

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 dockets, are available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrepor.html>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information on the regulations regarding the importation of poultry meat and products and live poultry from the Mexican States of Campeche, Quintana Roo, and Yucatan, contact Dr. Hatim Gubara, Senior Staff Veterinarian, Regionalization Evaluation Services Staff, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 38, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-4356. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 734-7477.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Exotic Newcastle Disease; Importation of Poultry Meat and Products and Live Poultry from the Mexican States of Campeche, Quintana Roo, and Yucatan.

*OMB Number:* 0579-0228.

*Type of Request:* Extension of approval of an information collection.

*Abstract:* Under the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301-8317), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, regulates the importation of animals and animal products into the United States to prevent the introduction of animal diseases, such as exotic Newcastle disease (END), into the United States.

The regulations in 9 CFR part 94 allow the importation of poultry meat and products and live poultry from the Mexican States of Campeche, Quintana Roo, and Yucatan under conditions designed to ensure that the poultry meat and products and live poultry will not transmit END. This disease is not present in those States but exists in other parts of Mexico. The conditions for importation require, among other things, certification from a full-time salaried veterinary officer of the Government of Mexico that the poultry meat or products or live poultry originated in an END-free region and

have not been commingled with poultry meat or products or live poultry from END-affected regions.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of this information collection activity 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 information collection, 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 information collection 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 1 hour per response.

*Respondents:* Federal animal health authorities in Mexico.

*Estimated annual number of respondents:* 5.

*Estimated annual number of responses per respondent:* 10.

*Estimated annual number of responses:* 50.

*Estimated total annual burden on respondents:* 50 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 25th day of February 2004.

**Kevin Shea,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 04-4589 Filed 3-1-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-34-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service**

[Docket No. 03-100-2]

**Public Meeting; Veterinary Biologics**

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This is the second notice to producers and users of veterinary biological products, and other interested individuals, that we will be holding our 12th public meeting to discuss regulatory and policy issues related to the manufacture, distribution, and use of veterinary biological products. This notice provides information on the agenda, as well as the dates, times, and place of the meeting. It also indicates a contact person for obtaining registration forms, lodging information, and copies of the agenda.

**DATES:** The public meeting will be held Wednesday, April 7, through Friday, April 9, 2004, from 1 p.m. to approximately 5 p.m. on Wednesday, 8 a.m. to approximately 5 p.m. on Thursday, and from 8 a.m. to approximately noon on Friday.

**ADDRESSES:** The public meeting will be held in the Scheman Building at the Iowa State Center, Iowa State University, Ames, IA.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Kathy Clark, Center for Veterinary Biologics, VS, APHIS, 510 South 17th Street, Suite 104, Ames, IA 50010-8197; phone (515) 232-5785, fax (515) 232-7120; or e-mail [Kathryn.K.Clark@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Kathryn.K.Clark@aphis.usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In a notice published in the **Federal Register** on November 14, 2003 (68 FR 64585, Docket No. 03-100-1), we announced that we would be holding our 12th annual veterinary biologics public meeting and requested that interested persons submit suggestions for agenda topics. Based on the responses and on other considerations, the agenda for the 12th public meeting will include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Biologics use and role in emergency management;
- Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) experience, epidemiology aspects, and impact on veterinary biologics;
- Animal health safeguarding;
- Autogenous biologics;
- Possession, use, and transfer of biological agents and toxins, 9 CFR part 121, implementation and impact;
- Research and development of biologics;

- Vaccine storage bank and vaccine discontinuance update;
- Center for Veterinary Biologics (CVB) regulatory initiatives;
- Harmonization issues; and
- Animal care.

In addition, we will provide updates on regulations, quality assurance, the Ames Information Management System, document processing (outlines, labels), CVB shipment of select agents and reagents, the Agricultural Bioterrorism Protection Act of 2002, export certificates, the APHIS Science Fellows Project, and the National Centers for Animal Health.

Registration forms, lodging information, and copies of the agenda for the 12th public meeting may be obtained from the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. This information is also available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/cvb>.

The registration deadline is March 27, 2004. A block of hotel rooms has been set aside for this meeting until March 24, 2004. Early reservation of rooms is strongly encouraged.

