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Part III

Department of Agriculture

Semiannual Regulatory Agenda

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

7 CFR Subtitle A, Chs. I-VII, IX-XII, XIV-XVIII, XXI, XXIV-XXIX

9 CFR Chs. I-IV

36 CFR Ch. II

41 CFR Ch. 4

Semiannual Regulatory Agenda, October 1996

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, USDA.

ACTION: Semiannual regulatory agenda.

SUMMARY: This agenda provides summary descriptions of significant and not-significant regulations being developed in agencies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in

conformance with Executive Order 12866 "Regulatory Planning and Review." The agenda also describes regulations affecting small entities as required by section 602 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, Public Law 96-354.

USDA has attempted to list all regulations and regulatory reviews pending at the time of publication except for minor and routine or repetitive actions, but some may have been inadvertently missed. There is no legal significance to the omission of an item from this listing. Also, the dates shown for the steps of each action are estimated and are not commitments to act on or by the date shown.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information on any specific entry shown in this agenda, please contact the person listed for that action.

Requests for copies of the agenda should include a self-addressed, stamped envelope and be directed to: Regulatory Agenda, OBPA, Office of the Secretary, Room 118-E, Jamie Whitten Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250, (202) 720-1272.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For this edition of USDA's regulatory agenda, the most important significant regulatory actions are included in The Regulatory Plan, which appears in Part II of this issue of the Federal Register. The Regulatory Plan entries are listed in the Table of Contents below and are denoted by a bracketed bold reference, which directs the reader to the appropriate Sequence Number in Part II.

Dated: September 27, 1996.
Marvin J. Shapiro,
Chief, Legislative, Regulatory, and Automated Systems Division.

Agricultural Marketing Service—Prerule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
173	Dairy Grading and Inspection, Fee Increase	0581-AB43
174	Popcorn Promotion, Research and Consumer Information Order	0581-AB45
175	Kiwifruit Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Order	0581-AB46

Agricultural Marketing Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
176	National Organic Program	0581-AA40
177	Federal Meat Grading and Certification Services—1997 User Fees	0581-AB44

Agricultural Marketing Service—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
178	Revision of Regulations Governing the Inspection and Grading Services of Manufactured or Processed Dairy Products	0581-AA45
179	Revision of Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act	0581-AB41
180	National Laboratory Accreditation Program	0581-AB42

Agricultural Marketing Service—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
181	Regulations Under the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act	0581-AB28

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Farm Service Agency—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
182	National Average Loan Rates for 1996-Crop Quota and Additional Peanuts and Minimum Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Export- Edible Sales Price for Additional Peanuts	0560-AE43
183	Implementation of Five-Year Direct Line of Credit Program	0560-AE58
184	Revision of Regulations Pertaining to Indian Tribes and Tribal Corporations	0560-AE91
185	Amendments to the Tobacco Marketing Quota Regulations	0560-AE96
186	Boll Weevil Eradication Loan Program	0560-AE99

Farm Service Agency—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
187	Farmer Programs Guaranteed Interest Assistance Program	0560-AE01
188	Insured and Guaranteed Operating and Farm Ownership Loan and Related Instructions To Implement Sections 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 19 of the Agricultural Credit Improvement Act of 1992	0560-AE09
189	Implement Sections 11 and 13 of the Agriculture Credit Improvement Act 1993 (Application Processing Time-frame)	0560-AE14
190	Permit CFSA To Sell or Assign Farm Loan Mortgages and Notes	0560-AE35
191	1996-Crop Peanuts National Poundage Quota	0560-AE45
192	1996-Crop Marketing Quotas and Price Support Levels for Six Kinds of Tobacco	0560-AE46
193	Collection of Shared Appreciation Agreements	0560-AE61
194	Post-Bankruptcy Loan Servicing Notification	0560-AE62
195	Consolidate FSA Farm Credit Programs Regulations—Miscellaneous Program Requirements	0560-AE64
196	Consolidate FSA Farm Credit Programs Direct Loan Servicing Regulations—Management and Disposal of Acquired Property	0560-AE65
197	Consolidate FSA Farm Credit Program Direct Loan Servicing Regulations—Delinquent Account Restructuring and Liquidation	0560-AE66
198	Consolidate FSA Farm Credit Programs Direct Loan Servicing Regulations—Management Advice, Tax Servicing, Collection and Security Servicing	0560-AE67
199	Eliminate Internal Agency Provisions From FSA Farm Credit Programs Regulations—Miscellaneous Program Requirements	0560-AE68
200	Eliminate Internal Administrative Provisions From FSA Farm Credit Program Direct Loan Regulations—Delinquent Account Servicing and Liquidation	0560-AE70
201	Consolidation of FSA Farm Credit Programs Direct Loanmaking Regulations	0560-AE74
202	Elimination of Administrative Provisions From FSA Farm Credit Programs Guaranteed Loanmaking Regulations	0560-AE75
203	Consolidation of FSA Farm Credit Programs Guaranteed Loanmaking Regulations	0560-AE76
204	Elimination of Administrative Provisions From FSA Regulations Pertaining to Farm Credit Programs Loan Rates, Funding, and Loan Authorities	0560-AE77
205	Consolidation of FSA Farm Credit Programs Regulations Pertaining to Loan Rates, Funding, and Loan Authorities	0560-AE78
206	Elimination of Administrative Provisions From FSA Farm Credit Programs Environmental Regulations	0560-AE79
207	Consolidation of Farm Service Agency Environmental Programs Regulations	0560-AE80
208	Amendment to the Peanut Poundage Quota Regulations	0560-AE82
209	Amendments to the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Regulations To Implement Provisions of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996	0560-AE84
210	Revision to the Direct Loanmaking Regulations	0560-AE87
211	Revision of the Inventory Property Management Regulations	0560-AE88
212	Revisions to the Delinquent Account Servicing Regulations	0560-AE89
213	Direct Line of Credit Program	0560-AE90
214	Subordination of Direct Loan Basic Security to Secure a Guaranteed Loan	0560-AE92
215	Conservation Reserve Program—Long-Term Policy	0560-AE95
216	Dairy Indemnity Payment Program—FY 1997	0560-AE97
217	Disaster Set-Aside Program	0560-AE98

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Farm Service Agency—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
218	Amendments to CCC Debt Settlement Regulations Regarding Waiver of Restriction on Program Eligibility and Collection of Judgments by Administrative Offset	0560-AD09
219	Conservation Environmental Programs Regulations Regarding Water Quality Incentives Project, Cost Share Provisions of the Emergency Conservation Program, and Other Revisions	0560-AD16
220	Program Ineligibility for Noncompliance With Boll Weevil Eradication Program	0560-AD57
221	Sugar and Crystalline Fructose Information and Recordkeeping Requirements	0560-AD88
222	Amendment to the Warehouse Regulations Regarding Auction Tobacco Warehouses	0560-AD92
223	Amendment to the Tobacco Loan Program Regulations—Budget Deficit Marketing Assessments	0560-AD93
224	Farmer Program Account Servicing Policies for Section 1816 and Other Related Sections for the “1990 FACT Act”	0560-AE02
225	Implement Section 1818 (Borrower Training) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (FACT Act)	0560-AE04
226	Guaranteed Loan Programs; Monitoring Liquid Accounts	0560-AE05
227	Implementation of Certified Lender Program	0560-AE07
228	Loans to Indian Tribes and Tribal Corporations	0560-AE10
229	Section 14 of the Agricultural Credit Improvement Act of 1992, (Graduation) and Sections 1819 (Loan Assessment) and 1821 (Market Placement) of the Fact Act	0560-AE11
230	The Agricultural Credit Improvement Act of 1992	0560-AE13
231	Acquisition and Management of Real and Chattel Property	0560-AE15
232	Small Farmer Outreach Training and Technical Assistance Program	0560-AE17
233	Decision to Liquidate	0560-AE19
234	Disaster Assistance	0560-AE22
235	Revisions to the Direct Farm Ownership Loan Regulation (1943-A) Outreach Program for Members of Socially Disadvantaged Groups	0560-AE23
236	Socially Disadvantaged Outreach Program	0560-AE24
237	Part 1946 Mediation; Subpart A Agricultural Loan Mediation Program	0560-AE26
238	Amendment to Conservation Program Appeal Regulations Regarding Jurisdiction	0560-AE30
239	Selection and Functions of Farm Service Agency State and County Committees	0560-AE33
240	Implementation Procedures for Highly Erodible Land and Wetlands Conservation Provisions of the Food Security Act	0560-AE38
241	Amendments to the Farmer Account Servicing Policies	0560-AE42
242	Amendments to the Standards for Approval of Warehouse for Commodity Credit Corporation Storage Contracts	0560-AE50
243	Deletion of FSA Regulations Regarding Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program	0560-AE54
244	Amendment to the Conservation Reserve Program Regarding Early Contract Terminations	0560-AE56
245	Amendments to the Regulations for Cotton Warehouses Under the United States Warehouse Act—Electronic Block Warehouse Receipts, Insurance Requirements and Other Provisions	0560-AE60
246	Eliminate Internal Administrative Provisions From FSA Farm Credit Program Regulations—Management and Disposal of Acquired Property	0560-AE69
247	Eliminate Internal Administrative Provisions From FSA Farm Credit Programs Direct Loan Servicing Regulations ...	0560-AE71
248	Elimination of Administrative Provisions From FSA Farm Credit Program Direct Loanmaking Regulations	0560-AE73
249	Amendments to the Noninsured Crop Protection Program	0560-AE85
250	Suspension of the Emergency Livestock Assistance Regulations for Crop Years 1996 to 2002	0560-AE86
251	Handling Payments from the Farm Service Agency to Delinquent Farm Credit Program Borrowers	0560-AE93
252	Sugar Loan Program Crop Year Definition	0560-AE94

Farm Service Agency—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
253	Excessive Manufacturing (Make) Allowances in State Marketing Orders for Milk	0560-AC23
254	Amendment to the Highly Erodible Land and Wetlands Conservation Program Regulations—Person Determinations	0560-AC86
255	Amendments to the Wetlands Regulations Regarding Abandoned Acreage and Drainage by Drainage Districts	0560-AC92
256	Amendment to the Acreage Conservation Reserve and the Conserving Use Acreage Regulations for Producers Affected by Excessive Rainfall and Flooding	0560-AD50
257	Regulations for Conservation Compliance Crop Acreage Base (CAB) Adjustments	0560-AD80
258	Amendment to the Emergency Livestock Assistance Regulations Regarding Feed Allowance and Approval of Counties for Assistance	0560-AD84

USDA**Farm Service Agency—Completed Actions (Continued)**

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
259	Farm Facility Loan Program Regulations	0560-AD85
260	Common Provisions for 1995 Wheat, Feed Grain, Cotton, and Rice Programs	0560-AD86
261	Amendments to the Payment Limitation Regulations for 1995	0560-AD89
262	Measure-All Pilot Project	0560-AD98
263	Federal Crop Insurance Reform and Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994	0560-AE25
264	Extension of Maturing 1994 and Subsequent Crop Year Wheat and Feed Grain Price Support Loans	0560-AE28
265	Technical Corrections to Wheat, Feed Grain, Cotton, and Rice Program Regulations	0560-AE29
266	End-Use Certificate Program—Providing Notification of Origin to Buyers	0560-AE37
267	1996 Upland Cotton Program	0560-AE40
268	Amendment to the Tobacco Regulations Regarding Nested Tobacco	0560-AE41
269	1996-Crop Marketing Quota and Price Support Level for Burley Tobacco	0560-AE47
270	1996-Crop Marketing Quotas and Price Support Level for Flue-Cured Tobacco	0560-AE48
271	Upland Cotton User Marketing Certificate Program	0560-AE51
272	Terms for the Collection of 1995 Advance Deficiency Overpayments	0560-AE53
273	1996 Rice Price Support Program	0560-AE55
274	Dairy Indemnity Payment Program	0560-AE57
275	1996 Specifications for Cotton Bale Packaging Materials	0560-AE59
276	Deletion of Duplicate Rice and Cotton Regulations	0560-AE63
277	Deletion of Obsolete Farm Service Agency Regulations Pertaining to the Former Farmers Home Administration's Programs	0560-AE72
278	Implementation of the Farm Program Provisions of the 1996 Farm Bill	0560-AE81
279	Deletion of Wetlands Reserve Program Regulations	0560-AE83

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Prerule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
280	Importation and Release Into the Environment of Nonindigenous Organisms	0579-AA80

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
281	Imported Seed and Screenings	0579-AA64
282	Definition of "Biological Products" and "Guidelines"	0579-AA65
283	User Fees, Veterinary Diagnostics	0579-AA70
284	Phytosanitary Export Certification; Accreditation of Seed-Testing Laboratories	0579-AA75
285	Animal Welfare—Standards for Animal Auctions	0579-AA76
286	Humane Treatment of Dogs and Cats; Licensing and Consignment Requirements	0579-AA79
287	User Fees—Agricultural Quarantine and Inspection Services	0579-AA81
288	Importation of Logs, Lumber, and Other Unmanufactured Wood Articles	0579-AA82

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
289	Addition of Cervidae to the Regulations Concerning Tuberculosis in Livestock	0579-AA53
290	Animal Welfare—Standards for Marine Mammals	0579-AA59
291	In Vitro Tests for Serial Release	0579-AA66
292	Importation of Animals and Animal Products	0579-AA71
293	Genetically Engineered Organisms; Simplification of Requirements and Procedures	0579-AA73
294	Humane Treatment of Dogs and Cats; Tethering and Temperature Requirements	0579-AA74

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Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Final Rule Stage (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
295	Humane Treatment of Dogs and Cats; Wire Flooring	0579-AA78

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
296	Importation of Fruits and Vegetables	0579-AA58
297	Importation of Certain Embryos and Animal Semen	0579-AA63
298	HSTAIC Repair and Maintenance Fees	0579-AA69

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
299	Exotic Newcastle Disease in All Birds and Poultry; Psittacosis and Ornithosis in Poultry	0579-AA22
300	Chicken Disease Caused by Salmonella Enteritidis	0579-AA48
301	Import/Export User Fees	0579-AA67
302	User Fees—Commercial Aircraft and Vessels; Phytosanitary Certificates	0579-AA68

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
303	Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program; Administrative Provisions	0524-AA09
304	Agricultural Telecommunications Program Administrative Provisions	0524-AA12
305	The National Aquaculture Plan	0524-AA16

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
306	Higher Education Challenge Grants Program; Administrative Provisions	0524-AA02
307	1890 Institution Capacity Building Grants Program; Administrative Provisions	0524-AA03

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
308	Small Business Innovation Research Program Administrative Provisions	0524-AA08
309	Administrative Manual for Federal Excess Personal Property Loaned to State Cooperative Research Activities	0524-AA13
310	Personal Property	0524-AA14
311	Rangeland Research Grants Program; Administrative Provisions	0524-AA15

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Rural Housing and Community Development Service—Prerule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
312	Farm Labor Housing	0575-AC03

Rural Housing and Community Development Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
313	Community Programs Guaranteed Loans	0575-AB48
314	Security Servicing for Multiple-Family Housing Loans	0575-AB73
315	FmHA Instruction 1942-A, "Community Facility Loans"	0575-AC05
316	National Flood Insurance Regulations	0575-AC07
317	Accessibility of Existing Multi-Family Housing Complexes	0575-AC08
318	Management and Supervision of Multiple Family Housing Borrowers and Grant Recipients	0575-AC09
319	Community Facility Grants	0575-AC10

