

1996

Dalton, Georgia; September 10, 1996

Cherokee National Forest

Proposed Locations and Dates:

Elizabethton, Tennessee; October 7, 1996

Greeneville, Tennessee; October 8, 1996

Alcoa, Tennessee; October 10, 1996

Tellico Plains; October 15, 1996

Ducktown, Tennessee; October 16, 1996

Cleveland, Tennessee; October 17, 1996

Nashville, Tennessee; October 21, 1996

Jefferson National Forest

Proposed Location and Date:

Mt. Rogers NRA, Jefferson National Forest, Virginia; August 17, 1996

Sumter National Forest

Proposed Locations and Dates:

Columbia, South Carolina; August 22, 1996

Edgefield, South Carolina; August 26, 1996

Newberry, South Carolina; September 10, 1996

Walhalla, South Carolina; September 21, 1996

G. Release and Review of the EISs

Each Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) is expected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and to be available for public comment by January, 1998. At that time, the EPA will publish a notice of availability of each DEIS (one for each Forest's DEIS) in the Federal Register. The comment period on each DEIS will be 3 months from the date the EPA publishes the notice of availability in the Federal Register.

The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of the DEIS must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the DEIS stage but that are not raised until after completion of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F.Supp.1334, 1338 (E.D.Wis.1980). Because of these court rulings, it is very

important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the 3 month comment period so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in each FEIS.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed actions, comments on each DEIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the DEIS or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statements. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points.

After the comment periods end on each DEIS, the comments will be analyzed, considered, and responded to by the Forest Service in preparing each FEIS. The FEISs are scheduled to be completed in December, 1998. The responsible official will consider the comments, responses, environmental consequences discussed in each FEIS, and applicable laws, regulations, and policies in making a decision regarding these revisions. The responsible official will document the decision and reasons for the decision in a Record of Decision for each Forest Plan. Each decision will be subject to appeal in accordance with 36 CFR 217.

The responsible official for each of the Forest Plans is the Regional Forester, Southern Region, 1720 Peachtree Road, NW., Atlanta, Georgia 30367.

Dated: July 25, 1996.

Gloria Manning,

Deputy Regional Forester, NRT.

[FR Doc. 96-19429 Filed 7-31-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration**Opportunity for Designation in the Kankakee (IL) Area and the States of California and Washington**

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act), provides that official agency designations will end not later than triennially and may be renewed. The

designations of Kankakee Grain Inspection, Inc. (Kankakee), the California Department of Food and Agriculture (California) and the Washington Department of Agriculture (Washington) will end January 31, 1997, according to the Act, and GIPSA is asking persons interested in providing official services in the Kankakee, California, and Washington areas to submit an application for designation.

DATES: Applications must be postmarked or sent by telecopier (FAX) on or before September 2, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Applications must be submitted to USDA, GIPSA, FGIS, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-3604. Telecopier (FAX) users may send applications to the automatic telecopier machine at 202-690-2755, attention: Janet M. Hart. If an application is submitted by telecopier, GIPSA reserves the right to request an original application. All applications will be made available for public inspection at this address located at 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., during regular business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart, telephone 202-720-8525.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

Section 7(f)(1) of the Act authorizes GIPSA's Administrator to designate a qualified applicant to provide official services in a specified area after determining that the applicant is better able than any other applicant to provide such official services. GIPSA designated: Kankakee main office located in Bourbonnais, Illinois; California main office located in Sacramento, California; and Washington, main office located in Olympia, Washington, under the Act on February 1, 1994.

Section 7(g)(1) of the Act provides that designations of official agencies shall end not later than triennially and may be renewed according to the criteria and procedures prescribed in Section 7(f) of the Act. The designations of Kankakee, California, and Washington end on January 31, 1997.

Pursuant to Section 7(f)(2) of the USGSA, the following geographic area, in the State of Illinois, is assigned to Kankakee:

Bounded on the North by the northern Bureau County line; the northern LaSalle and Grundy County lines; the northern Will County line east-southeast to Interstate 57;

Bounded on the East by Interstate 57 south to U.S. Route 52; U.S. Route 52 south to the Kankakee County line;

Bounded on the South by the southern Kankakee and Grundy County lines; the southern LaSalle County line west to State Route 17; State Route 17 west to U.S. Route 51; U.S. Route 51 north to State Route 18; State Route 18 west to State Route 26; State Route 26 south to State Route 116; State Route 116 south to Interstate 74; Interstate 74 west to the western Peoria County line; and

Bounded on the West by the western Peoria and Stark County lines; the northern Stark County line east to State Route 88; State Route 88 north to the Bureau County line.

