocky-mountain-black-hills-northern-hills@fs.fed.us with "Nautilus Project" as the subject.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chris Stores, Assistant NEPA Planner, Northern Hills Ranger District, 2014 North Main Street, Spearfish, SD 57783. Telephone number: (605) 642-4622.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of and Need for Action

The purpose of and need for the actions proposed in the Nautilus project area is to reduce mountain pine beetle susceptibility, reduce fire hazard, improve watershed conditions, provide for a diversity of wildlife habitat, and provide for research forestry opportunities. All actions are intended to move toward or achieve related Forest Plan Goals and Objectives, consistent with Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines.

Proposed Action

Proposed actions include the following:

Reduce acres at high or medium susceptibility to mountain pine beetle by thinning stands and changing stand structure. Commercial and non-commercial (including prescribed burning) methods may be used.

Reduce the acres at moderate-to-high fire hazard by thinning stands to decrease crown proximity and by reducing fuel accumulations. Thinning may use commercial or non-commercial methods. Fuel reduction treatments could include lopping, chipping, crushing, piling and burning, construction of fuel breaks, and broadcast prescribed burning.

Improve watershed conditions through road closure, meadow enhancement, hardwood enhancement and mitigation of connected disturbed areas.

Provide for a diversity of wildlife habitat through meadow enhancement, hardwood enhancement, seasonal road closures, and patch clear cuts to create open browsing areas.

Provide for opportunities to conduct research forestry in the Black Hills Experimental Forest. Proposed treatments to implement research objectives over the next 10-15 years designed to examine the effectiveness of timber management techniques not typically conducted on the Black Hills National Forest.

Road construction and maintenance activities necessary to access areas proposed for timber harvest. New roads would be closed following harvest and existing roads that are not in the National Forest System could also be closed in conjunction with this project.

The Forest Service is the sole responsible agency for this project; no cooperators are participating in project planning.

Responsible Official

Rhonda O'Byrne, District Ranger, Northern Hills Ranger District, 2014 North Main Street, Spearfish, SD 57783.

Nature of Decision To Be Made

The decision to be made is whether or not to approve the proposed action or alternatives at this time. No Forest Plan amendments are proposed.

Scoping Process

Comments and input regarding the proposed action are being requested from the public and other interested parties in conjunction with this notice of intent. The comment period will be open for thirty days, beginning on the date of publication of this notice of intent. An open house to gather comments from local individuals and groups will be held on December 2, 2009 at 5:30 PM MST at the Community Hall in Nemo, SD. Also, response to the draft EIS will be sought from the interested public beginning approximately in April 2010.