Rural Housing and Community Development Service—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
320	Denying Credit to Applicants Delinquent on Any Federal Debt	0575-AA66
321	Housing Preservation Grants for Replacement of Housing	0575-AB43
322	Environmental Program	0575-AB64
323	Community Facility Loans: Internal Revenue Service Taxpayers Identification Number	0575-AB77
324	Rural Rental and Rural Cooperative Housing Loan Policies, Procedures, and Authorizations—Point Score System To Prioritize Rural Rental Housing Loans	0575-AB93
325	Reengineering and Reinvention of the Direct Section 502 and 504 Single Family Housing Program	0575-AB99
326	Servicing Cases Where Unauthorized Loan or Other Financial Assistance Was Received—Multiple Family Housing	0575-AC02

Rural Housing and Community Development Service—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
327	Civil Rights Compliance Requirements—1901-E to 1940-D	0575-AA83
328	Offsets of Federal Payments to Agency Borrowers	0575-AB55
329	Planning and Performing Construction and Other Development and Related Construction Seismic Safety	0575-AB59
330	Section 515 Nonprofit Set-Aside Funds	0575-AB60
331	Environmental Program Streamline Environmental Process	0575-AB98
332	Provide Information Regarding Lease Write-Off and Annual Lease Statements	0575-AC01

Rural Housing and Community Development Service—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
333	Recapture of Section 502, Rural Housing Subsidy	0575-AA29
334	Section 502 Rural Housing Loan Policies, Procedures, and Authorizations (Deferred Mortgage Program)	0575-AA87
335	Housing for Rural Homeless and Migrant Farmworkers; Policies, Procedures, and Authorizations	0575-AB14
336	Disposition of Interests in Indian Trust Land	0575-AB17
337	Debt Settlement	0575-AB80
338	Require All Single-Family Housing Borrowers and Nonprogram Borrowers Who Have Purchased Single-Family Residence To Pay One-Time Tax Service Fee	0575-AC00

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Rural Housing and Community Development Service—Completed Actions (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
339	Davis-Bacon and Related Acts	0575-AC06

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
340	Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Peanut Crop Insurance Provisions	0563-AA85
341	Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Onion Crop Insurance Provisions	0563-AA87
342	Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Northern Potato Crop Insurance Provisions	0563-AA89
343	Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Sugarbeet Crop Insurance Provisions	0563-AA93
344	Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Canning and Processing Tomato Crop Insurance Provisions	0563-AA94
345	Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Fresh Market Tomato (Guaranteed Production) Crop Insurance Provisions	0563-AA95
346	Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Dry Bean Crop Insurance Provisions	0563-AB02

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
347	Group Risk Plan Crop Insurance Provisions; Part 407	0563-AB06
348	General Administrative Regulations; Subpart N; Disaster Assistance Act of 1988	0563-AB20

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
349	Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Tobacco (Guaranteed Plan) Crop Insurance Provisions	0563-AA84
350	General Administrative Regulations; High Risk Land Regulations	0563-AA98
351	General Administrative Regulations; Subpart D; Application for Crop Insurance	0563-AB00
352	General Administrative Regulations; Subpart U; Ineligible File - Crop Insurance Ineligibility	0563-AB01
353	Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Rice, Fig, Almond, Raisin, Forage Production, Hybrid Sorghum Seed, Pear, Apple, Canning and Processing Sweet Corn, Dollar Plan Fresh Market Tomato,	0563-AB03
354	General Administrative Regulations; Nonstandard Classification System; Subpart O	0563-AB05
355	General Administrative Regulations; Subpart S; Regulations for Insurance Coverage by Written Agreement	0563-AB07
356	General Administrative Regulations; Subpart V; Supplemental and Alternative Crop Insurance Policy Approval Process	0563-AB15
357	General Administrative Regulations; Subpart J; Appeal Procedure Regulations	0563-AB17
358	General Administrative Regulations; Federal Jurisdiction and Statute of Limitation for Suits Based Upon Denial of Claims for Indemnity	0563-AB21
359	General Administrative Regulations; Actual Production History Coverage Program; Transitional Yields for Producers of Feed or Forage	0563-AB23
360	General Administrative Regulations: Subpart Q: Collection and Storage of Social Security Account Numbers and Employer Identification Numbers	0563-AB26
361	1996 Crop Year Plantain and Banana Insurance Program and Banana Crop Intensive Cultivation Insurance Program for Puerto Rico	0563-AB30
362	1996 Crop Year Coffee Crop Insurance Program for Puerto Rico	0563-AB33
363	1996 Crop Year Coffee Plantation Insurance Program for Puerto Rico	0563-AB34
364	1996 Crop Year Fruit Crop (Avocado, Oranges, Mango, Citron, Lemon, Papaya, Passion) Insurance Program for Puerto Rico	0563-AB35
365	1996 Crop Year Fruit Trees (Avocado, Oranges, Mango, Citron, Lemon) Insurance Program for Puerto Rico	0563-AB36
366	1996 Crop Year Sugarcane Insurance Program for Puerto Rico	0563-AB40
367	1996 Crop Year Vegetable Insurance Program for Puerto Rico	0563-AB41
368	Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Sunflower Seed Crop Insurance Provisions	0563-AB42
369	General Administrative Regulations; Reinsurance Agreement Standards for Approval	0563-AB44

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Federal Crop Insurance Corporation—Long-Term Actions (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
370	Tobacco, Quota Plan Crop Insurance Regulations	0563-AB47
371	Popcorn Corn Insurance Regulations	0563-AB48
372	Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Texas Citrus Tree Crop Insurance Provisions	0563-AB50
373	Common Crop Insurance Regulations: Florida Citrus Fruit Crop Insurance Provisions	0563-AB51
374	Common Crop Insurance Regulations—ELS Cotton Crop Insurance Provisions—Unit Divisions and Cancellation and Termination Dates	0563-AB52
375	Common Crop Insurance Regulations—Cotton	0563-AB53
376	Common Crop Insurance Regulations—Sugar Beet	0563-AB55
377	Catastrophic Risk Protection Program	0563-AB57
378	Catastrophic Risk Protection Endorsement	0563-AB58
379	Federal Crop Insurance on Highly Erodible Land and Wetlands—Part 400	0563-AB59
380	Federal Crop Insurance on Highly Erodible Land and Wetlands—Part 401	0563-AB60

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
381	Catastrophic Risk Protection Endorsement; Part 402	0563-AB09
382	General Administrative Regulations: Subpart T; Federal Crop Insurance Reform Act of 1994; Regulations for Implementation	0563-AB11
383	Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, Part 404	0563-AB13
384	Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Small Grains (Including Malting Barley), Cotton, ELS Cotton, and Coarse Grains Crop Insurance Provisions	0563-AB24
385	Common Crop Insurance Regulations—Texas Citrus Fruit	0563-AB56

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
386	Weighing Regulations Review	0580-AA49

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
387	Fees for Commodity Inspection	0580-AA48
388	Clear Title - Protection for Purchasers of Farm Products	0580-AA50

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
389	Fees for Official Inspection and Weighing Service	0580-AA40
390	Regulations and Statements of General Policy Under the Packers and Stockyards Act (Group 2)	0580-AA44
391	Regulations and Statements of General Policy Under the Packers and Stockyards Act (Group 3)	0580-AA45
392	Statement of General Policy Under the Packers and Stockyards Act: Care and Handling of Livestock	0580-AA46
393	Fees for Rice Inspection	0580-AA47

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Food and Consumer Service—Prerule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
394	Notice of New Privacy Act System of Records—Food Stamp Retailer Information	0584-AC19

Food and Consumer Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
395	Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC): Food Delivery Systems (Reg Plan Seq. No. 1)	0584-AA80
396	Food Stamp Program: Emergency Assistance for Victims of Disasters	0584-AA85
397	Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): Miscellaneous Provisions	0584-AB10
398	Food Distribution Programs—Paperwork Reduction	0584-AB27
399	Food Distribution Programs—Implementation of 1990 Farm Bill	0584-AB28
400	Commodity Supplemental Food Program: Elderly-Only Sites, Administrative Funding, Referrals to Health and Social Services, Caseload Allocation Process, Priority System, and Miscellaneous	0584-AB37
401	Food Stamp Program: 1995 Quality Control Technical Amendments	0584-AB38
402	Provisions of Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988, Amendments of 1990, and Implementation of the Disqualified Recipient Subsystem	0584-AB51
403	Food Stamp Program: Anticipating Income and Reporting Changes	0584-AB57
404	Child and Adult Care Food Program: Elimination of Whole Cow's Milk From the Infant Meal Pattern	0584-AB81
405	Food Stamp Program: Food Stamp Recipient Claim Establishment and Collection Standards (Reg Plan Seq. No. 2)	0584-AB88
406	Food Stamp Program: Revisions in Retail Food Store Eligibility Criteria and in Eligibility Guidance and Program Authorization (Reg Plan Seq. No. 3)	0584-AB90
407	Food Stamp Program: Retailer Application Processing	0584-AC05
408	Summer Food Service Program: Program Meal Service During the School Year	0584-AC06
409	Amendment To Remove Formulated Grain—Fruit Product Section	0584-AC09
410	Consolidation of National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program Into Comprehensive School Meal Program	0584-AC10
411	FSP: Retailer Delinquent Debt Collection: Offsetting Federal Income Tax Refund	0584-AC11
412	Modification of the "Vegetable Protein Products" Portion of Appendix A of 7 CFR Parts 210, 225, and 226	0584-AC18
413	Release of Free and Reduced Price School Meal Eligibility Information	0584-AC21
414	Food Stamp Program: Regulatory Review/Program Management	0584-AC22
415	Child and Adult Care Food Program Initiative	0584-AC24
416	Determining Eligibility for Free & Reduced Price Meals and Free Milk in Schools: Provision 2 and Provision 3	0584-AC25
417	FSP: Electronic Benefits Transfer Card Specifications	0584-AC27
418	Food Stamp Program Regulatory Review: Certification of Eligible Households	0584-AC28
419	WIC: Minor WIC Food Package Adjustments and Corrections	0584-AC29
420	WIC: Bloodwork Requirements	0584-AC30
421	Part 240, Cash In Lieu of Donated Foods and Part 250, Food Distribution Regulations	0584-AC31
422	Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC): Accommodation of Cultural Food Preferences in the WIC Program	0584-AC32
423	Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): Infant Formula Cost Containment Requirements	0584-AC33
424	Nutrition Education and Training Program Requirements	0584-AC34
425	Revision of the Regulations Governing the Determination of Eligibility for Free and Reduced Price Meals and Free Milk in Schools	0584-AC36
426	Food Stamp Program Regulatory Review: FSP Standards for Approval and Operation of Food Stamp Electronic Benefit Transfer Systems	0584-AC37
427	National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program: Additional Menu Planning Alternatives	0584-AC38
428	FSP: Personal Responsibility Provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (Reg Plan Seq. No. 4)	0584-AC39
429	FSP: State Flexibility and Certification Provisions of Public Law 104-193 (Reg Plan Seq. No. 5)	0584-AC40
430	Food Stamp Program: Simplified Food Stamp Program Provisions of the Personal Responsibility & Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996	0584-AC43
431	Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) Provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996	0584-AC44

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Food and Consumer Service—Proposed Rule Stage (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
432	Food Stamp Program: Work Provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (Reg Plan Seq. No. 6)	0584-AC45
433	Food Stamp Program: Retailer Integrity, Fraud Reduction and Penalties	0584-AC46

References in boldface appear in the Regulatory Plan in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

Food and Consumer Service—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
434	Child and Adult Care Food Program: Authority To Collect Overclaims	0584-AB19
435	Permanent Agreements/Direct Certification in National School Lunch, School Breakfast, and Special Milk Programs	0584-AB35
436	Food Distribution Programs—Disaster Provisions	0584-AB55
437	Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations—Oklahoma Waiver Authority	0584-AB56
438	Food Stamp Program: Payment of Certain Administrative Costs of State Agencies	0584-AB66
439	Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations: Definition of Indian Tribal Household	0584-AB67
440	Food Stamp Program: Quality Control Provisions of the Mickey Leland Childhood Hunger Relief Act	0584-AB75
441	Food Stamp Program: Revisions in Use and Disclosure of Information Provided by Retail Food Stores and Wholesale Food Concerns	0584-AB87
442	School Nutrition Programs: Technical and Nondiscretionary Amendments	0584-AC01
443	Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): Implementation of WIC Mandates of the Healthy Meals for Healthy Americans Act of 1994	0584-AC02
444	Child and Adult Care Food Program: Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 1989 and Other Amendments	0584-AC07
445	Food Stamp Program Regulatory Review: Alaska, Puerto Rico, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Demonstration Projects	0584-AC14
446	Crediting of Yogurt in the School Meals Programs	0584-AC15
447	Child and Adult Care Food Program: Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act Amendments and Healthy Meals for Healthy Americans Act of 1994	0584-AC20
448	SFSP Implementation of Healthy Meals for Healthy Americans Act of 1994	0584-AC23
449	FSP: Nondiscretionary Provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (Reg Plan Seq. No. 7)	0584-AC41
450	Improved Targeting of Day Care Home Reimbursements in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (Reg Plan Seq. No. 8)	0584-AC42
451	Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): Disqualification of WIC Vendors Who Are Disqualified From the Food Stamp Program	0584-AC50
452	Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): Implementation of WIC-Related Provisions of Pub. L. 104-193, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity	0584-AC51
453	Implementation of Legislative Changes in the Child and Adult Care Food Program	0584-AC52

References in boldface appear in the Regulatory Plan in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

Food and Consumer Service—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
454	Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): Food Cost Containment Requirements	0584-AB11
455	Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): Infant Formula Procurement Act of 1992	0584-AB52
456	Food Stamp Program: Utility Reimbursement Exclusion	0584-AB79
457	NSLP/SBP/SMP/FDP/CACFP/SFSP/WIC: Nonprocurement Debarment	0584-AC26
458	Food Distribution Program: Regulatory Implementation of Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, (P.L. 104-193, 110 Stat. 210)	0584-AC49

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Food and Consumer Service—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
459	Miscellaneous Farm Bill Provisions Relating to the Authorization of Retail Firms and Wholesale Food Concerns ...	0584-AB02
460	Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC): Part 246.10, Food Package III, Participants With Certain Medical Conditions	0584-AB09
461	Determination of Eligibility for Free Meals by Summer Food Service Program Sponsors and Free and Reduced Price Meals by Child and Adult Care Food Program Institutions	0584-AB17
462	National School Lunch Program: Review of Free and Reduced Price Application Under the Coordinated Review Effort	0584-AB50
463	Food Stamp Program: Child Support Deduction	0584-AB58
464	Food Stamp Program: Excess Shelter Expense Limit and Standard Utility Allowances	0584-AB59
465	Food Stamp Program: Simplification of Program Rules	0584-AB60
466	FSP: Targeting for Income and Eligibility Verification	0584-AB74
467	Food Stamp Program: Certification Provisions of the Mickey Leland Childhood Hunger Relief Act	0584-AB76
468	National School Lunch, Special Milk, School Breakfast, Child and Adult Care Food and Summer Food Service Programs: Purchase of Food Products Produced in the U.S	0584-AB82
469	Treatment of Educational and Training Assistance	0584-AB84
470	Food Stamp Program Automated Data Processing Equipment and Services; Reduction in Reporting Requirements	0584-AB92
471	Monthly Reporting on Indian Reservations Provision of Food Stamp Program Improvements Act of 1994	0584-AB98
472	Removal of the "Cheese Alternate Products" Requirements From the National School Lunch Program	0584-AC04
473	Failure To Comply With Federal, State, or Local Work Program Requirements	0584-AC08
474	Availability of Information and Records to the Public	0584-AC13

Food Safety and Inspection Service—Prerule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
475	Meat and Poultry Standards of Identity and Composition	0583-AC01
476	Transportation and Storage Requirements for Potentially Hazardous Foods	0583-AC05

