DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

Determination of Total Amounts of Fiscal Year 2015 WTO Tariff-Rate Quotas for Raw Cane Sugar and Certain Sugars, Syrups and Molasses

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (the Secretary) announces the establishment of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 (October 1, 2014–September 30, 2015) in-quota aggregate quantity of certain sugars, syrups, and molasses (also referred to as refined sugar) at 127,000 MTRV. The Secretary also announces the establishment of the FY 2015 in-quota aggregate quantity of certain sugars, syrups, and molasses at 127,000 MTRV.

DATES: Effective Date: September 4, 2014.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Souleymane Diaby, Import Policies and Export Reporting Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., AgStop 1021, Washington, DC 20250–1021; by telephone (202) 720–2016; by fax (202) 720–0876; or by email souleymane.diaby@fas.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The provisions of paragraph (a)(i) of the Additional U.S. Note 5, Chapter 17 in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) authorize the Secretary to establish the in-quota tariff-rate quota (TRQ) amounts (expressed in terms of raw value) for imports of raw cane sugar and certain sugars, syrups, and molasses that may be entered under the subheadings of the HTS subject to the lower tier of duties during each fiscal year. The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) is responsible for the allocation of these quantities among supplying countries and areas.

Section 359(k) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, requires that at the beginning of the quota year the Secretary of Agriculture establish the TRQs for raw cane sugar and refined sugars at the minimum levels necessary to comply with obligations under international trade agreements, with the exception of specialty sugar.

Notice is hereby given that I have determined, in accordance with paragraph (a)(i) of the Additional U.S. Note 5, Chapter 17 in the HTS and section 359(k) of the 1938 Act, that an aggregate quantity of up to 1,117,195 MTRV of raw cane sugar may be entered or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption during FY 2015. This is the minimum amount to which the United States is committed under the WTO Uruguay Round Agreements. I have further determined that an aggregate quantity of 127,000 MTRV of sugars, syrups, and molasses may be entered or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption during FY 2015. This quantity includes the minimum amount to which the United States is committed under the WTO Uruguay Round Agreements, 22,000 MTRV, of which 1,656 MTRV is reserved for specialty sugar. An additional amount of 105,000 MTRV is added to the specialty sugar TRQ for a total of 106,656 MTRV.

Because the specialty sugar TRQ is first-come, first-served, tranches are needed to allow for orderly marketing throughout the year. The FY 2015 specialty sugar TRQ will be opened in five tranches. The first tranche, totaling 1,656 MTRV, will open October 10, 2014. All specialty sugars are eligible for entry under this tranche. The second tranche will open on October 24, 2014, and be equal to 38,850 MTRV. The remaining tranches will each be equal to 22,050 MTRV, with the third opening on January 9, 2015; the fourth, on April 10, 2015; and the fifth, on July 10, 2015. The second, third, fourth, and fifth tranches will be reserved for organic sugar and other specialty sugars not currently produced commercially in the United States or reasonably available from domestic sources.

* Conversion factor: 1 metric ton = 1.10231125 short tons.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the regulations for the control of chronic wasting disease in farmed or captive cervid herds, contact Dr. Patrice Klein, Cervid Health Team Leader, Sheep, Goat, Cervid, and Equine Health, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 43, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 851–3435. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS’ Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 851–2908.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Title: Control of Chronic Wasting Disease.
OMB Control Number: 0579–0189.
Type of Request: Revision to and extension of approval of an information collection.
Abstract: Under the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 et seq.), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is authorized, among other things, to protect the health of the United States’ livestock and poultry populations by preventing the introduction and interstate spread of serious diseases and pests of livestock and for eradicating such diseases from the United States when feasible.

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy of cervids (elk, deer, and moose) typified by chronic weight loss leading to death. The presence of CWD in cervids causes significant economic and market losses to U.S. producers. In an effort to accelerate the control and limit the spread of this disease in the United States, APHIS created a cooperative, voluntary Federal-State-private sector CWD Herd Certification Program designed to identify farmed or captive herds infected with CWD and provided for the management of these herds in a way that reduces the risk of spreading CWD. APHIS’ Veterinary Services (VS) manages the CWD Herd Certification Program.

Owners of farmed or captive elk, deer, and moose herds who choose to participate in the Herd Certification Program would need to follow program requirements for animal identification, testing, herd management, and movement of animals into and from herds. The regulations for this program are located in 9 CFR part 55. Part 55 also contains the regulations that authorize the payment of indemnity for the voluntary depopulation of CWD-positive, CWD-exposed, or CWD-suspect captive cervids. APHIS also established requirements in 9 CFR part 81 for the interstate movement of elk, deer, and moose to prevent movement that could pose a risk of spreading CWD.

The Herd Certification Program and the indemnity program entail the use of information collection activities, such as memorandum of understanding between APHIS and participating States; USDA–APHIS Veterinary Services, Application for Enrollment in the Federal Chronic Wasting Disease Voluntary Herd Certification Program for Farmed and Captive Cervids (VS Forms 11–1/11–2); farmed and captive cervid identification; farmed and captive cervid Interstate Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (ICVI); reports of cervid suspects, escapes, disappearances, and deaths; recordkeeping (herd records); certificates and/or animal identification documents to move wild cervids; surveillance data; a letter to appeal suspension, cancellation, or change in status; a herd or premises plan if CWD is discovered; annual reports; State reviews; epidemiological investigations and reporting of out-of-State traces to affected States; sample collections and laboratory submissions, testing, and reporting; and an APHIS–USDA Veterinary Services Appraisal and Indemnity Claim Form (VS Form 1–23).

In addition to including several additional information collection activities, this notice includes a description of the information collection activities currently approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the CWD Herd Certification Program under number 0579–0237, and for payment of indemnity under voluntary depopulation for CWD under number 0579–0189. After OMB approves and combines the burden for both collections under one collection (number 0579–0189), the Department will retire number 0579–0237.

We are asking OMB to approve our use of these information collection activities, as described, for an additional 3 years.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:
(1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies; e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Estimate of burden. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2.55 hours per response.


Estimated annual number of respondents: 5,735.
Estimated annual number of responses: 150,580.
Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 383,383 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

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.

Done in Washington, DC, this 28th day of August 2014.

Kevin Shea,
Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

RIN 0596–AD20

Proposed Directive for Commercial Filming in Wilderness; Special Uses Administration

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of proposed directive; request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service proposes to incorporate interim directive (ID) 2709.11–2013.1 into Forest Service Handbook (FSH) 2709.11, chapter 40 to make permanent guidance for the evaluation of proposals for still photography and commercial filming on National Forest System Lands. The proposed amendment would address