Pursuant to Section 7(f)(2) of the USGSA, the following geographic area, the entire State of California, is assigned to California, except those export port locations within the State which are serviced by GIPSA, and except the geographic area assigned to the Los Angeles Grain Inspection Service, Inc., which is as follows:

Bounded on the North by the Angeles National Forest southern boundary from State Route 2 east; the San Bernadino National Forest southern boundary east to State Route 79;

Bounded on the East by State Route 79 south to State Route 74;

Bounded on the South by State Route 74 west-southwest to Interstate 5; Interstate 5 northwest to Interstate 405; Interstate 405 northwest to State Route 55; State Route 55 northeast to Interstate 5; Interstate 5 northwest to State Route 91; State Route 91 west to State Route 11; and

Bounded on the West by State Route 11 north to U.S. Route 66; U.S. Route 66 west to Interstate 210; Interstate 210 northwest to State Route 2; State Route 2 north to the Angeles National Forest boundary.

Pursuant to Section 7(f)(2) of the USGSA, the following geographic area, the entire State of Washington, except those export port locations within the State, is assigned to Washington.

Interested persons, including Kankakee, California, and Washington, are hereby given the opportunity to apply for designation to provide official services in the geographic areas specified above under the provisions of Section 7(f) of the Act and section 800.196(d) of the regulations issued thereunder. Designation in the specified geographic areas is for the period

beginning February 1, 1997, and ending January 31, 2000. Persons wishing to apply for designation should contact the Compliance Division at the address listed above for forms and information.

Applications and other available information will be considered in determining which applicant will be designated.

Authority: Pub. L. 94-582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 *et seq.*).

Dated: July 24, 1996.

Neil E. Porter,

Director, Compliance Division.

[FR Doc. 96-19385 Filed 7-31-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-EN-F

Designation for the Central Iowa (IA) and Montana Areas

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: GIPSA announces the designation of Central Iowa Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Central Iowa), and the Montana Department of Agriculture (Montana) to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act).

EFFECTIVE DATES: September 1, 1996.

ADDRESSES: USDA, GIPSA, FGIS, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, 1400 Independence Ave. S.W., Washington, DC 20250-3604.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart, telephone 202-720-8525.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

In the March 1, 1996, Federal Register (61 FR 8025), GIPSA asked persons interested in providing official services in the geographic areas assigned to Central Iowa and Montana to submit an application for designation.

Applications were due by March 30, 1996. Central Iowa and Montana, the only applicants, each applied for designation to provide official inspection services in the entire areas currently assigned to them.

Since Central Iowa and Montana were the only applicants, GIPSA did not ask for comments on the applicants.

GIPSA evaluated all available information regarding the designation criteria in Section 7(f)(1)(A) of the Act; and according to Section 7(f)(1)(B), determined that Central Iowa and

Montana are able to provide official services in the geographic areas for which they applied. Effective September 1, 1996, and ending August 31, 1999, Central Iowa and Montana are designated to provide official services in the geographic areas specified in the March 1, 1996, Federal Register.

Interested persons may obtain official services by contacting Central Iowa at 515-266-1101 and Montana 406-452-9561.

Authority: Pub. L. 94-582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 *et seq.*).

Dated: July 24, 1996.

Neil E. Porter,

Director, Compliance Division.

[FR Doc. 96-19379 Filed 7-31-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-EN-F

Opportunity to Comment on the Applicants for the Missouri Area

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: GIPSA request comments on the applicants for designation to provide official services in the geographic area currently assigned to the Missouri Department of Agriculture.

DATES: Comments must be postmarked, or sent by telecopier (FAX) or electronic mail by September 2, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments must be submitted in writing to USDA, GIPSA, FGIS, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, 1400 Independence Ave. S.W., Washington, DC 20250-3604.

Telecopier (FAX) users may send comments to the automatic telecopier machine at 202-690-2755, attention: Janet M. Hart. All comments received will be made available for public inspection at the above address located at 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., during regular business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart, telephone 202-720-8525.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

In the May 30, 1996, Federal Register (61 FR 27045), GIPSA asked persons interested in providing official services in the geographic area assigned to Missouri to submit an application for designation. There were two applicants: Missouri applied for designation to provide official inspection services in