Food Safety and Inspection Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
477	Food Standards: Requirements for Processed Meat and Poultry Products Named by Use of an Expressed Nutrient Content Claim and a Standardized Term	0583-AB51
478	Use of Trisodium Phosphate (TSP) on Raw, Unchilled Poultry Carcasses	0583-AB80
479	Nutrition Labeling; New Product Categories and Reference Amounts	0583-AB81
480	Continuous Chilling of Split Turkey Portions	0583-AB95
481	Glycerine Used as a Humectant in Shelf Stable Meat Snacks	0583-AC00
482	Use of Sorbitol in Cooked Roast Beef Products	0583-AC02
483	Elimination of Prior Approval Requirements for Egg and Egg Products Establishment Drawings and Specifications	0583-AC06
484	Grant and Inauguration of Inspection	0583-AC07
485	Beef or Pork With Barbecue Sauce; Revision of Standards	0583-AC09
486	Use of Corn Syrup, Corn Syrup Solids as Flavoring Agents in Sausage Products	0583-AC10
487	Use of Sodium Diacetate and Sodium Acetate as Flavoring Agents in Meat and Poultry Products	0583-AC11
488	Procedural Due Process for Official Establishments	0583-AC12
489	Use of Liquid Nitrogen for Contact Freezing Meat and Meat Products	0583-AC14
490	Nutrition Labeling; Reference Daily Intakes	0583-AC15
491	Use of Two Kinds of Poultry Without Label Change	0583-AC17
492	Performance Standards for the Production of Certain Meat and Poultry Products With Established Standards of Identity	0583-AC18
493	Performance Standards for the Thermal Processing of Meat and Poultry Products	0583-AC19
494	Performance Standards for the Irradiation of Poultry to Control Foodborne Pathogens	0583-AC20
495	Performance Standards for the Handling, Chilling, and Freezing of Poultry	0583-AC21
496	Prevention of Physical or Chemical Contamination of Meat and Poultry Products or Product Ingredients	0583-AC22

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Food Safety and Inspection Service—Proposed Rule Stage (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
497	Labeling of Egg Products	0583-AC23

Food Safety and Inspection Service—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
498	Requirements for Foreign Country Import Certification and Live Animal Importation	0583-AA47
499	Substances Approved for Use in the Preparation of Meat Food and Poultry Products	0583-AB02
500	Nutrition Labeling: Health Claims on Meat and Poultry Products	0583-AB64
501	Elimination of Prior Approval Requirements for Establishment Drawings and Specifications, Facilities Equipment, and Certain Partial Quality Control Programs (Reg Plan Seq. No. 9)	0583-AB93
502	Performance Standards for Certain Meat Products and Poultry Products (Reg Plan Seq. No. 10)	0583-AB94
503	Net Weight Statement for Shingle-Packed Bacon	0583-AC08
504	Fee Increase for Inspection Services	0583-AC13
505	Use of a Blend of Carageenan, Locust Bean Gum, and Xanthan Gum as a Binder Matrix in Water-Added Hams ...	0583-AC16

References in boldface appear in the Regulatory Plan in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

Food Safety and Inspection Service—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
506	Nutrition Labeling of Ground Beef and Hamburger	0583-AB74
507	Use of Soy Protein Concentrate and Food Starch—Modified as Binders in Cured Pork Products	0583-AB82
508	FSIS Agenda for Change: Regulatory Review; Food Standards	0583-AB89
509	Refrigeration and Labeling Requirements for Shell Eggs	0583-AC04

Food Safety and Inspection Service—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
510	Use of Trisodium Phosphate on Raw, Chilled Poultry Carcasses	0583-AB65
511	Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems	0583-AB69
512	Sodium Citrate Buffered with Citric Acid Used as an Antimicrobial Agent in Cured and Noncured Meat and Poultry Products	0583-AB97
513	Labeling of Sausages Made With Natural Casings	0583-AB98

Foreign Agricultural Service—Prerule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
514	Export Sales Reporting Requirement	0551-AA51

Foreign Agricultural Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
515	Dairy Tariff Rate Import Quota Licensing	0551-AA27
516	Sugar Import Licensing	0551-AA39

USDA

Foreign Agricultural Service—Proposed Rule Stage (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
517	Regulation Governing the Financing of Commercial Sales of Agricultural Commodities (PL 480, Title I)	0551-AA42

Foreign Agricultural Service—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
518	Regulations Governing Implementation of the Market Access Program (MAP) Overseas	0551-AA24
519	CCC Export Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-102) and CCC Intermediate Export Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-103)	0551-AA30
520	Facility Guarantee Program	0551-AA35
521	Export Sales Reporting Requirements	0551-AA44
522	Export Bonus Programs CCC Export Credit Guarantee Programs	0551-AA50

Foreign Agricultural Service—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
523	Proposed Regulations Governing Implementation of the Cooperator Market Development Program Overseas	0551-AA26
524	Foreign Donation of Agricultural Commodities	0551-AA38
525	Reform of Export Bonus Program	0551-AA41

Foreign Agricultural Service—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
526	Program Criteria for the Sunflowerseed Oil Assistance Program (SOAP) and the Cottonseed Oil Assistance Program (COAP)	0551-AA31
527	Reporting Requirements Related to Tobacco Exports	0551-AA32
528	Sunflowerseed Oil Assistance Program Operations (SOAP) and Cottonseed Oil Assistance Program Operations (COAP)	0551-AA33
529	Regulations Governing the Financing of Commercial Sales of Agricultural Commodities (P.L. 480, Title I)	0551-AA43
530	Limitation on Imports of Meat	0551-AA45
531	Section 22 Import Fees	0551-AA46
532	Reentry of Cotton Into the United States	0551-AA48
533	Calculation of Market Stabilization Price	0551-AA49

Forest Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
534	National Forest Prohibitions	0596-AA75
535	Small Tracts Act Regulations	0596-AA79
536	Isolated Cabin Policy	0596-AA85
537	Timber Sale Performance and Payment Bond Form Revision	0596-AA94
538	Disposal of National Forest Timber; Cancellation of Timber Sale Contracts	0596-AB21
539	Species Surplus to Domestic Manufacturing Needs	0596-AB27
540	Retention of Downpayment on Timber Sale Contracts	0596-AB28
541	National Forest System Land and Resource Management Planning Forest Service Manual Chapter 1920	0596-AB31
542	Collection of Reimbursable Costs for Processing Special-Use Applications and Administration of Special-Use Authorizations	0596-AB36
543	Sale and Disposal of National Forest Timber; Indices To Determine Market-Related Contract Term Additions	0596-AB41

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Forest Service—Proposed Rule Stage (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
544	Appeal of Decisions Relating to Occupancy and Use of National Forest System Lands	0596-AB45
545	Sale and Disposal of National Forest System Timber; Extension of Timber Sale Contracts To Permit Urgent Removal of Other Timber	0596-AB48
546	Disposal of National Forest Timber: Timber Sale Contract Revisions	0596-AB52
547	National Environmental Policy Act; Revised Policy and Procedures	0596-AB54
548	36 CFR 223 Subpart C-Suspension and Debarment of Timber Purchasers	0596-AB55
549	Preference for Visitor Service; Alaska National Forest Conservation System Units	0596-AB57
550	Fee Schedule for Communication Facilities Authorized to Use and Occupy National Forest System Lands in Regions 8, 9, and 10	0596-AB60

Forest Service—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
551	Hydropower Applications	0596-AA47
552	Indian Allotments on National Forest System Lands	0596-AA52
553	National Forest System Land and Resource Management Planning (Reg Plan Seq. No. 11)	0596-AB20
554	State and Private Forestry Assistance Stewardship Incentive Program	0596-AB32
555	Special-Use Applications and Administration of Special-Use Authorizations	0596-AB35
556	Ski Area Permit Fee System	0596-AB49
557	Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska	0596-AB56
558	Disposal of National Forest System Timber; Modification of Timber Sale Contracts in Extraordinary Conditions	0596-AB58
559	Appeal of Decisions Relating to Occupancy and Use of National Forest System Lands; Mediation of Grazing Permit Disputes	0596-AB59

References in boldface appear in the Regulatory Plan in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

Forest Service—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
560	Law Enforcement Support Activities	0596-AB61

Forest Service—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
561	Management of Grazing Use Within Rangeland Ecosystems	0596-AA35
562	Solid Waste Disposal Policy	0596-AA92
563	Timber Sale Contracts; Appraisal Procedures for Determining Fair Market Value	0596-AB26
564	Use of Fixed Anchors for Rock Climbing in Wilderness	0596-AB33
565	Smith River National Recreation Area	0596-AB39

Office of Chief Financial Officer—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
566	Audits of State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments	0505-AA09

USDA

Office of the Secretary—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
567	Nondiscrimination in USDA Conducted Programs and Activities	0503-AA15

Office of the Secretary—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
568	Supplemental Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Department of Agriculture	0503-AA05

Office of the Secretary—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
569	Grants and Agreements With Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals and Other Non-Profit Organizations	0503-AA10

Rural Business-Cooperative Service—Prerule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
570	Rural Cooperative Development Grants	0570-AA20

Rural Business-Cooperative Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
571	Rural Business Opportunity Grants	0570-AA05
572	Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program	0570-AA19
573	National Sheep Industry Improvement Center	0570-AA21

Rural Business-Cooperative Service—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
574	Rural Business Enterprise Grants and Television Demonstration Grants	0570-AA08
575	Rural Business Loan Streamlining (Reg Plan Seq. No. 12)	0570-AA09
576	Intermediary Relending Program Rewrite	0570-AA15

References in boldface appear in the Regulatory Plan in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

Rural Business-Cooperative Service—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
577	Direct Business and Loan Program	0570-AA22
578	Rural Business and Industrial Loan Program	0570-AA23
579	Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan	0570-AA24

USDA**Rural Utilities Service—Proposed Rule Stage**

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
580	Electric System Planning and Design—Policies and Procedures	0572-AA48
581	Electric Standards and Specifications for Materials and Construction	0572-AA67
582	Post-Loan Policies and Procedures Common to Insured and Guaranteed Electric Loans	0572-AA71
583	Electric Systems Operations and Maintenance	0572-AA74
584	RUS Fidelity and Insurance Requirements for Electric and Telecommunications Borrowers	0572-AA86
585	Use of General Funds Investments, Loan Guarantees, and Retirement of Capital Credits by Electric Borrowers	0572-AB01
586	Streamlining the Rural Utilities Service's Water and Waste Program Regulations	0572-AB20
587	Establish Water and Waste Disposal Regulations Within the Rural Utilities Service	0572-AB21
588	Distance Learning and Telemedicine Pre-and Post-Loan Regulations (Loan Program)	0572-AB28
589	Rural Development Grants to States	0572-AB29

Rural Utilities Service—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
590	Loan Account Computations, Policies, and Procedures	0572-AA65
591	Long-Range Financial Forecasts of Electric Borrowers	0572-AA89
592	RUS Policies and Procedures for Mergers and Consolidations of Electric Borrowers	0572-AB24
593	Rural Electrification Act "Buy American" Provision	0572-AB25
594	Settlement of Debt Owed By Electric Borrowers	0572-AB26
595	RUS Privatization Demonstration Prepayment Program for the State of Alaska	0572-AB27

Rural Utilities Service—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
596	Loan Security Documents—Telecommunications Program	0572-AA30
597	Wholesale Contracts for the Purchase and Sale of Electric Power and Energy	0572-AA41
598	Margin Stabilization Plans and Revenue and Expense Deferrals	0572-AA50
599	Civil Rights Policies Applicable to RUS Borrowers	0572-AA75
600	Loan Documents—Bank Program	0572-AA76
601	Depreciation Rates and Procedures	0572-AA80
602	Preservation of Records Accounting Requirements for RUS Electric Borrowers	0572-AA92
603	RUS Approval of Sale of Capital Assets by Electric Borrowers	0572-AB02
604	Loan Deferments for Energy Resources Conservation - Electric Program	0572-AB03
605	Power Requirement Studies	0572-AB05
606	Community Facility Loans - Timber-Dependent Communities	0572-AB11
607	Liquidation of Loans and Acquisition, Management and Disposal of Security Property	0572-AB13
608	Solid Waste Management Grants	0572-AB14
609	Technical Assistance and Training Grants	0572-AB15
610	Water and Waste Loan and Grant Servicing	0572-AB23

Rural Utilities Service—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
611	Accounting Requirements for RUS Telecommunications Borrowers	0572-AB10
612	Use of Consultants Funded by Borrowers	0572-AB17
613	Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program	0572-AB22

USDA

National Resources Conservation Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
614	Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQUIP) Established in the Federal Agriculture Improvement of Reform Act of 1996	0578-AA19
615	Conservation Farm Option (CFO)	0578-AA20
616	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)	0578-AA21
617	7 CFR Part 610 Technical Assistance	0578-AA22
618	Conservation of Private Grazing Land (CPGL)	0578-AA23

National Resources Conservation Service—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
619	Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation	0578-AA17

National Resources Conservation Service—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
620	Wetlands Reserve Program	0578-AA16

Office of Operations—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
621	Agriculture Acquisition Regulation	0599-AA00

Office of Operations—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
622	New Restrictions on Lobbying	0599-AA03

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)**

Prerule Stage

173. • DAIRY GRADING AND INSPECTION, FEE INCREASE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1621 to 1627

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 58

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule would revise the regulations to increase the fees charged users of the service. The increased fees are necessary to recover the cost of dairy Standards activities. Federal employees pay costs, maintaining

adequate levels of service during changing production and purchasing patterns, and other operating costs for inspection and grading services. The program is voluntary, with all costs covered by user fees.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal, Federal

Agency Contact: F. Tracy Schonrock, Chief, Dairy Grading Branch, Dairy Division, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, AMS, DA, P.O. Box 96456, Room 2750-So., Washington, DC 20090-6456
Phone: 202 720-3171
Fax: 202 720-2643

RIN: 0581-AB43

USDA—AMS

Prerule Stage

174. • POPCORN PROMOTION, RESEARCH AND CONSUMER INFORMATION ORDER

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 7481-7491

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1215

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: A proposal was submitted to the Department of Agriculture for a Popcorn Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Order. Under the proposal, the processor would pay an assessment not to exceed 5 cents per hundredweight. The assessments would be used to conduct a generic program to maintain and expand markets for popcorn.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	09/30/96	61 FR 51046
ANPRM Comment Period End	11/29/96	
NPRM	02/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected:
Undetermined

Agency Contact: Martha B. Ransom, Chief, Research and Promotion Branch, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, AMS, F&V/R&P Branch, P.O. Box 96456, Room 2535-So. Bldg., Washington, DC 20090-6456

Phone: 202 720-9915

Fax: 202 205-2800

RIN: 0581-AB45

175. • KIWIFRUIT RESEARCH, PROMOTION, AND CONSUMER INFORMATION ORDER

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 7461 to 7473

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1214

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Two proposals were submitted to the Department of Agriculture for a Kiwifruit Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Order. Under the proposals, producers

and importers would pay an assessment not to exceed 10 cents per 7-pound tray of kiwifruit. The assessments would be used to conduct a general program to maintain, expand, and develop markets for kiwifruit.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	10/02/96	61 FR 51378
ANPRM Comment Period End	12/02/96	
NPRM	02/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected:
Undetermined

Agency Contact: Martha B. Ransom, Chief, Research and Promotion Branch, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, AMS/F&V Division-R&P Branch, P.O. Box 96456, Room 2535-So. Bldg., Washington, DC 20090-6456

Phone: 202 720-9915

Fax: 202 205-2800

RIN: 0581-AB46

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)**

Proposed Rule Stage

176. NATIONAL ORGANIC PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: PL 101-624, sec 2101 to 2123; 7 USC 6501 to 6522

CFR Citation: None

Legal Deadline: NPRM, Statutory, May 28, 1992. Final, Statutory, October 1, 1993. Other, Statutory, May 28, 1991. The Organic Foods Production Act calls for the Secretary to appoint the National Organic Standards Board 180 days after enactment and convene it within 60 days thereafter.

