

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

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

August 1, 2019.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments are requested regarding: 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; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; 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 regarding this information collection received by September 5, 2019 will be considered. Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20502. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8958.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information

displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Rural Utilities Service

Title: Broadband Grant Program.

OMB Control Number: 0572-0127.

Summary of Collection: Congress has recognized the need to facilitate the deployment of broadband service to unserved rural areas. The provision to broadband transmission service is vital to the economic development, education, health, and safety of rural Americans.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004 (Title III, Pub. L. 108-199, Stat. 3), 7 CFR 1739 Subpart A, as amended, authorizes the Rural Development, Rural Utilities Service (RUS) to administer the Community Connect Grant Program for the provision of broadband transmission service in rural America. Grant authority is utilized to deploy broadband infrastructure to extremely rural, lower income communities on a "community-oriented connectivity" basis.

Need and Use of the Information: RUS gives priority to rural areas that it believes have the greatest need for broadband transmission services. This broadband access is intended to promote economic development and provide enhanced educational and health care opportunities. RUS will provide financial assistance to eligible entities that are proposing to deploy broadband transmission service in rural communities where such service does not currently exist and who will connect the critical community facilities including the local schools, libraries, hospitals, police, fire and rescue services and who will operate a community center that provides free and open access to residents.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 82.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting; On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 13,380.

Kimble Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2019-16756 Filed 8-5-19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2019-0045]

National Wildlife Services Advisory Committee; Meeting

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: We are giving notice of a meeting of the National Wildlife Services Advisory Committee.

DATES: The meeting will be held on September 18 and 19, 2019 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Jamie L. Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250, in Room 104-A.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Carrie Joyce, Designated Federal Officer, Wildlife Services, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 87, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 851-3999.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Wildlife Services Advisory Committee (the Committee) advises the Secretary of Agriculture concerning policies, program issues, and research needed to conduct the Wildlife Services (WS) program. The Committee also serves as a public forum enabling those affected by the WS program to have a voice in the program's policies.

The meeting will focus on operational and research activities conducted by the Wildlife Services Program. The committee will discuss pertinent WS operational and research activities and programs and how to increase their effectiveness, as well as ensuring WS remains an active participant in the goal of agricultural protection.

The meeting will be open to the public. Attendees should arrive between 8 and 8:30 a.m. Picture identification is required to gain access to the Whitten Building.

Due to time constraints, the public will not be allowed to participate in the

discussions during the meeting. Written statements on meeting topics may be filed with the Committee before or after the meeting by sending them to the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Written statements may also be filed at the meeting. Please refer to Docket No. APHIS–2019–0045 when submitting your statements.

This notice of meeting is given pursuant to section 10 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

Done in Washington, DC, this 30th day of July 2019.

Cikena Reid,

Committee Management Officer, USDA.

[FR Doc. 2019–16758 Filed 8–5–19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS–2018–0044]

Changes to the *Campylobacter* Verification Testing Program: Revised Performance Standards for *Campylobacter* in Not-Ready-To-Eat Comminuted Chicken and Turkey and Related Agency Procedures

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is proposing and requesting comments on revised pathogen reduction performance standards for *Campylobacter* in not-ready-to-eat (NRTE) comminuted chicken and turkey products based on a microbiological method change from direct-plating to enrichment. The Agency is taking this step because the enrichment method more effectively recovers *Campylobacter* in contaminated poultry samples as compared to the direct-plating method.

FSIS will consider comments received on this notice before announcing the final standards in the **Federal Register** and assessing whether establishments are meeting the standards.

After collecting sufficient data, FSIS plans to propose and request comments on revised pathogen reduction performance standards for *Campylobacter* in young chicken and turkey carcasses and in raw chicken parts, also based on the enrichment method.

DATES: Submit comments on or before October 7, 2019.

ADDRESSES: FSIS invites interested persons to submit comments on this notice. Comments may be submitted by one of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* This website provides commenters the ability to type short comments directly into the comment field on the web page or to attach a file for lengthier comments. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the on-line instructions at that site for submitting comments.

- *Mail, including CD-ROMs, etc.:* Send to Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 3758, Room 6065, Washington, DC 20250–3700.

- *Hand- or Courier-Delivered Submittals:* Deliver to 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 6065, Washington, DC 20250–3700.

Instructions: All items submitted by mail or electronic mail must include the Agency name and docket number FSIS–2018–0044. Comments received in response to this docket will be made available for public inspection and posted without change, including any personal information, to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Docket: For access to background documents or comments received, call (202) 720–5627 to schedule a time to visit the FSIS Docket Room at 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 6065, Washington, DC 20250–3700.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roberta Wagner, Assistant Administrator, Office of Policy and Program Development by telephone at (202) 205–0495.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: FSIS is responsible for verifying that the nation's commercial supply of meat, poultry, and egg products is safe, wholesome, and properly labeled and packaged.

Campylobacter is the most common bacterial cause of foodborne illness in the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimate *Campylobacter* infections affect 1.3 million people every year in the United States.¹ During 2018, CDC's Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network, or FoodNet,² reported that the incidence of foodborne infection was highest for *Campylobacter* (19.5 per 100,000 population).³ Most non-dairy, outbreak-associated *Campylobacter* illnesses are attributed to the

consumption of poultry.⁴ *Campylobacter* outbreaks are not commonly identified considering how often people get sick from this bacteria, but the frequency of outbreaks has been increasing.⁵

Poultry Carcasses and Raw Chicken Parts

FSIS finalized and announced *Campylobacter* performance standards for establishments that produce young chicken carcasses and turkey carcasses on May 14, 2010 (75 FR 27288). FSIS initially proposed to use the results from both the 1-mL direct-plating analytical method and the 30-mL enrichment analytical method to assess whether establishments were meeting the *Campylobacter* performance standards for young chicken and turkey carcasses.⁶ However, on March 21, 2011, after further analysis and in response to public comments, FSIS announced that it would: Only use the direct-plating method results to assess whether young chicken and turkey slaughter establishments were meeting the performance standards; also concurrently analyze young chicken and turkey carcass rinsates using the enrichment method; and conduct an internal analysis of all of these results—direct-plating and enrichment method generated results—to develop additional policy options (76 FR 15282). In July 2011, FSIS began compiling sample sets⁷ to generate data to assess whether young chicken and turkey slaughter establishments were meeting the *Campylobacter* standards. Poultry slaughter establishments subject to the *Campylobacter* performance standards were assessed against the standards based solely on the results generated using the direct-plating method. However, samples collected as part of these sample sets were analyzed concurrently using the enrichment method.

After FSIS completed two sample sets for nearly 90 percent of the young chicken and turkey slaughter establishments, the results generated using both the 1-mL direct-plating and

⁴ <https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/ifsac/pdf/P19-2016-report-TriAgency-508.pdf>.

⁵ <https://www.cdc.gov/Campylobacter/outbreaks/outbreaks.html>.

⁶ FSIS's direct-plating and enrichment analytical methods are described in the Microbiology Laboratory Guidebook, Chapter 41; at <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/wcm/connect/0273bc3d-2363-45b3-befb-1190c25f3c8b/MLG-41.pdf?MOD=AJPERES>.

⁷ At the time, FSIS inspection program personnel were collecting poultry carcass samples over a defined number of sequential days of production to complete a sample set. In May 2015, FSIS began testing poultry carcasses using a continuous sampling program and discontinued the previous set-based verification projects.

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/Campylobacter/faq.html>.

² <https://www.cdc.gov/foodnet/index.html>.

³ <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/wr/mm6816a2.htm>.