Background

Under the regulations in “Subpart—Fruits and Vegetables” (7 CFR 319.56–1 through 319.56–50, referred to below as the regulations), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture prohibits or restricts the importation of fruits and vegetables into the United States from certain parts of the world to prevent plant pests from being introduced into and spread within the United States.

Section 319.56–4 contains a performance-based process for approving the importation of commodities that, based on the findings of a pest risk analysis, can be safely imported subject to one or more of the designated phytosanitary measures listed in paragraph (b) of that section. APHIS received a request from the Government of Thailand to allow the importation of fresh dragon fruit (multiple genera and species) into the continental United States. Currently, fresh dragon fruit is not authorized for entry from Thailand. We have completed a pest risk analysis for the purpose of evaluating the pest risks associated with the importation of fresh dragon fruit into the continental United States. The analysis consists of a pest list identifying pests of quarantine significance that are present in Thailand and could follow the pathway of importation into the United States and a risk management document identifying phytosanitary measures that could be applied to the commodity to mitigate the pest risk.

We have concluded that fresh dragon fruit can be safely imported into the continental United States from Thailand using one or more of the five designated phytosanitary measures listed in §319.56–4(b). These measures are:

• The dragon fruit may be imported subject to the regulations, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture prohibits or restricts the importation of fruits and vegetables into the United States from certain parts of the world to prevent plant pests from being introduced into and spread within the United States.

• The commodity is subject to inspection at the U.S. port of entry. Therefore, in accordance with §319.56–4(c), we are announcing the availability of our pest risk analysis for public review and comment. The pest risk analysis may be viewed on the Regulations.gov Web site or in our reading room (see ADDRESSES above for a link to Regulations.gov and information on the location and hours of the reading room). You may request paper copies of the pest risk analysis by calling or writing to the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT. Please refer to the subject of the pest risk analysis you wish to review when requesting copies.

• After reviewing any comments we receive, we will announce our decision regarding the import status of fresh dragon fruit from Thailand in a subsequent notice. If the overall conclusions of the analysis and the Administrator’s determination of risk remain unchanged following our consideration of the comments, then we will authorize the importation of fresh dragon fruit from Thailand into the continental United States subject to the requirements specified in the risk management documents.


Done in Washington, DC, this 24th day of June 2011.

Kevin Shea,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FPR Doc. 2011–16405 Filed 6–29–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Plan Revision for Colville, and the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forests, Washington (Collectively Called the Northeast Washington Zone Forest Plan Revision)

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) and revised land management plan using the provisions of the National Forest System land and resource management planning rule in effect prior to November 9, 2000 for the Colville, and Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forests, Pend Oreille, Stevens, Ferry, Okanogan, Chelan, Kittitas, and Yakima Counties in Washington.

SUMMARY: As directed by the National Forest Management Act (NFMA), the