Abstract: The Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (OFPA) states that the Secretary shall establish an organic certification program for producers and handlers of agricultural products that have been produced using organic methods. The OFPA provides for three proposed actions by the Department of Agriculture: (a) the accreditation of State and private certifying agents for the Secretary, which includes provision for the collection of reasonable fees from

producers, certifying agents, and handlers who participate in the program; (b) the establishment of a national list of natural substances prohibited, and synthetic substances allowed in organic production and handling; and (c) the development of national standards and procedures to be used in organic production, processing and handling, with the requirement that any product labeled as organically produced will have to be certified once the program is implemented (except for producers with less than \$5,000 gross sales). The OFPA also calls for establishment of a National Organic Standards Board (NOSB), notices of meetings, and notices of hearings for standards for livestock products.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Organic Livestock Hearings	12/30/93	58 FR 69315
Notice - Procedure to Submit Names of Substances for National List	03/27/95	60 FR 15744
NPRM	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected:
Undetermined

Agency Contact: Harold S. Ricker, Program Leader/National Organic Program, Transportation and Marketing Division, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, Room 2947 South Building, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, DC 20090-6456

Phone: 202 720-3252

RIN: 0581-AA40

177. • FEDERAL MEAT GRADING AND CERTIFICATION SERVICES—1997 USER FEES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1621

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 54

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The purpose of this rule is to raise the fees for Federal meat grading and certification services to ensure the program operates on a financially self-supporting basis. The fee increase is in response to a variable, geographic-region, congressionally-mandated, government-wide salary increase that was effective January 22,

USDA—AMS

Proposed Rule Stage

1995, January 7, 1996, and an anticipated Congressionally-mandated salary increase of an unknown amount that will be effective January 5, 1997. The unit cost for providing Federal meat grading and certification services is expected to remain at approximately \$.0006 per pound.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Sectors Affected: None

Agency Contact: Larry R. Meadows, Chief, Meat Grading and Certification

Branch, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, AMS, LS, MGC, P.O. Box 96456, Room 2628-South, Washington, DC 20090-6456

Phone: 202 720-0343

Fax: 202 690-4119

RIN: 0581-AB44

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)**

Long-Term Actions

178. REVISION OF REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE INSPECTION AND GRADING SERVICES OF MANUFACTURED OR PROCESSED DAIRY PRODUCTS

Priority: Routine and Frequent

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 58

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/10/92	57 FR 35492
NPRM Comment	10/09/92	
Period End		

Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Tracy Schonrock
Phone: 202 690-0530

RIN: 0581-AA45

179. REVISION OF PERISHABLE AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES ACT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 46

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: J. R. Frazier
Phone: 202 720-4180

RIN: 0581-AB41

180. NATIONAL LABORATORY ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

CFR Citation: None

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	11/20/92	57 FR 54727
ANPRM Comment	01/19/93	
Period End		

Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: I-Pin Ho
Phone: 202 205-4993

Fax: 202 720-6496

RIN: 0581-AB42

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)**

Completed Actions

181. REGULATIONS UNDER THE PERISHABLE AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES ACT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 46

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	03/27/96	61 FR 13385
Final Action Effective	04/26/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: James Frazier
Phone: 202 720-4180

RIN: 0581-AB28

BILLING CODE 3410-02-F

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Farm Service Agency (FSA)**

Proposed Rule Stage

182. NATIONAL AVERAGE LOAN RATES FOR 1996-CROP QUOTA AND ADDITIONAL PEANUTS AND MINIMUM COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION (CCC) EXPORT- EDIBLE SALES PRICE FOR ADDITIONAL PEANUTS

Priority: Economically Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1445c-3

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1421; 7 CFR 1446

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, February 15, 1996.
For price support levels only.

Abstract: This action is needed to implement the peanut price support program, as required by statute. The price support levels provide a domestic price floor for quota and additional peanuts. The price support level for quota peanuts is set by statutory

formula at 610 per ton for the 1996 through 2002 crops of peanuts. The support level for additional peanuts must be set at a level that ensures that CCC incurs no losses from the price support program. The minimum export-edible sales price is set at the Secretary's discretion, and has been set at \$400 per ton for each of the previous 8 years. The Peanut Program, which

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also includes the poundage quota program is required by law to operate at no net cost to the Government.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/96	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE43

183. IMPLEMENTATION OF FIVE-YEAR DIRECT LINE OF CREDIT PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1941 et seq

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1941, subpart A

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will implement a five-year direct line of credit program. A direct line of credit will allow applicants to be eligible to continue to receive advances for up to five years without submitting subsequent applications. Savings in administrative costs will offset slightly higher loan costs.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/96	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE58

184. • REVISION OF REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO INDIAN TRIBES AND TRIBAL CORPORATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing

Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 31 USC 3711; 42 USC 1480

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1823; 7 CFR 1942-F; 7 CFR 1956-C

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Administration of these programs has been transferred from the former Farmers' Home Administration to the Farm Service Agency. This action will 1) consolidate the regulations into a single CFR part at 7 CFR 1942-F, 2) eliminate administrative provisions that do not affect the public, and 3) change Agency name references. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/96	
Final Action	02/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE91

185. • AMENDMENTS TO THE TOBACCO MARKETING QUOTA REGULATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1301; 7 USC 1311 et seq

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 723

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will amend the tobacco marketing quota regulations to improve program operation. The principal changes are (1) provide for inequity adjustments by common ownership units within a farm, (2) clarify the date for mailing farm acreage allotment and marketing quota notices to farmers, (3) allow approval of disaster lease and transfer of tobacco allotments or quotas for cash-rented farms without the owner's signature, (4) provide more discretion in determining

quota penalties, and (5) codify provisions for establishing national marketing quotas for burley and flue-cured tobacco. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/96	
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Agricultural Economist, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, PO Box 2415, Wash. DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5253

RIN: 0560—AE96

186. • BOLL WEEVIL ERADICATION LOAN PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 104-80

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1941, subpart C

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will create a new Boll Weevil Eradication Loan Program, which is required by statute. Funding is to be made available through grower organizations that are authorized to carry out boll eradication. The loan funds are intended to supplement, not replace, funds that have been provided to APHIS to meet its cost-share of the Boll Weevil Eradication Program. Loan repayment will be through assessments on the members of grower organizations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/97	
Final Action	04/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Agricultural Economist, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Wash., DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE99

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Final Rule Stage

Farm Service Agency (FSA)

**187. FARMER PROGRAMS
GUARANTEED INTEREST
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480; 5 USC 301**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1980 subpart A; 7 CFR 1980 subpart B; 7 CFR 1980 subpart D; 7 CFR 1980 subpart E; 7 CFR 1980 subpart G**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This regulation will provide for a government subsidy to lenders for interest rates for guaranteed Farmer Programs loans so the borrower will be paying interest rates for guaranteed loans that are similar to insured loans. This should provide an incentive for using the guaranteed loan program. The Government will pay a lender up to 90 percent of the losses on loans and part of the interest rate rather than loaning a borrower the full amount of the loan and the full cost of the Government borrowing the money for an insured loan.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	02/28/91	56 FR 8258
Final Action	10/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined**Additional Information:** This entry was reported as RIN 0575-AA80 prior to the reorganization of USDA.

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
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RIN: 0560-AE01**188. INSURED AND GUARANTEED
OPERATING AND FARM OWNERSHIP
LOAN AND RELATED INSTRUCTIONS
TO IMPLEMENT SECTIONS 4, 5, 7, 8,
9, AND 19 OF THE AGRICULTURAL
CREDIT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1992****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** PL 102-554**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1910; 7 CFR 1924; 7 CFR 1941; 7 CFR 1943; 7 CFR 1945; 7 CFR 1980; 7 CFR 1955**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory, October 1, 1993. Other, Statutory, April 28, 1993.

Sec 23 of Pub. L. 102-554 requires that interim regulations be published by April 28, 1993, and final regulations published by October 1, 1993.

Abstract: The law was enacted to assist beginning farmers and ranchers in getting started in agriculture. The impact on the operating loan (OL) program should be minimal in view of FO loan restrictions during the first 5 years of participation in this program. Applicants have a choice of applying for FO and OL assistance under the new programs or under the existing FO and OL programs.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	09/30/93	58 FR 48275
Final Action	12/00/96	
Final Action Effective	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Federal**Additional Information:** This entry was reported as RIN 0575-AB41 prior to the reorganization of USDA.

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE09**189. IMPLEMENT SECTIONS 11 AND
13 OF THE AGRICULTURE CREDIT
IMPROVEMENT ACT 1993
(APPLICATION PROCESSING
TIMEFRAME)****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** PL 102-554**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1910; 7 CFR 1980**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory, October 1, 1993. Other, Statutory, April 28, 1993.

Sec 23 of Pub. L. 102-554 requires interim regulations to be published by April 28, 1993, and final regulations to be published by October 1, 1993.

Abstract: The Agricultural Credit Improvement Act of 1992 requires the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to change its procedures for notifying applicants for farmer program loans and loan guarantees when information is needed to complete an application. In addition, County Offices will now be required to report applications that remain pending 45 days after receipt, and the reasons they remain pending. The Agency is

also required to report to the Congress every month each application pending more than 50 days after its receipt. In addition, County Committees are required under the Act to review all applications for direct and guaranteed farmer programs loans not later than 5 days after receipt if there is more than one other complete application pending, and not later than 15 days if there are no other complete applications pending. These changes will ensure more timely and consistent processing of applications. Otherwise, their impact on the Agency should be minimal. Impact on applicants and participating lenders should be favorable, regarding timeliness in processing.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/29/93	58 FR 68717
Final Action	12/00/96	
Final Action Effective	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** Federal**Additional Information:** This entry was reported as RIN 0575-AB56 prior to the reorganization of USDA.

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE14**190. PERMIT CFSA TO SELL OR
ASSIGN FARM LOAN MORTGAGES
AND NOTES****Priority:** Economically Significant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1989**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1962; 7 CFR 1965**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: FSA is proposing to amend its regulations to establish a procedure for the sale and assignment of farmer program notes and mortgages. This will assist the Agency in resolving loan accounts with greater dispatch and less loss to the Government.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	10/00/96	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** Federal

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig,
Department of Agriculture, Farm
Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box
2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233
RIN: 0560—AE35

191. 1996-CROP PEANUTS NATIONAL POUNDAGE QUOTA

Priority: Other Significant
Legal Authority: 7 USC 1358-1
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 729

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory,
December 15, 1995.

Abstract: The objective of the peanut quota is to balance supply with demand at a level that will assure stable supplies for domestic use and assure producers a stable income. This action is required by statute, which provides a formula for computing the national quota, based on the Secretary's estimate of the amount of peanuts required for domestic food, and related exceeding seed use for the 1996 marketing year. The 1996 marketing year is from August 1, 1996 through July 31, 1997. The Peanut Program, which also includes the price support program and export policies is required by law to operate at not net cost to the government result in a net realized loss of about \$87 million.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig,
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Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box
2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
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Fax: 202 720-5233
RIN: 0560—AE45

192. 1996-CROP MARKETING QUOTAS AND PRICE SUPPORT LEVELS FOR SIX KINDS OF TOBACCO

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1312
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 723; 7 CFR 1464
Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, March 1, 1996.
For marketing quotas.

Abstract: Marketing quotas/acreage allotments and price support are required by statute for these types of tobacco: fire-cured (type 21), fire-cured (types 22-23), dark air-cured (types 35-36), Virginia sun-cured (type 37), cigar filler (type 46) and cigar filler and binder (types 42-44 and 53-55). Quotas and allotments are determined by statutory formula to balance supply with demand to assure stable supplies for domestic and export use. Marketing quotas are implemented if approved by producers in referenda. Producers approved quotas for the 1996 crops of fire-cured (types 21-23), dark air-cured (types 35-36), and sun-cured (type 37) in March 1994 and March 1995. Referenda for the other types are scheduled for March 1996. Producers of these types have historically voted in favor of quotas. Price support levels are set by statutory formula. The Secretary may reduce the level at the request of producer associations, and may limit increases to 65 percent of the formula increase. Gross loan outlays of \$3 million in FY 1997 will be offset by loan redemptions and no-net-cost assessments in FY 1997 and subsequent years for a net cost of 0.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig,
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Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box
2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233
RIN: 0560—AE46

193. • COLLECTION OF SHARED APPRECIATION AGREEMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1951
Legal Deadline: None
Abstract: This action will clarify the requirements for collecting on Shared

Appreciation Agreements (SAA's). SAA's are executed when a borrower has a portion of their debt forgiven through debt writedown. When the security property is sold, the loans are paid, or the farmer quits farming, the Agency collects a portion of the written-off debt from appreciation of the real-estate security. Current regulations allow collection only after transfer of title. This change will provide that acceleration of the loan triggers acceleration of the SAA and that no additional notices or appeals will be allowed. The regulations will also clarify that a new mortgage is not required to secure an SAA and that an amount due under an SAA may be paid in installments. This change will reduce costs resulting from litigation and loan losses.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig,
Department of Agriculture, Farm
Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box
2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233
RIN: 0560—AE61

194. • POST-BANKRUPTCY LOAN SERVICING NOTIFICATION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1962
Legal Deadline: None
Abstract: This action will clarify the requirements for sending a "Notice of the Availability of Loan Service Programs and Debt Settlement Programs for Delinquent Farm Borrowers". Currently, notices must be sent after a bankruptcy is dismissed, even if the borrower was previously notified, all servicing rights have been exhausted, and the account has been accelerated. The required notice is over 20 pages of information and forms. Sending them after acceleration delays resolution of the delinquency and provides no benefit to the borrower since no options are any longer

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available. This change will provide that notices will be sent after a borrower is dismissed from bankruptcy if the borrower was not previously notified and the account has not been accelerated. No cost is expected from this action.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/18/96	61 FR 37405
NPRM Comment Period End	08/02/96	
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
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RIN: 0560-AE62

195. • CONSOLIDATE FSA FARM CREDIT PROGRAMS REGULATIONS—MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 552; 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480; PL 93-357

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1806; 7 CFR 1900; 7 CFR 1901; 7 CFR 1902; 7 CFR 1910; 7 CFR 1940; 7 CFR 1950; 7 CFR 1951; 7 CFR 2018; 7 CFR 2045; 7 CFR Ch XIV

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will consolidate FSA farm credit regulations currently contained in several parts of the CFR dealing with race classification, appeals, applicability of Federal law and individual liability, concentration banking, office management systems, credit reports, debarments and suspension, requirements for a drug-free work place, restrictions on lobbying, servicing of borrowers entering the armed forces, collections, unauthorized assistance, availability of information, gratuitous services, and other subjects. Regulations will be streamlined and moved from 7 CFR

Chapter XVIII to Chapter XIV. This will reduce the number of Agency regulations and provide a more concise and organized format. Administrative instructions will remain in field-office instruction manuals and day-to-day management of FSA programs will not be affected. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE64

196. • CONSOLIDATE FSA FARM CREDIT PROGRAMS DIRECT LOAN SERVICING REGULATIONS—MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL OF ACQUIRED PROPERTY

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 31 USC 3711; 42 USC 1480

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1955; 7 CFR 1951; 7 CFR Ch XIV

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will consolidate regulations currently contained in several parts of the Code of Federal Regulations. The changes will not alter existing programs. Provisions for management and disposal of FSA inventory that are currently contained in 3 Subparts of 7 CFR Chapter XVIII will be consolidated in Chapter XIV. This will reduce the number of Agency regulations and provide a more concise and organized format. No cost is expected as a result of this action.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE65

197. • CONSOLIDATE FSA FARM CREDIT PROGRAM DIRECT LOAN SERVICING REGULATIONS—DELINQUENT ACCOUNT RESTRUCTURING AND LIQUIDATION

