

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

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 99-011-2]

Availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of reopening and extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that we are reopening and extending the comment period for a draft environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact that have been prepared by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. The draft environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact relate to the release into the environment of nonindigenous leaf beetles for use as biological control agents to suppress saltcedar, a major weed pest of water courses and riparian habitats. This reopening and extension will provide interested groups and individuals with additional time to prepare and submit comments.

DATES: We invite you to comment on Docket No. 99-011-1. We will consider all comments that we receive by June 4, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Please send your comment and three copies to: Docket No. 99-011-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Suite 3C03, 4700 River Road, Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238.

Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. 99-011-1.

You may read any comments that we receive on this docket in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading

room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690-2817 before coming.

APHIS documents published in the **Federal Register**, and related information, including the names of organizations and individuals who have commented on APHIS rules, are available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrepor.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Ronald D. Hennessey, Entomologist, Biotechnology and Biological Analysis, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 139, Riverdale, MD 20737-1228; (301) 734-8537; or e-mail: ronald.d.hennessey@usda.gov. For copies of the draft environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact, write to Dr. Ronald D. Hennessey at the same address. Please refer to the title of the draft environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact when ordering copies.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On March 18, 1999, we published in the **Federal Register** (64 FR 13395-13396, Docket No. 99-011-1) a notice advising the public that a draft environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact have been prepared by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service relative to the release into the environment of nonindigenous leaf beetles for use as biological control agents to suppress saltcedar, a major weed pest of water courses and riparian habitats.

Comments on the notice were required to be received on or before April 19, 1999. We are now advising the public that we are reopening and extending the comment period on Docket No. 99-011-1 for an additional 45 days. This action will allow interested persons additional time to prepare and submit comments.

The draft environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact have been prepared in accordance with: (1) the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), (2) regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500-

1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1b), and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 150aa-150jj, 151-165, and 167.

Done in Washington, DC, this 28th day of April 1999.

Craig A. Reed,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 99-11129 Filed 5-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request—FNS-380, Worksheet for Food Stamp Program Quality Control Reviews

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice invites the general public and other public agencies to comment on proposed information collection of the FNS-380, Worksheet for Food Stamp Program Quality Control Reviews (formerly FCS-380, Integrated Quality Control Review Worksheet).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before July 6, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to: Retha Oliver, Chief, Quality Control Branch, Program Accountability Division, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of

Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302.

All responses to this notice will be included in the request for OMB's approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection form and instruction should be directed to Retha Oliver, (703) 305-2474.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Worksheet for Food Stamp Program Quality Control Reviews.

OMB Number: 0584-0074.

Form Number: FNS-380 (Was FCS-380).

Expiration Date: November 30, 1999.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The Form FNS-380 is a worksheet used in the Food Stamp Program to determine eligibility and benefits for households selected for review in the quality control sample of active cases. We estimate the reporting burden for this collection of information averages 9.00 hours per response. This includes the time for analyzing the household case record; planning and carrying out the field investigation; and gathering, comparing, analyzing and evaluating the review data. We estimate the recordkeeping burden associated with this information collection is 0.0236 hours per record. We previously cleared the reporting and recordkeeping burden for this form under Office of Management and Budget (OMB) clearance number 0584-0074. OMB approved the burden through 11/30/99. Based on the most recent information available, we estimate 55,844 FNS-380 worksheets will be completed annually. This is a 5,996 reduction from the previous estimate of responses and a represents a corresponding 54,105 hour reduction in the reporting and recordkeeping burden. The reduction in responses is a result of allowing States to reduce their sample sizes. We are requesting a three-year approval from OMB for this information collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; State or local governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 53 State agencies.

Estimated Total Number of Responses Per Year: 55,844 responses.

Estimated Time per Response for Information Collection: 9.0236 hours.

Total Annual Burden: 503,914 hours.

Dated: April 21, 1999.

Samuel Chambers, Jr.,
Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.
[FR Doc. 99-11161 Filed 5-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Notice of Proposed Changes to Section IV of the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) of the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Ohio

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Ohio, US Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed changes in Section IV of the FOTG of the NRCS in Ohio for review and comment.

SUMMARY: It is the intention of NRCS in Ohio to issue revised conservation practice standards in Section IV of the FOTG. The proposed standard revisions are Critical Area Planting (Code 342), Cover and Green Manure Crop (Code 340), Conservation Cover (Code 327), Contour Farming (Code 330), and Contour Buffer Strips (Code 332). These practices may be used in conservation systems that treat highly erodible land.

DATES: Comments will be received on or before June 3, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Inquire in writing to Paul DeArman, Assistant State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), 200 North High Street, Room 522, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Copies of these standards will be made available upon written request. You may submit electronic requests and comments to paul.dearman@oh.nrcs.usda.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 343 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 states that revisions made after the enactment of the law to NRCS State technical guides used to carry out highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the law shall be made available for public review and comment. For the next 30 days the NRCS will receive comments relative to the proposed changes. Following that period a determination will be made by the NRCS regarding the disposition of those comments and a final determination of change will be made.

Dated: April 16, 1999.

Patrick K. Wolf,
State Conservationist, Columbus, Ohio.
[FR Doc. 99-11134 Filed 5-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Telephone Bank

Sunshine Act Meeting

Staff Briefing for the Board of Directors

TIME AND DATE: 2:00 p.m., Thursday, May 13, 1999.

PLACE: Room 5030, South Building, Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC.

STATUS: Open.

MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED:

1. Current telecommunications industry issues.
2. Status of PBO planning.
3. Status of procurement request for legal advisor to the privatization committee.
4. OIG audit report on FY 1998 financial statements.
5. Bank's annual report for FY 1998.
6. Administrative issues.

Board of Directors Meeting

TIME AND DATE: 9:00 a.m., Friday, May 14, 1999.

PLACE: The Williamsburg Room, Room 104-A, Jamie L. Whitten Building, Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC.

STATUS: Open.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: The following matters have been placed on the agenda for the Board of Directors meeting:

1. Call to order.
2. Action on the February 10, 1999, Minutes.
3. Report on loans approved in the second quarter of FY 1999.
4. Summary of financial activity for the second quarter of FY 1999.
5. Privatization committee report.
6. Consideration of the Bank's annual report for FY 1998.
7. Establish date and location of November 1999 board meeting.
8. Adjournment.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Roberta D. Purcell, Assistant Governor, Rural Telephone Bank, (202) 720-9554.

Dated: April 28, 1999.

Wally Beyer,
Governor, Rural Telephone Bank.
[FR Doc. 99-11255 Filed 4-30-99; 12:12 pm]
BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce (DOC) has submitted to the Office of