This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT
5 CFR Part 532
RIN 3206–AM33

Prevailing Rate Systems; Redefinition of the Northeastern Arizona and Colorado Appropriated Fund Federal Wage System Wage Areas


ACTION: Proposed rule with request for comments.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Office of Personnel Management is issuing a proposed rule that would redefine the geographic boundaries of the Northeastern Arizona and Southern Colorado appropriated fund Federal Wage System (FWS) wage areas. The proposed rule would redefine Dolores, Montrose, Ouray, San Juan, and San Miguel Counties, CO, and the Curecanti National Recreation Area portion of Gunnison County, CO, from the Southern Colorado wage area to the Northeastern Arizona wage area. OPM proposes to redefine Dolores, Montrose, Ouray, San Juan, and San Miguel Counties, CO, and the Curecanti National Recreation Area portion of Gunnison County, CO, from the Southern Colorado wage area to the Northeastern Arizona wage area. All other criteria are indeterminate. Although a standard review of regulatory criteria shows that most factors are indeterminate, distance to the closest cities does favor the Northern Arizona wage area. Based on this analysis, we recommend that Montrose County be redefined to the Eastern Arizona area of application. Our analysis of the regulatory criteria indicates that Dolores County would be more appropriately defined as part of the Northern Arizona area of application. The distance criterion favors the Northern Arizona wage area. We believe the mixed nature of our regulatory analysis findings indicates that the remaining locations in Gunnison County remain appropriately defined to the Southern Colorado wage area, with distance being the deciding factor.

Dolores County is currently defined to the Southern Colorado area of application. Our analysis of the regulatory criteria indicates that Dolores County would be more appropriately defined as part of the Northern Arizona area of application. The distance criterion for Dolores County favors the Northern Arizona wage area more than the Southern Colorado wage area. The commuting patterns criterion slightly favors the Northern Arizona wage area. All other criteria are indeterminate. Based on this analysis, OPM proposes to redefine Dolores County to the Northern Arizona area of application.

Ouray, San Juan, and San Miguel Counties are currently defined to the Southern Colorado area of application. Our analysis of the regulatory criteria indicates that Ouray, San Juan, and San Miguel Counties would be more appropriately defined as part of the Northern Arizona area of application. The distance criterion favors the Northern Arizona wage area more than the Southern Colorado wage area.
wage area. All other criteria are indeterminate. Since the distance criterion indicates that Ouray, San Juan, and San Miguel Counties are closer to the Northeastern Arizona survey area, we recommend that these three counties be redefined to the Northeastern Arizona wage area.

The Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee (FPRAC), the national labor-management committee responsible for advising OPM on matters concerning the pay of FWS employees, recommended these changes by consensus. These changes would be effective on the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning on or after 30 days following publication of the final regulations. FPRAC recommended no other changes in the geographic definitions of the Northeastern Arizona and Southern Colorado wage areas.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

I certify that these regulations would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities because they would affect only Federal agencies and employees.

List of Subjects in 5 CFR Part 532

Administrative practice and procedure, Freedom of information, Government employees, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Wages.


John Berry,

Director.

Accordingly, the U.S. Office of Personnel Management is proposing to amend 5 CFR part 532 as follows:

PART 532—PREVAILING RATE SYSTEMS

1. The authority citation for part 532 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 5343, 5346; § 532.707 also issued under 5 U.S.C. 552.

2. Appendix C to subpart B is amended by revising the wage area listings for the Northeastern Arizona and Colorado wage areas to read as follows:

Appendix C to Subpart B of Part 532—Appropriated Fund Wage and Survey Areas

ARIZONA

Northeastern Arizona

Survey Area

Arizona:

Apache

Coconino

Navajo

New Mexico:

McKinley

San Juan

Area of Application. Survey Area plus:

Colorado:

Dolores

Gunnison (Only includes the Curecanti National Recreation Area portion)

La Plata

Montezuma

Montrose

Ouray

San Juan

San Miguel

Utah:

Kane

San Juan (Does not include the Canyonlands National Park portion)

COLORADO

Southwestern Colorado

Survey Area

Colorado:

El Paso

Pueblo

Teller

Area of Application. Survey Area plus:

Colorado:

Alamosa

Archuleta

Baca

Bent

Chaffee

Cheyenne

Conesjos

Costilla

Crowley

Custer

Delta

Fremont

Gunnison (Does not include the Curecanti National Recreation Area portion)

Hinsdale

Huerfano

Kiowa

Kit Carson

Las Animas

Lincoln

Mineral

Otero

Pitkin

Prowers

Rio Grande

Saguache

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

7 CFR Part 1214

[Document No. AMS–FV–10–0008–PR–1A]

RIN 0581–AD00

Proposed Christmas Tree Promotion, Research, and Information Order; Extension of Comment Period on Proposed Establishment of a Program

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Reopening and extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the comment period on the proposed establishment of an industry-funded promotion, research, and information program for fresh cut Christmas trees is reopened and extended. The comment period is also reopened and extended for the new Christmas tree information collection requirements by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the operation of the proposed program. The proposed Christmas Tree Promotion, Research, and Information Order (Proposed Order), was submitted to the Department of Agriculture (Department) by the Christmas Tree Checkoff Task Force, an industry wide group of producers and importers that support this proposed program.

DATES: Comments must be received by March 9, 2011. Pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), comments on the information collection burden that would result from this proposal must be received by March 9, 2011.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the Internet at http://www.regulations.gov or to the Research and Promotion Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 0244, Room 0632–S, Washington, DC 20250–0244; fax: (202) 205–2800. 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 above office during regular business hours or can be viewed at http://www.regulations.gov. All comments submitted in response to this proposed rule will be included in the record and will be made available to the public. Please be advised that the identity of the individuals or entities submitting comments will be made public on the Internet at the address provided above.