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 31 USC 3711; 42 USC 1480

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1951; 7 CFR 1955; 7 CFR 1956; 7 CFR 1962; 7 CFR 1965; 7 CFR Ch XVIII

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will consolidate FSA farm credit regulations currently contained in several parts of the CFR. The changes will not alter existing programs. These parts will be moved from 7 CFR Chapter XVII to Chapter XIV. This will reduce the number of Agency regulations and provide a more concise and organized format. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE66

198. • CONSOLIDATE FSA FARM CREDIT PROGRAMS DIRECT LOAN SERVICING REGULATIONS—MANAGEMENT ADVICE, TAX SERVICING, COLLECTION AND SECURITY SERVICING

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing

Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1924; 7 CFR 1925; 7 CFR 1951; 7 CFR 1962; 7 CFR 1965; 7 CFR Ch XIV

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will consolidate FSA farm credit regulations currently contained in several parts of the CFR. Existing programs will not be altered. Regulations will be streamlined and moved from Chapter XVII to Chapter XIV. This will reduce the number of Agency regulations and provide a more consistent and organized format. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE67

199. • ELIMINATE INTERNAL AGENCY PROVISIONS FROM FSA FARM CREDIT PROGRAMS REGULATIONS— MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 552; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480; PL 93-357

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1806; 7 CFR 1900; 7 CFR 1901; 7 CFR 1902; 7 CFR 1910; 7 CFR 1940; 7 CFR 1950; 7 CFR 1951; 7 CFR 2018; 7 CFR 2045

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will delete internal Agency administrative requirements from the CFR regarding race classification, appeals, applicability of Federal Law and individual liability, concentration banking, office management systems,

credit reports, debarment and suspension, requirements for a drug free work place, restrictions of lobbying, servicing of borrowers entering the armed forces, collections, unauthorized assistance, availability of information, and gratuitous services. Administrative instructions will remain in field-office manuals and day-to-day management of FSA programs will not be affected. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	10/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE68

200. • ELIMINATE INTERNAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS FROM FSA FARM CREDIT PROGRAM DIRECT LOAN REGULATIONS— DELINQUENT ACCOUNT SERVICING AND LIQUIDATION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 31 USC 3711; 42 USC 1480

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1951; 7 CFR 1955; 7 CFR 1956; 7 CFR 1962

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will delete internal Agency administrative regulations from the CFR. Administrative instructions will remain in field office manuals and day-to-day management of FSA programs will not be affected. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	10/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE70

201. • CONSOLIDATION OF FSA FARM CREDIT PROGRAMS DIRECT LOANMAKING REGULATIONS

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480; 42 USC 2942; PL 93-357

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1823; 7 CFR 1901; 7 CFR 1910; 7 CFR 1924; 7 CFR 1927; 7 CFR 1940; 7 CFR 1941; 7 CFR 1943; 7 CFR 1945; 7 CFR 1951; 7 CFR Ch XIV

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will consolidate farm credit regulations currently contained in several CFR parts. Regulations will be streamlined and moved from 7 CFR Chapter XVIII to Chapter XIV. Existing Programs will not be affected. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE74

202. • ELIMINATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS FROM FSA FARM CREDIT PROGRAMS GUARANTEED LOANMAKING REGULATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480; PL 89-554

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1980

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Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will remove internal Agency administrative procedures. Existing programs will not be affected. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	10/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE75

203. • CONSOLIDATION OF FSA FARM CREDIT PROGRAMS GUARANTEED LOANMAKING REGULATIONS

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1980

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will streamline the regulations currently at 7 CFR 1980 and move them to 7 CFR Chapter XIV. Existing programs will not be affected. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE76

204. • ELIMINATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS FROM FSA REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO FARM CREDIT PROGRAMS LOAN RATES, FUNDING, AND LOAN AUTHORITIES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1810; 7 CFR 1901; 7 CFR 1902; 7 CFR 1940; 7 CFR 1951

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will delete internal Agency administrative procedures from the CFR. Existing programs will not be affected. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	10/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
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Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE77

205. • CONSOLIDATION OF FSA FARM CREDIT PROGRAMS REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO LOAN RATES, FUNDING, AND LOAN AUTHORITIES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 19889; 42 USC 1480; PL 89-554

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1810; 7 CFR 1901; 7 CFR 1902; 7 CFR 1940; 7 CFR 1951; 7 CFR Ch XIV

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will consolidate farm credit regulations currently contained in several CFR parts and move them to 7 CFR Chapter XIV.

Existing programs will not be affected. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	02/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE78

206. • ELIMINATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS FROM FSA FARM CREDIT PROGRAMS ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 16 USC 470; 42 USC 1480; 42 USC 2942; PL 93-357

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1901; 7 CFR 1940

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will eliminate internal Agency administrative procedures from the CFR. Existing programs will not be affected. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	10/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE79

207. • CONSOLIDATION OF FARM SERVICE AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS REGULATIONS

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or

duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 16 USC 470; 42 USC 1480; PL 93-357

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1901; 7 CFR 1940; 7 CFR Ch XIV

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will consolidate and streamline regulations currently contained in several CFR parts and move them from 7 CFR Chapter XVIII to Chapter XIV. Existing programs will not be affected. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	06/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE80

208. • AMENDMENT TO THE PEANUT POUNDAGE QUOTA REGULATIONS

Priority: Economically Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1301; 7 USC 1357 et seq; 7 USC 1372 to 1373; 7 USC 1375; 7 USC 1445c-3

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 729

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, July 3, 1996.

Abstract: This action will implement the peanut poundage provisions of the Federal Agriculture Improvement Act of 1996, which provides for the establishment of peanut quotas and peanut price support for the 1996 through 2002 crop years. The action will establish regulations governing peanut quota allocations, transfer of quotas, increased marketing assessments, and approval of limited transfer of quotas to out-of-county farms for States with large quota allocations. This action will help save about \$120 million in Government outlays in FY 1996.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	07/16/96	61 FR 36997
Final Action	10/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE82

209. • AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP) REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT PROVISIONS OF THE FEDERAL AGRICULTURE IMPROVEMENT AND REFORM ACT OF 1996

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 3831 et seq

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 704; 7 CFR 1410

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, July 3, 1996.

Abstract: This action will implement provisions of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) as required by the Federal Agriculture Improvement Act of 1996. The Act reauthorizes the CRP through 2002. This action will implement the provisions of the Act that provide the Secretary the authority to maintain program enrollment at 36.4 million acres, revise the ownership and operatorship eligibility from three years to one year, provide for early contract termination provisions, authorize the utilization of CCC funds, and make other minor modifications in program administration. Provisions for new and extended contracts will be covered in a separate proposed rule. This action will result in savings of about \$100 million.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	08/27/96	61 FR 43943
Final Action	02/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE84

210. • REVISION TO THE DIRECT LOANMAKING REGULATIONS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; PL 104-127

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1910; 7 CFR 1941; 7 CFR 1943; 7 CFR 1945; 7 CFR 1980

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, June 30, 1996.

Abstract: This action will revise the farm credit programs loan-making regulations as required by the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, as follows: 1) prohibit the use of Farm Ownership loan funds to refinance debt, annual production loans to delinquent borrowers, and new loans to borrowers who have had debt forgiven, except for annual operating loans, 2) eliminate Non-Farm Enterprise loans, the direct and guaranteed Special Operating Loan (OL) program for beginning farmers, the requirement for the transfer of guaranteed OL loans after July 1 to down payment program, and the need for 2 appraisals for Emergency (EM) loans, 3) limit FO loans to those with no loan for longer than 10 years, 4) allow 4% interest on jointly financed loans, 5) establish 95% guarantee for loans used to graduate direct borrowers and for beginning farmers, 6) limit EM loans to a total of \$500,000, 7) provide for transfer after 9/1 of guaranteed OL funds to beginning farmer direct FO's and annual EM loan allotment to credit card sale funds, and 8) consolidate committee certification for direct borrowers.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/00/96	
Interim Final Rule	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE87

USDA—FSA

Final Rule Stage

211. • REVISION OF THE INVENTORY PROPERTY MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS**Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 301; PL 104-127**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1955**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory, June 30, 1996.**Abstract:** This action will revise the farm credit programs inventory property management regulations as required by the Federal Agriculture Improvement Act of 1996.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/00/96	
Interim Final Rule	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233**RIN:** 0560—AE88**212. • REVISIONS TO THE DELINQUENT ACCOUNT SERVICING REGULATIONS****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 30; PL 104-127**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1951; 7 CFR 1956; 7 CFR 1962; 7 CFR 1965**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory, June 30, 1996.**Abstract:** This action will revise the farm credit programs loan servicing regulations as required by the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/00/96	
Interim Final Rule	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233**RIN:** 0560—AE89**213. • DIRECT LINE OF CREDIT PROGRAM****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 301; PL 104-127**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1910; 7 CFR 1924; 7 CFR 1941**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory, June 30, 1996.**Abstract:** This action will implement a direct operating line of credit, to be operated similarly to the successful guaranteed line of credit program. The line of credit will allow multiple advances and will be used to provide annual operating needs only. Currently, operating loans require a Treasury check each year as well as a heavy paperwork burden for the Agency and applicants to apply for a new loan each year. The line of credit will establish a revolving credit account and will not require an annual outlay. Re-disbursement of funds each year will be conditioned on performance in the previous year and projected repayment in the coming year.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/00/96	
Interim Final Rule	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233**RIN:** 0560—AE90**214. • SUBORDINATION OF DIRECT LOAN BASIC SECURITY TO SECURE A GUARANTEED LOAN****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1962; 7 CFR 1965; 7 CFR 1980**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory, July 2, 1996.**Abstract:** This action will amend the farm credit programs loan servicing regulations to allow FSA to subordinate its lien on "hard security" and provide a 90 % guarantee to a lender to secure a line of credit when commercial

lenders in the borrower's service area refuse to provide farmers operating credit when projected crop or livestock production is to be the only security. Current regulations allow subordination of crops and feeder livestock security to secure a guaranteed loan made for similar purposes with a guarantee of up to 90 % of principal and interest. However, a guarantee is not currently allowed when "hard security" is subordinated.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	01/00/97	
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233**RIN:** 0560—AE92**215. • CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM—LONG-TERM POLICY****Priority:** Economically Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.**Reinventing Government:** This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 3831 et seq**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 704; 7 CFR 1410**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** This action will modify the CRP regulations to target the CRP to more environmentally sensitive acreage. It will also set forth terms and conditions for enrolling acreage. USDA may maintain enrollment at up to 36.4 million acres. The Department proposes to change existing land eligibility criteria to include all cropped wetland acreage and certain Water Bank acreage. The Department further proposes to provide additional financial incentives to producers to accelerate enrollment of certain environmentally sensitive land. The Department also seeks public comment regarding nonemergency haying and grazing provisions. The 1997 Agriculture Appropriations effectively prohibit the extension of

USDA—FSA

Final Rule Stage

CRP contracts. Therefore, CRP acreage that participants are seeking to reoffer must compete based on environmental benefits and costs. The cost of the CRP is expected to be about \$6.8 billion greater over 7 years than if no new or extended contracts were allowed. However, in comparison with USDA plans to extend existing contracts under previous legislation, relatively small differences in costs will likely occur.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/23/96	61 FR 49697
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Agricultural Economist, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, Stop 0572

Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE95

216. • DAIRY INDEMNITY PAYMENT PROGRAM—FY 1997

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 104-37; PL 104-180

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 760

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Dairy Indemnity Payment Program indemnifies farmers for milk dumped because of contamination that was not the fault of the producer and indemnifies dairy manufacturers for dairy products removed from the market through no fault of their own. This action is needed to continue the program through 9/30/97 in accordance with legislation. \$100,000 has been appropriated for FY 1997, which is the average outlay for recent years.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Wash., DC 20013-2415

Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE97

217. • DISASTER SET-ASIDE PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1981a

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1951, subpart S

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will allow the use of the Disaster Set-Aside Program for economic disasters. This will allow borrowers who cannot make payments because of a substantial decrease in livestock prices to set aside the next installment on each loan. There will be no additional costs related to this program. This action will be less costly than the alternative, which is to provide rescheduling, reamortization, deferral, or write-down of these debts. Under this action, no debt will be written off and the terms of the loans will not be extended. No appraisals or legal work are required. Interest will continue to accrue on set-aside principal at the same rate the non-set-aside principal is charged.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	10/00/96	
Final Action	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Agricultural Economist, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Wash., DC 20013-2415

Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE98

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Long-Term Actions

Farm Service Agency (FSA)

218. AMENDMENTS TO CCC DEBT SETTLEMENT REGULATIONS REGARDING WAIVER OF RESTRICTION ON PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY AND COLLECTION OF JUDGMENTS BY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFSET

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: None

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AD09

219. CONSERVATION ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS REGULATIONS REGARDING WATER QUALITY INCENTIVES PROJECT, COST SHARE PROVISIONS OF THE EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM, AND OTHER REVISIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 701

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/10/94	59 FR 1293
NPRM Comment Period End	02/09/94	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AD16

220. PROGRAM INELIGIBILITY FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH BOLL WEEVIL ERADICATION PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: None

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

USDA—FSA

Long-Term Actions

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AD57

**221. SUGAR AND CRYSTALLINE
FRUCTOSE INFORMATION AND
RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1435

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AD88

**222. AMENDMENT TO THE
WAREHOUSE REGULATIONS
REGARDING AUCTION TOBACCO
WAREHOUSES**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 723; 7 CFR 737

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/28/95	60 FR 38766
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AD92

**223. AMENDMENT TO THE TOBACCO
LOAN PROGRAM REGULATIONS—
BUDGET DEFICIT MARKETING
ASSESSMENTS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1464

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	04/20/95	60 FR 19665
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AD93

**224. FARMER PROGRAM ACCOUNT
SERVICING POLICIES FOR SECTION
1816 AND OTHER RELATED
SECTIONS FOR THE "1990 FACT
ACT"**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1900 subpart B;
7 CFR 1924 subpart B; 7 CFR 1951
subpart S

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/23/91	56 FR 54970
NPRM Comment Period End	11/22/91	
Interim Final Rule	04/30/92	57 FR 18612
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE02

**225. IMPLEMENT SECTION 1818
(BORROWER TRAINING) OF THE
FOOD, AGRICULTURE,
CONSERVATION, AND TRADE ACT
OF 1990 (FACT ACT)**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1910 subpart A;
7 CFR 1943 subpart B; 7 CFR 1924
subpart B; 7 CFR 1941 subpart A; 7
CFR 1945 subpart D; 7 CFR 1943
subpart A; 7 CFR 1951 subpart S; 7
CFR 1980 subpart B; 7 CFR 1962
subpart A; 7 CFR 1965 subpart A

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/25/92	57 FR 55473
NPRM Comment Period End	12/28/92	
Interim Final Rule	12/30/93	58 FR 69190
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE04

**226. GUARANTEED LOAN
PROGRAMS; MONITORING LIQUID
ACCOUNTS**

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1980 subpart A;
7 CFR 1980 subpart B

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/05/94	59 FR 23173
NPRM Comment Period End	07/05/94	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected:
Undetermined

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE05

**227. IMPLEMENTATION OF CERTIFIED
LENDER PROGRAM**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1980 subpart A;
7 CFR 1980 subpart B

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	06/24/93	58 FR 34302
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE07

**228. LOANS TO INDIAN TRIBES AND
TRIBAL CORPORATIONS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1942 subpart F;
7 CFR 1823; 7 CFR 2.23; 7 CFR 2.70

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses,
Governmental Jurisdictions,
Organizations