Done in Washington, DC, this 25th day of February 2004.

**Kevin Shea,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 04-4588 Filed 3-1-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-34-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Forest Service**

**Dixie National Forest, Utah, Duck Creek Fuels Treatment Analysis**

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

**SUMMARY:** The USDA Forest Service will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to implement fuels treatments in the Duck Creek area, within the Cedar City Ranger District, Dixie National Forest, Utah. The original Notice of Intent for this project was published in the **Federal Register** May 23, 2002 (page 44587). A revised Notice of Intent was published July 18, 2003 (page 42677). This second revised Notice of Intent is published to change the dates of the EIS and modify the Purpose and Need statement of the EIS to include crown fuels reduction. The agency confirms the continuing environmental analysis and decision-making process.

**DATES:** Comments concerning the analysis must be received within thirty days after publication of this revised Notice Of Intent in the **Federal Register**. The draft environmental impact statement is expected in June, 2004. The final environmental impact statement is expected in October, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to: Duck Creek Fuels Treatment Analysis

Coordinator, Cedar City Ranger District, Dixie National Forest, 1789 Wedgewood, Cedar City, Utah 84720.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Duck Creek Fuels Treatment Analysis Coordinator, Cedar City Ranger District, Dixie National Forest, 1789 Wedgewood, Cedar City, Utah 84720.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The proposed treatments will implement direction in the National Fire Plan and Healthy Forest Initiative and Healthy Forests Restoration Act, efforts to reduce impacts of wildfires on people and resources. The National Fire Plan directs Federal agencies within USDA/USDI to engage states and local communities in reducing forest fuels, using a variety of fuel reduction treatments (mechanical, prescribed fire and intensive manual treatment). Hazardous fuel reduction is a critical investment necessary to reduce fire risk and fire suppression costs into the future and is focused on areas near communities and interface areas that the States have judged to be in harm's way of a wildfire.

The analysis area of 25,741 acres of National Forest System lands is located thirty miles east of Cedar City, Utah. The analysis area includes six tracts of private lands which are surrounded by National Forest lands. The tracts are subdivided into residential lots and contain an estimated 1,900 homes and 10 businesses. The specific subdivisions are as follows:

Subdivision	Legal location (approximate) Salt Lake base meridian
1. Meadow View Heights .....	T38S R7W Sec 6
2. Mirror Lake .....	T38S R7W Sec 5, 8
3. Movie Ranch .....	T38S R7W Sec 7
4. Movie Ranch South .....	T38S R7W Sec 7
5. Color Country .....	T38S R7W Sec 8, 17
6. Timber Trails .....	T38S R7W Sec 7, 17, 18
7. Ponderosa Villa .....	T38S R7W Sec 16
8. Strawberry Valley .....	T38S R7W Sec 20, 21
9. Swains Creek .....	T38S R7W Sec 26, 2
10. Blackman Hill .....	T38S R7W Sec 26, 27
11. Harris Springs .....	T38S R7W Sec 26
12. Swains Creek Pines .....	T38S R7W Sec 33, 34
13. Ponderosa Ranch .....	T38S R7W Sec 24; T38S R6W Sec 19
14. Zion View Mtn Estates .....	T38S R8W Sec 2
15. Duck Creek Pines .....	T38S R7W Sec 7

The private lands were designated an "urban interface community at risk from wildfires on National Forest lands" by the Chief of the Forest Service (**Federal Register**, August 17, 2001 / Notices). This designation meant that Federal funds from the National Fire Plan could be spent to reduce fuels on National Forest lands adjacent to the private lands.

Historic prevention and suppression of wildfire has resulted in ever-increasing accumulations of forest fuels. These buildups of forest fuels increase the risk of high intensity fires to the National Forest and to large private subdivisions within the forest boundary. The extensive development and high recreation use have also increased the threat of human-caused fires. A high intensity fire occurring within this area

would cause significant damage to property and natural resources. Reducing the risk of wildfires in these areas would provide the best opportunity to protect National Forest lands and adjacent private properties.

**Purpose and Need for Action**

The purpose of this project is to modify existing, high fuel loads that influence fire behavior on National