Government Levels Affected: Tribal

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE10

USDA—FSA

Long-Term Actions

229. SECTION 14 OF THE AGRICULTURAL CREDIT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1992, (GRADUATION) AND SECTIONS 1819 (LOAN ASSESSMENT) AND 1821 (MARKET PLACEMENT) OF THE FACT ACT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1910; 7 CFR 1924; 7 CFR 1941; 7 CFR 1951; 7 CFR 1980; 7 CFR 1943; 7 CFR 1945; 7 CFR 1962

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/30/93	58 FR 69274
NPRM Comment Period End	02/28/94	
Interim Final Rule	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE11

230. THE AGRICULTURAL CREDIT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1992

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1946; 7 CFR 1980

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/17/93	58 FR 65871
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses
Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE13

231. ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT OF REAL AND CHATTEL PROPERTY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 2.23; 7 CFR 2.70; 7 CFR 1955A; 7 CFR 1955C

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/29/93	58 FR 68722
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses
Government Levels Affected: Tribal

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE15

232. SMALL FARMER OUTREACH TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1943 subpart C

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/27/94	59 FR 66441
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Organizations
Government Levels Affected: State

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE17

233. DECISION TO LIQUIDATE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1980

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE19

234. DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1945 subpart A

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses
Government Levels Affected: State, Tribal

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE22

235. REVISIONS TO THE DIRECT FARM OWNERSHIP LOAN REGULATION (1943-A) OUTREACH PROGRAM FOR MEMBERS OF SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED GROUPS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1943 subpart A

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses
Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE23

236. SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED OUTREACH PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1941 subpart A; 7 CFR 1980 subpart B

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses
Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE24

237. PART 1946 MEDIATION; SUBPART A AGRICULTURAL LOAN MEDIATION PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1946 subpart A

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined
Government Levels Affected: State

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE26

USDA—FSA

Long-Term Actions

238. AMENDMENT TO CONSERVATION PROGRAM APPEAL REGULATIONS REGARDING JURISDICTION**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 780**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/29/95	60 FR 67298
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE30**239. SELECTION AND FUNCTIONS OF FARM SERVICE AGENCY STATE AND COUNTY COMMITTEES****Priority:** Info./Admin./Other**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 7**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE33**240. IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES FOR HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND AND WETLANDS CONSERVATION PROVISIONS OF THE FOOD SECURITY ACT****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1940**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Comment Period End	00/00/00	
Interim Final Rule	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE38**241. AMENDMENTS TO THE FARMER ACCOUNT SERVICING POLICIES****Priority:** Economically Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1900; 7 CFR 1910; 7 CFR 1924; 7 CFR 1941; 7 CFR 1943; 7 CFR 1951; 7 CFR 1955; 7 CFR 1956; 7 CFR 1962; 7 CFR 1965**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	09/14/88	53 FR 35638
NPRM	10/23/91	56 FR 54970
Interim Final Rule	04/30/92	57 FR 18612
Interim Final Rule	10/15/92	57 FR 47257
Interim Final Rule	03/23/93	58 FR 15418
Interim Final Rule	05/26/93	58 FR 30104
Interim Final Rule	12/30/93	58 FR 69190
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE42**242. AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDARDS FOR APPROVAL OF WAREHOUSE FOR COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION STORAGE CONTRACTS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1421; 7 CFR 1423; 7 CFR 1427**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE50**243. DELETION OF FSA REGULATIONS REGARDING COLORADO RIVER BASIN SALINITY CONTROL PROGRAM****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Reinventing Government:** This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 702; 7 CFR 703; 7 CFR 752**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE54**244. AMENDMENT TO THE CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM REGARDING EARLY CONTRACT TERMINATIONS****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 704**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	03/15/96	61 FR 10671
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE56**245. • AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS FOR COTTON WAREHOUSES UNDER THE UNITED STATES WAREHOUSE ACT—ELECTRONIC BLOCK WAREHOUSE RECEIPTS, INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS AND OTHER PROVISIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 241**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 735**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** This action will amend the regulations to allow warehousemen to issue electronic cotton block warehouse receipts, revise insurance requirements for electronic warehouse receipt providers, and clarify other sections as applicable. There will be negligible costs to Government and industry.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Comment Period End	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

USDA—FSA

Long-Term Actions

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig,
Department of Agriculture, Farm
Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box
2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233
RIN: 0560—AE60

246. • ELIMINATE INTERNAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS FROM FSA FARM CREDIT PROGRAM REGULATIONS—MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL OF ACQUIRED PROPERTY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.
Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1951; 7 CFR 1955
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will remove internal Agency administrative provisions from the CFR. Administrative provisions will remain in field-office instruction manuals and day-to-day management of FSA programs will not be affected. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Tom Witzig,
Department of Agriculture, Farm
Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box
2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233
RIN: 0560—AE69

247. • ELIMINATE INTERNAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS FROM FSA FARM CREDIT PROGRAMS DIRECT LOAN SERVICING REGULATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.
Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1924; 7 CFR 1925; 7 CFR 1951; 7 CFR 1962; 7 CFR 1965

Legal Deadline: None
Abstract: This action will remove internal Agency administrative requirements from the CFR. Administrative instructions will remain in field office manuals and day-to-day management of Agency programs will not be affected. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Tom Witzig,
Department of Agriculture, Farm
Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box
2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233
RIN: 0560—AE71

248. • ELIMINATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS FROM FSA FARM CREDIT PROGRAM DIRECT LOANMAKING REGULATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.
Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480; 42 USC 2942; PL 93-357
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1823; 7 CFR 1901; 7 CFR 1910; 7 CFR 1924; 7 CFR 1927; 7 CFR 1940; 7 CFR 1941; 7 CFR 1943; 7 CFR 1945; 7 CFR 1951

Legal Deadline: None
Abstract: This action will eliminate internal administrative procedures. Program operation will not be affected. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Tom Witzig,
Department of Agriculture, Farm
Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box
2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233
RIN: 0560—AE73

249. • AMENDMENTS TO THE NONINSURED CROP PROTECTION PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant
Legal Authority: PL 104-127
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 404; 7 CFR Ch XIV
Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, July 3, 1996.

Abstract: This action will implement changes required by the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996. It will 1) change operating authority from the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to the Farm Service Agency and the Commodity Credit Corporation, 2) add seed crops and aquaculture (including ornamental fish) to the crops eligible for the program, and 3) modify some reporting requirements. It will also move the regulations from 7 CFR Chapter IV to Chapter XIV. Outlays under the program will increase by about \$5 to \$9 million as a result of the changes.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Tom Witzig,
Department of Agriculture, Farm
Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box
2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233
RIN: 0560—AE85

250. • SUSPENSION OF THE EMERGENCY LIVESTOCK ASSISTANCE REGULATIONS FOR CROP YEARS 1996 TO 2002

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Legal Authority: PL 104-127
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1475
Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, July 3, 1996.

Abstract: This action will suspend the program for crop year 1996 through 2002, as required by the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996. Suspension of the program will result in net decreases in payments of about \$540 million, as follows 1) \$60 million for crop year 1996, and 2) \$80 million annually for crop years 1997 through 2002.

USDA—FSA

Long-Term Actions

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE86

251. • HANDLING PAYMENTS FROM THE FARM SERVICE AGENCY TO DELINQUENT FARM CREDIT PROGRAM BORROWERS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1951

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will revise the requirements for the use of administrative offset to collect delinquent debts. The revision will eliminate the requirement that a delinquent borrower's account be

accelerated prior to offset of payments to the borrower from other Agency programs. This will allow the Agency to directly apply payments from one program directly to delinquent debts under another, thus reducing losses to the Government by increasing collections. The increased collections are estimated at about \$80 million over seven years.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/30/96	61 FR 45907
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE93

252. • SUGAR LOAN PROGRAM CROP YEAR DEFINITION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 7272

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 777; 7 CFR 780; 7 CFR 1435

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Federal Agricultural Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 provides for administration of the Sugar Program on a Fiscal Year basis. This action will change the definition of crop Year for the Sugar Program from July 1 - June 30 to October 1 - September 30 to make it consistent with the Fiscal Year, which will improve the efficiency and analysis of the program. No cost will occur.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE94

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Completed Actions

Farm Service Agency (FSA)

253. EXCESSIVE MANUFACTURING (MAKE) ALLOWANCES IN STATE MARKETING ORDERS FOR MILK

Priority: Economically Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 13

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn - New legislation removed the legal requirement.	04/04/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AC23

254. AMENDMENT TO THE HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND AND WETLANDS CONSERVATION PROGRAM REGULATIONS—PERSON DETERMINATIONS

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 12

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Cancelled - Program Responsibility Transferred to NRCS	08/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AC86

255. AMENDMENTS TO THE WETLANDS REGULATIONS REGARDING ABANDONED ACREAGE AND DRAINAGE BY DRAINAGE DISTRICTS

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 12

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Cancelled - Program Responsibility Transferred to NRCS	08/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
Phone: 202 205-5851

USDA—FSA

Completed Actions

Fax: 202 720-5233
 RIN: 0560-AC92

256. AMENDMENT TO THE ACREAGE CONSERVATION RESERVE AND THE CONSERVING USE ACREAGE REGULATIONS FOR PRODUCERS AFFECTED BY EXCESSIVE RAINFALL AND FLOODING

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1413

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn - No Further Action To Be Taken	08/13/96	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AD50

257. REGULATIONS FOR CONSERVATION COMPLIANCE CROP ACREAGE BASE (CAB) ADJUSTMENTS

Priority: Other Significant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1417

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn - No Action To Be Taken	04/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AD80

258. AMENDMENT TO THE EMERGENCY LIVESTOCK ASSISTANCE REGULATIONS REGARDING FEED ALLOWANCE AND APPROVAL OF COUNTIES FOR ASSISTANCE

Priority: Other Significant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1475

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	10/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AD84

259. FARM FACILITY LOAN PROGRAM REGULATIONS

Priority: Other Significant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1474

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	04/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AD85

260. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR 1995 WHEAT, FEED GRAIN, COTTON, AND RICE PROGRAMS

Priority: Economically Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1413

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn - Preempted by New Legislation 4/1/96	10/24/96	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AD86

261. AMENDMENTS TO THE PAYMENT LIMITATION REGULATIONS FOR 1995

Priority: Other Significant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1497; 7 CFR 1498

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/18/96	61 FR 37544
Final Action Effective	07/12/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AD89

262. MEASURE-ALL PILOT PROJECT

Priority: Other Significant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 718

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	08/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AD98

263. FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE REFORM AND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1994

Priority: Other Significant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1941; 7 CFR 1943; 7 CFR 1945; 7 CFR 1980; 7 CFR 2.23; 7 CFR 2.70

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn - Preempted by New Legislation 4/1/96	10/24/96	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE25

264. EXTENSION OF MATURING 1994 AND SUBSEQUENT CROP YEAR WHEAT AND FEED GRAIN PRICE SUPPORT LOANS

Priority: Other Significant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1421

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	03/21/96	61 FR 11514

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851

USDA—FSA

Completed Actions

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE28

265. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO WHEAT, FEED GRAIN, COTTON, AND RICE PROGRAM REGULATIONS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Reinventing Government:** This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 718; 7 CFR 1413; 7 CFR 1414; 7 CFR 1415; 7 CFR 1416**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn - Preempted by New Legislation 4/1/96	10/24/96	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE29

266. END-USE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM—PROVIDING NOTIFICATION OF ORIGIN TO BUYERS**Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 782**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	06/25/96	61 FR 32641

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE37

267. 1996 UPLAND COTTON PROGRAM**Priority:** Economically Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1413; 7 CFR 1427**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/18/96	61 FR 37544
Final Action Effective	07/12/96	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE40

268. AMENDMENT TO THE TOBACCO REGULATIONS REGARDING NESTED TOBACCO**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1464.7(b)(1)**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	06/27/96	61 FR 33303
Final Action Effective	06/27/96	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE41

269. 1996-CROP MARKETING QUOTA AND PRICE SUPPORT LEVEL FOR BURLEY TOBACCO**Priority:** Other Significant**Reinventing Government:** This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 723; 7 CFR 1464**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	09/26/96	61 FR 50423

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE47

270. 1996-CROP MARKETING QUOTAS AND PRICE SUPPORT LEVEL FOR FLUE-CURED TOBACCO**Priority:** Other Significant**Reinventing Government:** This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 723; 7 CFR 1464**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/19/96	61 FR 37672

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE48

271. UPLAND COTTON USER MARKETING CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1427**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/18/96	61 FR 37544
Final Action Effective	07/12/96	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE51

272. TERMS FOR THE COLLECTION OF 1995 ADVANCE DEFICIENCY OVERPAYMENTS**Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1403**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn - New legislation changed legal requirements.	04/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560—AE53

273. 1996 RICE PRICE SUPPORT PROGRAM**Priority:** Economically Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1421; 7 CFR 1424**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn - New legislation provided new policy.	04/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

USDA—FSA

Completed Actions

Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233
RIN: 0560-AE55

274. DAIRY INDEMNITY PAYMENT PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 760
Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/26/96	61 FR 18485

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233
RIN: 0560-AE57

275. • 1996 SPECIFICATIONS FOR COTTON BALE PACKAGING MATERIALS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Legal Authority: 7 USC 714; 7 USC 1421; 7 USC 1423; 7 USC 1425; 7 USC 1444; 7 USC 1444-2
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1427

Legal Deadline: None
Abstract: This action will provide current bale packaging requirements by incorporating by reference the requirements approved by the Joint Bale Packaging Committee. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action Effective	07/12/96	
Final Action	07/18/96	61 FR 37544

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233
RIN: 0560-AE59

276. • DELETION OF DUPLICATE RICE AND COTTON REGULATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing

Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.
Legal Authority: 7 USC 1441-2; 7 USC 1444-2
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 26

Legal Deadline: None
Abstract: The formulas that provide formulas for calculating the world prices of rice and upland cotton exist at both 7 CFR 26, Subparts A and B, and at 7 CFR 1421 and 1427, respectively. This action will remove the regulations at Part 26. No cost is expected from this action.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action Effective	07/31/96	
Final Action	08/01/96	61 FR 40145

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233
RIN: 0560-AE63

277. • DELETION OF OBSOLETE FARM SERVICE AGENCY REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO THE FORMER FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION'S PROGRAMS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.
Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480; PL 93-357

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1841; 7 CFR 1843; 7 CFR 1845; 7 CFR 1900; 7 CFR 1903; 7 CFR 1945; 7 CFR 1980; 7 CFR 2054
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will delete CFR sections no longer relevant to current programs or pertaining to programs that no longer exist. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	05/10/96	61 FR 21361
Final Action Effective	06/03/96	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Department of Agriculture, Farm

Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
 Phone: 202 205-5851
 Fax: 202 720-5233
RIN: 0560-AE72

278. • IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FARM PROGRAM PROVISIONS OF THE 1996 FARM BILL

Priority: Economically Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: PL 104-127
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 2; 7 CFR 718 to 729; 7 CFR 729; 7 CFR 790 to 791; 7 CFR 793; 7 CFR 796; 7 CFR 1400 to 1402; 7 CFR 1405; 7 CFR 1412 to 1413; 7 CFR 1421; 7 CFR 1425; 7 CFR 1427; 7 CFR 1430; 7 CFR 1434 to 1435; 7 CFR 1446; ...

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, July 3, 1996.

Abstract: This action will implement the farm program provisions of title I of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996. The primary issues concern 1) changes to the Dairy, Sugar, and Peanut Programs, 2) the establishment of production flexibility contracts, with the decoupling of farm program payments from planted acreage, and allowing producers flexibility regarding crops planted, 3) payment limitations, 4) implementation of marketing assistance loans, reduced repayment rates, and loan deficiency payments, and a cap on Cotton User Marketing Certificate payments. This action will also 1) reorganize 7 CFR Chapter VII to consolidate regulations, 2) reorganize 7 CFR Chapter XIV to co-locate regulations for programs operated through CCC, and 3) delegate authority from the Secretary to other officers of the Department. The primary cost of these actions will result from the contract payments, with \$5.57 billion for FY 1996, and \$35.63 billion over 7 years.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action Effective	07/12/96	
Final Action	07/18/96	61 FR 37544

Small Entities Affected: None

USDA—FSA

Completed Actions

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig,
Department of Agriculture, Farm
Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box
2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE81

**279. • DELETION OF WETLANDS
RESERVE PROGRAM REGULATIONS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This
rulemaking is part of the Reinventing

Government effort. It will eliminate
existing text in the CFR.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 6962

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 703

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action deletes the Farm
Service Agency's Wetlands Reserve
Program (WRP) regulations from the
CFR. Responsibility for the WRP was
transferred to the Natural Resources
Conservation Service by the
Department of Agriculture
Reorganization Act of 1994. The WRP
regulations are now located at 7 CFR
620. No cost will result from this
action.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	05/28/96	61 FR 26423

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig,
Department of Agriculture, Farm
Service Agency, MS 0572, P.O. Box
2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233

RIN: 0560-AE83

BILLING CODE 3410-05-F

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Prerule Stage

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

**280. • IMPORTATION AND RELEASE
INTO THE ENVIRONMENT OF
NONINDIGENOUS ORGANISMS**

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This
rulemaking is part of the Reinventing
Government effort. It will revise text in
the CFR to reduce burden or
duplication, or streamline
requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 149; 7 USC
150bb; 7 USC 150dd; 7 USC 150ee; 7
USC 150ff; 7 USC 154; 7 USC 159; 7
USC 160; 7 USC 162; 7 USC 2260; 21
USC 136; 21 USC 136a; 31 USC 9701

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 330

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: APHIS is seeking the public's
comment on approaches to regulating
the first-time importation and release
into the environment of certain
nonindigenous organisms. The Agency
intends to amend its Federal Plant Pest
Act regulations to address the potential
plant pest risks associated with the
first-time importation and release into
the environment of certain
nonindigenous organisms, and therefore
is soliciting input from interested
persons on possible approaches to
assessing the safety of releasing
organisms into the environment for the
first time.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	09/27/96	61 FR 50767
ANPRM Comment Period End	12/26/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Dr. Sally McCammon,
Science Advisor, Department of
Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health
Inspection Service, P.O. Box 96464,
Washington, DC 20090-6464
Phone: 202 720-8014
Fax: 202 720-3054
Email: smccammon@aphis.usda.gov

RIN: 0579-AA80

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Proposed Rule Stage

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

**281. IMPORTED SEED AND
SCREENINGS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This
rulemaking is part of the Reinventing
Government effort. It will revise text in
the CFR to reduce burden or
duplication, or streamline
requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1581 to 1611

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 201

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Therefore, we are proposing
to amend the "Imported Seed"
regulations by moving the regulations

to a different chapter in the Code of
Federal Regulations; establishing a seed
analysis program with Canada; and
allowing U.S. companies that import
seed for cleaning or processing to enter
into compliance agreements with the
Animal and Plant Health Inspection
Service. These proposed changes would
bring the imported seed regulations
into agreement with the amended
Federal Seed Act, eliminate the need
for sampling shipments of Canadian-
origin seed at the border, and allow
certain seed importers to clean or
process seed without the direct
supervision of an Animal and Plant
Health Inspection Service inspector.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	09/13/94	59 FR 47286
ANPRM Comment Period End	10/31/94	
NPRM	03/23/95	60 FR 15257
NPRM Comment Period End	04/24/95	
Final Rule	07/12/95	60 FR 35829
Final Rule Effective	08/11/95	
NPRM (Other Amendments)	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected:
Undetermined

USDA—APHIS

Proposed Rule Stage

Agency Contact: Polly Lehtonen, Botanist, PPQ, Biological Assessment/Taxonomic Support, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, 4700 River Road Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236
Phone: 301 734-8896
RIN: 0579-AA64

282. DEFINITION OF "BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS" AND "GUIDELINES"

Priority: Other Significant
Legal Authority: 21 USC 151 to 159
CFR Citation: 9 CFR 101
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The proposed rule would update the definitions of "biological products" and "guidelines" to reflect current usage. The definition of biological products has not been amended since 1973. APHIS has received a citizen's petition from producers of veterinary biological products to update this definition to accommodate advances in scientific knowledge and to reflect current usage. Similarly, a definition of guidelines is necessary to describe the purpose of such documents as veterinary biologics memoranda, licensing considerations, and notices.

The proposal would provide guidance to producers who are making a choice to seek regulatory approval from the Food and Drug Administration for a product intended for use as an animal drug (e.g. antibiotics, hormones, feed supplements, etc.) or from APHIS for a product intended for use as a veterinary biological product (e.g. vaccines, adjuvants, immunomodulators, and diagnostics). Submission to the appropriate Federal agency would depend upon the intended use of the product for which regulatory approval is sought.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/23/96	61 FR 43483
NPRM Comment Period End	10/22/96	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: Federal
Agency Contact: Dr. Frank Y. Tang, Biotechnologist, BCTA, BBEP, Veterinary Biologics, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health

Inspection Service, 4700 River Road Unit 148, Riverdale, MD 20737-1237
Phone: 301 734-4833
RIN: 0579-AA65

283. USER FEES, VETERINARY DIAGNOSTICS

Priority: Other Significant
Legal Authority: 7 USC 1622; 19 USC 1306; 21 USC 102 to 105; 21 USC 111; 21 USC 114; 21 USC 114a; 21 USC 134a to 134d; 21 USC 134f; 21 USC 135; 21 USC 136; 21 USC 136a
CFR Citation: 9 CFR 130
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is proposing to revise current fees for cost increases or decreases in the user fee program and to propose additional fees for goods and services which APHIS provides. The purpose is to more accurately provide for full-cost recovery of Agency activities. Fees being revised include: user fees at APHIS's animal import centers and user fees at the National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) (including the labs at the Foreign Animal Diseases Diagnostic Laboratory (FADDL)) to account for cost increases and decreases. New user fees are being proposed for the following: use of new spaces at the APHIS animal center in Newburgh, NY; hourly services; and veterinary diagnostic tests, reagents, and services.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined
Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Barbara Thompson, Chief, BAD, Financial Systems Services Branch, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, 4700 River Road Unit 54, Riverdale, MD 20737-1232
Phone: 301 734-5901
RIN: 0579-AA70

284. PHYTOSANITARY EXPORT CERTIFICATION; ACCREDITATION OF SEED-TESTING LABORATORIES

Priority: Other Significant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing

Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 147a; 21 USC 136; 21 USC 136a; 44 USC 35
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 353
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: APHIS is proposing to establish an accreditation protocol for private seed health laboratories in order to achieve more timely and cost-effective seed testing. Laboratory accreditation is expected to facilitate U.S. seed exports because the test results provided by an accredited laboratory could be used as supporting documentation in the preparation of Federal phytosanitary certificates. The proposed regulations would authorize APHIS inspectors to issue a Federal phytosanitary certificate for a consignment of seeds on the basis of an inspection report prepared for that consignment of seeds by a seed company or independent laboratory that has been accredited under a national seed health accreditation system that has been recognized by APHIS. The proposal was initiated by the seed industry, as represented by the American Seed Trade Association, and has the support of State regulatory agencies which are represented by the National Plant Board.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	01/00/97	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined
Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Mr. Nancy G. Klag, Senior Operations Officer, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Port Operations, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 139, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236
Phone: 301 734-8537
Email: nklag@aphis.usda.gov
RIN: 0579-AA75

285. ANIMAL WELFARE—STANDARDS FOR ANIMAL AUCTIONS

Priority: Other Significant
Legal Authority: 7 USC 2131 to 2159

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Proposed Rule Stage

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 1; 9 CFR 2; 9 CFR 3

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposal would establish standards designed specifically for the humane handling, care, treatment, and transportation of animals covered by the Animal Welfare Act that are held in auction markets. Currently, the treatment of animals at auction sales is being enforced under general regulations for warmblooded animals that are not otherwise covered by the regulations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. Debra Beasley, Senior Staff Veterinarian, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, REAC, Animal Care, 4700 River Road Unit 84, Riverdale, MD 20737-1234
Phone: 301 734-4977
Fax: 301 734-4978

RIN: 0579-AA76

286. HUMANE TREATMENT OF DOGS AND CATS; LICENSING AND CONSIGNMENT REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2131 to 2159

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 2; 9 CFR 3

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule would amend the regulations for the humane treatment of dogs and cats under the Animal Welfare Act by revising a provision that persons who sell fewer than 25 dogs and/or cats per year to research facilities are exempted from having to obtain a license to sell dogs and cats. We would revise this provision to exempt persons who sell fewer than 10 dogs and/or cats. This rule would also require that no person who has a contract to enforce local animal control regulations may be licensed as a Class B dealer of dogs and cats. Finally, this rule would include several revisions to certificates used for certifying dogs and cats for sale and consigning dogs and cats to intermediate handlers. We believe these changes are necessary to facilitate regulation of Class B dog and

cat dealer activities and to help eliminate the suspected sale of missing and stolen pet dogs and cats for use in research. The cost to affected businesses of revising the licensing exemptions is difficult to determine; the effect would depend on how many currently exempt businesses choose to obtain a license and continue operating.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Mr. Stephen Smith, Staff Animal Health Technician, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, REAC, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 84, Riverdale, MD 20737-1234
Phone: 301 734-4972
Email: snssmith@aphis.usda.gov

RIN: 0579-AA79

287. • USER FEES—AGRICULTURAL QUARANTINE AND INSPECTION SERVICES

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2260; 21 USC 136; 21 USC 136a; 47 USC 1741

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 354.3

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We are proposing to amend the user fee regulations by adjusting the fees charged for certain agricultural quarantine and inspection services we provide in connection with certain commercial vessels, commercial trucks, commercial railroad cars, commercial aircrafts, and international airline passengers arriving at ports in the customs territory of the United States. We are proposing to adopt user fees for these services for fiscal years 1997 through 2002. We have determined that the fees must be adjusted to reflect the anticipated actual cost of providing these services through FY 2002.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Don Thompson, Staff Officer, Port Operations, PPQ, APHIS, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, 4700 River Road UNIT 136, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236
Phone: 301 734-5901

RIN: 0579-AA81

288. • IMPORTATION OF LOGS, LUMBER, AND OTHER UNMANUFACTURED WOOD ARTICLES

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 150dd; 7 USC 150ee; 7 USC 150ff; 7 USC 151 to 167; 7 USC 450; 7 USC 2803; 7 USC 2809; 21 USC 136; 21 USC 136a

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 319

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule would allow the importation of Pinus radiata wood chips from Chile if the wood chips are treated with a pesticide approved by the Administrator. Treatments currently provided in the regulations for use in qualifying wood chips for importation have proven to be impractical to apply and ineffective when used on large shipments. We have determined that a surface pesticide treatment is effective in rendering large shipments of wood chips free of plant pests that are found in Chile, and is easily applied to large shipments. We do not believe that this change would have a significant economic impact on U.S. wood chip producers because import from Chile would not be in direct competition with wood chips produced in the United States. An immediate positive impact would be that several U.S. pulp producers at risk of being forced to reduce production or close due to lack of wood chip supply would be able to remain in production. This rule would also allow certain cork and bark, and kiln dried lumber, to be imported under a general permit, and would allow solid wood-packing material used with nonregulated articles to be imported without an importer document.

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Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Ms. Jane Levy,
Operations Officer, Program Support
Staff, PPQ, APHIS, Department of

Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health
Inspection Service, 4700 River Road
UNIT 60, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236
Phone: 301 734-8295
Email: jlevy@aphis.usda.gov
RIN: 0579-AA82

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Final Rule Stage

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

289. ADDITION OF CERVIDAE TO THE REGULATIONS CONCERNING TUBERCULOSIS IN LIVESTOCK

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 21 USC 105; 21 USC 111 to 113; 21 USC 114; 21 USC 114a; 21 USC 115 to 117; 21 USC 120 to 121; 21 USC 134b; 21 USC 134f

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 77; 9 CFR 91

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Bovine tuberculosis is a contagious, infectious, and communicable disease affecting cattle, bison, and other species, including humans. The spread of bovine tuberculosis in the United States could have serious consequences for the United States cattle and bison industries, as well as for human health. Currently, the regulations concerning control and eradication programs for bovine tuberculosis in livestock only regulate cattle, bison, and swine. Recent outbreaks in the United States of bovine tuberculosis in semi-domesticated herds of cervidae (such as deer and elk) have made apparent the need to also regulate these animals in order to prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/04/96	61 FR 14982
NPRM Comment Period End	06/03/96	
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Federal

Analysis: Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Agency Contact: Dr. Joseph VanTiem, Senior Staff Veterinarian, VS, Cattle Diseases and Surveillance, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, 4700 River Road Unit 36, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231

Phone: 301 734-8715
Email: jvantiem@aphis.usda.gov
RIN: 0579-AA53

290. ANIMAL WELFARE—STANDARDS FOR MARINE MAMMALS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2131 to 2159

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 3

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Department regulates the treatment of certain marine mammals under the Animal Welfare Act. The present standards for treatment of these animals have been in effect for over 10 years. During this time, advances have been made and new information has been developed with regard to the housing and care of marine mammals. The Department has given notice of its review of the present standards to determine what revisions or additions might be necessary, and has requested comments on appropriate specific standards for treatment of marine mammals. The Department is conducting negotiated rulemaking (Reg Neg) and developing proposed changes to the regulations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	07/23/93	58 FR 39458
ANPRM Comment Period End	10/06/93	
NPRM	01/23/95	60 FR 4383
NPRM Comment Period End	02/22/95	
NPRM Comment Period Extended (Swim With the Dolphins (SWTD))	02/28/95	60 FR 10810
NPRM Comment Period Extended (SWTD)	03/09/95	60 FR 12908
NPRM Reopened and Extended Comment Period (SWTD)	03/24/95	60 FR 15524
Notice, Establish a Committee (Reg Neg)	05/22/95	60 FR 27049

Action	Date	FR Cite
Correction (Reg Neg)	06/02/95	60 FR 28834
FRM Final Action for (SWTD); Final Action for (SWTD)	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. Barbara Kohn,
Veterinary Medical Officer, REAC,
Animal Care, Department of
Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health
Inspection Service, 4700 River Road
Unit 84, Riverdale, MD 20737-1234
Phone: 301 734-7833

RIN: 0579-AA59

291. IN VITRO TESTS FOR SERIAL RELEASE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 151 to 159

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 113

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Under the Virus-Serum-Toxin Act, veterinary biologics are required to be pure, safe, potent, and efficacious (not contaminated, dangerous, harmful, or worthless). Before a licensed veterinary biological product can be released for market, it must be demonstrated to be potent and efficacious. This is ordinarily done by determining the immunogenicity of the product. The use of fewer animals for immunogenicity testing will be consistent with the intent of animal welfare legislation to reduce dependence on animals for testing when feasible. The rule will allow the use of in vitro tests in place of animal tests for determining the immunogenicity of veterinary biologics.

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provided that the in vitro tests meet the requirements of a "parallel line assay" so that the relative antigenic potency of a biological product can be determined by comparison with a reference preparation of known antigenicity. The rule should not have a significant economic impact on manufacturers of veterinary biologics and other small businesses since immunogenicity testing is already required under the regulations pertaining to the preparation of veterinary biologics (9 CFR part 113). Under the rule, manufacturers will retain the option whether or not to use in vitro tests in place of animal tests, based upon cost or feasibility.

The rule will also require that reference preparations used in the determination of relative antigenic potency be updated periodically so as to ensure that reference preparations continue to be correlated with immunogenicity. Not to require requalification of references could result in the preparation of a worthless biological product.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/17/95	60 FR 26381
NPRM Public Hearing	08/01/95	
NPRM Comment Period End	09/14/95	
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Dr. Albert Morgan, Chief Staff Veterinarian, BBEP, Veterinary Biologics, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, 4700 River Road Unit 148, Riverdale, MD 20737-1237
Phone: 301 734-8245

RIN: 0579-AA66

292. IMPORTATION OF ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

Priority: Economically Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 147a; 7 USC 150ee; 7 USC 161 to 162; 7 USC 450; 7 USC 1622; 19 USC 1306; 21 USC 102 to 105; 21 USC 111; 21 USC 114a; 21

USC 134a to 134d; 21 USC 134f; 21 USC 135; 21 USC 136; 21 USC 136a; 31 USC 9701; ...

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 92; 9 CFR 93; 9 CFR 94; 9 CFR 95; 9 CFR 96; 9 CFR 98

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: APHIS would amend the animal and animal product importation regulations that currently identify entire countries as those that are either free of certain diseases or those in which the diseases exist. The proposed change would allow for regionalization of countries--i.e., disease classification of parts of a country, an entire country, or groups of countries. The rule change would also recognize levels of disease risk in regions. Although APHIS anticipates expanding these proposed provisions to apply to the importation of all regulated animals and animal products, at this time the rule changes would apply to ruminants and swine, and their products.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/18/96	61 FR 16978
NPRM Comment Period End	07/17/96	
NPRM Comment Period Extended	09/16/96	61 FR 36520
Final Rule	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: State, Federal

Agency Contact: Dr. Gary Colgrove, Chief Staff Veterinarian, VS, National Center for Import and Export, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, 4700 River Road Unit 38, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231
Phone: 301 734-8590
Fax: 301 734-3222

RIN: 0579-AA71

293. GENETICALLY ENGINEERED ORGANISMS; SIMPLIFICATION OF REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 150aa to 150jj; 7 USC 151 to 167; 7 USC 1622n; 31 USC 9701

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 340

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The introduction of regulated articles is required to be conducted under permit or under notification procedures acknowledged by APHIS. The latter procedures require that the regulated article meet certain eligibility criteria and performance standards. Field data reports are required to be submitted to APHIS after completion of a field test. The effect would be to simplify procedures for the introduction of certain genetically engineered organisms, requirements for certain determinations of nonregulated status, and procedures for the reporting of field tests under notification. It would allow most genetically engineered plants that are considered regulated articles to be introduced under notification procedures.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/22/95	60 FR 43567
NPRM Comment Period End	10/23/95	
Final Action	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Dr. Michael Schechtman, Domestic Programs Leader, Biotechnology, Programs, PPQ, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, 4700 River Road Unit 146, Riverdale, MD 200737-1237
Phone: 301 734-7601

RIN: 0579-AA73

294. HUMANE TREATMENT OF DOGS AND CATS; TETHERING AND TEMPERATURE REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2131 to 2159

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 1; 9 CFR 3

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule would amend the regulations for the humane treatment of dogs and cats under the Animal Welfare Act by removing the provisions for tethering dogs as a means of primary enclosure. This rule would also amend the regulations by revising the temperature requirements for indoor, sheltered, and mobile and traveling housing facilities, and for primary conveyances used in transportation, to state that the ambient

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temperature must never exceed 90 degree F (32.2 degree C) when dogs or cats are present. We are taking these actions because our experience in enforcing the Animal Welfare Act has led us to conclude that continuous confinement of dogs by a tether is inhumane. Also, the current temperature requirements (that the temperature may not exceed 85 degree F for more than four hours); have proven difficult to enforce. These actions would help ensure that dogs and cats in facilities regulated under the Animal Welfare Act will be treated in a humane manner. We do not expect these actions to have any significant impact on affected businesses. Very few businesses regulated under the Animal Welfare Act use a tether as a means of primary enclosure. Dog and cat dealers who do not wish to install air conditioning to meet the temperature requirement could choose from a number of less costly alternatives, such as installing electric fans or establishing outdoor shelters or runs.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/02/96	61 FR 34386
NPRM Comment Period End	09/03/96	
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Mr. Stephen Smith, Staff Animal Health Technician, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, REAC, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 84, Riverdale, MD 20737-1234
Phone: 301 734-4972
Email: snssmith@aphis.usda.gov

RIN: 0579-AA74

295. HUMANE TREATMENT OF DOGS AND CATS; WIRE FLOORING

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2131 to 2159

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 3

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule would amend the regulations for the humane treatment of dogs and cats under the Animal Welfare Act to prohibit bare wire flooring in primary enclosures for dogs and cats. The rule would further require that, if the floor of a primary enclosure for dogs or cats is constructed of wire, the wire must be coated with a material such as plastic or fiberglass. We believe that bare wire floors are inadequate in providing for the comfort and well-being of dogs and cats because of their potential to cause

foot injuries and because they are difficult to clean and sanitize thoroughly. Requiring coated wire to be used for wire floors in primary enclosures would improve comfort, help eliminate foot injuries, and help provide clean and sanitary housing for dogs and cats. The cost to affected businesses of replacing bare wire flooring with coated wire is expected to be a considerable initial expense. However, coated wire flooring is more durable and needs to be replaced less often than bare wire flooring.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/02/96	61 FR 34389
NPRM Comment Period End	09/03/96	
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Mr. Stephen Smith, Staff Animal Health Technician, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, REAC, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 84, Riverdale, MD 20737-1234
Phone: 301 734-4972
Email: snssmith@aphis.usda.gov

RIN: 0579-AA78

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Long-Term Actions

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

296. IMPORTATION OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 319.56

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Ms. Jane Levy
Phone: 301 734-8259

RIN: 0579-AA58

297. IMPORTATION OF CERTAIN EMBRYOS AND ANIMAL SEMEN

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 98

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	07/08/93	58 FR 36625
ANPRM Comment Period End	09/07/93	
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. Roger Perkins
Phone: 301 734-8170

RIN: 0579-AA63

298. HSTAIC REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE FEES

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 92.430; 9 CFR 92.522

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Joan Montgomery
Phone: 301 734-8172

RIN: 0579-AA69

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

Completed Actions

299. EXOTIC NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN ALL BIRDS AND POULTRY; PSITTACOSIS AND ORNITHOSIS IN POULTRY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.
CFR Citation: 9 CFR 82
Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	11/05/96	61 FR 56877

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Mr. Kelly Preston
 Phone: 301 734-8240
 Fax: 301 734-7817
RIN: 0579-AA22

300. CHICKEN DISEASE CAUSED BY SALMONELLA ENTERITIDIS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 9 CFR 82

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn - Salmonella Program Transferred to FSIS in 1995.	10/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined
Government Levels Affected: Undetermined
Agency Contact: Dr. Allen Hogue
 Phone: 301 734-4363
RIN: 0579-AA48

301. IMPORT/EXPORT USER FEES

Priority: Other Significant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.
CFR Citation: 9 CFR 130

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	05/07/96	61 FR 20421
Final Action Effective	06/06/96	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Barbara Thompson, Chief
 Phone: 301 734-5901
RIN: 0579-AA67

302. USER FEES—COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT AND VESSELS; PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATES

Priority: Other Significant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 354.3

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	01/29/96	61 FR 2660
Final Action Effective	03/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Donna Ford
 Phone: 301 734-5901
RIN: 0579-AA68
BILLING CODE 3410-34-F

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES)

Proposed Rule Stage

303. HIGHER EDUCATION MULTICULTURAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM; ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Legal Authority: 7 USC 3152(b)(5); PL 103-111; PL 103-330; PL 104-37
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 3409
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Regulations will establish the procedures to be followed annually in the solicitation of proposals, the evaluation of such proposals and the award of project grants under the Multicultural Scholars Program.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	12/00/96	
Final Action	03/00/97	
Final Action Effective	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Dr. Jeffrey L. Gilmore, Higher Education National Program Leader, Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, Rm 3430 South Agriculture Building, 14th Street & Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250-2251
 Phone: 202 720-1973
 Fax: 202 720-2030
 Email: jgilmore@reeusda.gov
RIN: 0524-AA09

304. AGRICULTURAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Legal Authority: 7 USC 3318
CFR Citation: None
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We propose to establish Administrative Provisions for the Agricultural Telecommunications Program to institute procedures to be followed in preparing proposals, to

outline requirements which grant recipients must meet, to provide instructions on how to apply for a grant, and to provide general information about post-award administration of grants under the program.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Phillip A. Carter, Policy Advisor, Policy & Program, Liaison Staff, Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, STOP 2245, Washington, DC 20250-2245
 Phone: 202 720-9181
 Fax: 202 401-3237
 Email: pcarter@reeusda.gov
RIN: 0524-AA12

USDA—CSREES

Proposed Rule Stage

305. • THE NATIONAL AQUACULTURE PLAN

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 2801; PL 94-282; 42 USC 6601 et seq; EO 12881

CFR Citation: None

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service proposes to revise the National Aquaculture Development Plan of 1983 (1983 Plan). The revision, the National Aquaculture Development Plan of 1996 (1996 Plan) was deemed necessary by the Joint Subcommittee on Aquaculture (JSA), a committee of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), because developing a strong

domestic aquaculture industry in the 21st Century is in the national interest due to factors such as declining global and U.S. capture fisheries stocks, substantial U.S. reliance on imported seafood, and a burgeoning global aquaculture industry. The National Aquaculture Act of 1980 (Pub. L. 96-362, Stat. 1198. 16 USC 2801) provided the original authority for the JSA to undertake development of the original National Aquaculture Development Plan and any future revisions. President Clinton established the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) by Executive Order on November 23, 1993.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Dr. Meryl Broussard, Principal Aquaculture Scientist, Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, USDA/CSREES/PAPPP, Ag Box 2204, Suite 302, Aerospace Center, Washington, DC 20250-2204
Phone: 202 401-6438
Fax: 202 401-1602
Email: MBroussard@reeusda.gov

RIN: 0524-AA16

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Final Rule Stage

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES)

306. HIGHER EDUCATION CHALLENGE GRANTS PROGRAM; ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 3152

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 3405

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Regulation will establish the procedures to be followed annually in the solicitation of proposals, the evaluation of such proposals, and the award of project grants under the Higher Education Challenge Grants Program.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/19/95	60 FR 65444
NPRM Comment Period End	01/18/96	
Final Action	10/00/96	
Final Action Effective	10/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Dr. Jeffrey L. Gilmore, Higher Education National Program Leader, Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, Rm 3430 South Agriculture Building, 14th Street & Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250-2251
Phone: 202 720-1973
Fax: 202 720-2030
Email: jgilmore@reeusda.gov

RIN: 0524-AA02

307. 1890 INSTITUTION CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS PROGRAM; ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 3152(b)(4)

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 3406

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Regulation will establish the procedures to be followed annually in the solicitation of proposals, the evaluation of such proposals, and

award of project grants under the 1890 Institution Capacity Building Grants Program.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/20/95	60 FR 66014
NPRM Comment Period End	01/19/96	
Final Action	10/00/96	
Final Action Effective	10/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Richard Hood, Higher Education National Program Leader, Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, Rm 3436 South Agriculture Building, 14th Street & Independence Ave. SW., Washington DC 20250-2251
Phone: 202 720-1973
Fax: 202 720-2030
Email: rhood@reeusda.gov

RIN: 0524-AA03

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Completed Actions

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES)

308. SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH PROGRAM ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 3403

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	05/20/96	61 FR 25366
Final Action Effective	05/20/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Phillip Carter
Phone: 202 720-9181
Fax: 202 401-3237
Email: pcarter@reeusda.gov

RIN: 0524-AA08

USDA—CSREES

Completed Actions

309. ADMINISTRATIVE MANUAL FOR FEDERAL EXCESS PERSONAL PROPERTY LOANED TO STATE COOPERATIVE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 3408**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	08/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Ralph Dillard
Phone: 202 720-7681**RIN:** 0524-AA13**310. PERSONAL PROPERTY****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.**Unfunded Mandates:** Undetermined**CFR Citation:** None**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	08/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Ralph Dillard
Phone: 202 720-7681**RIN:** 0524-AA14**311. RANGELAND RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM; ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 3401**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	05/31/96	61 FR 27752
Final Action Effective	05/31/96	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Phillip Carter
Phone: 202 720-9181
Fax: 202 401-3237

Email: pcarter@reeusda.gov

RIN: 0524-AA15

BILLING CODE 3410-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Prerule Stage

Rural Housing and Community Development Service (RHCD)

312. FARM LABOR HOUSING**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Unfunded Mandates:** Undetermined**Legal Authority:** 42 USC 1471 et seq**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1944 subpart D; 7 CFR 1930 subpart C**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** Make needed program changes to improve compliance with

FmHA Instruction 1930-C and clarify servicing instruction as they relate to oversight of program operations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	12/00/96	
ANPRM Comment Period End	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** James E. Vollmer, Loan Specialist, Multi Family Housing, Department of Agriculture, Rural Housing and Community Development Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 5331 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-1060**RIN:** 0575-AC03

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Proposed Rule Stage

Rural Housing and Community Development Service (RHCD)

313. COMMUNITY PROGRAMS GUARANTEED LOANS**Priority:** Other Significant**Reinventing Government:** This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480; 5 USC 301**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1980 subpart I**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** To amend subject regulation which will provide more comprehensive guidance to applicants, lenders, and agency staff regarding financial assistance for essential guaranteed community facilities loans.**Justification:** These regulatory changes are necessary to streamline and reduce the burden on the public. These changes will also expand the use of the Community Facilities (CF) guarantee program by providing the ability to guarantee tax- exempt loans, and (in general) make the program more accessible to rural lenders. Finally, these changes will reflect our new Agency structure under USDA's reorganization.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined**Agency Contact:** Melvin Padgett, Loan Specialist, Community Programs Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Housing and Community Development Service, Stop 3222, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-1495**RIN:** 0575-AB48**314. SECURITY SERVICING FOR MULTIPLE-FAMILY HOUSING LOANS****Priority:** Other Significant**Unfunded Mandates:** Undetermined**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1980; 41 USC 1480; 5 USC 301

USDA—RHCDs

Proposed Rule Stage

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1965 subpart B

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Rural Housing Service is proposing to streamline its regulations; especially those governing transfers. The revisions are aimed at delivering programs in a more efficient manner yet preserve accountability and protect the Government's security interests.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/04/90	55 FR 35907
NPRM Comment Period End	11/03/90	
NPRM Protects Governments Security Interests	11/00/96	
Final Action	06/00/97	
Final Action Effective	08/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Organizations

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Public Compliance Cost: Initial Cost: \$89,975; Yearly Recurring Cost: \$89,975; Base Year for Dollar Estimates: 1997

Agency Contact: Maryanne Galloway, Loan Specialist, Multi Family Housing, Department of Agriculture, Rural Housing and Community Development Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 5331 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 690-0759

RIN: 0575-AB73

315. FMHA INSTRUCTION 1942-A, "COMMUNITY FACILITY LOANS"

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989; 16 USC 1005; 5 USC 301

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1942 subpart A

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Agency is implementing the following changes to FmHA Instruction 1942-A to: (1) provide a definition of essential community facilities; (2) expand eligibility to include recreational type projects and telecommunications projects; (3) change review process for health care plan reviews to conform to state requirements (deleting certifications from HHS); (4) determine that facilities housing primarily Federal/quasi-Federal Agencies are ineligible projects; (5) revise processing requirements for appraisals; (6) revise requirement for financial feasibility reports.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Jennifer Barton, Loan Specialist, Community Programs Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Housing and Community Development Service, Stop 3222, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-1504

RIN: 0575-AC05

316. • NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE REGULATIONS

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 42 USC 4001 to 4201; PL 91-152; PL 93-234; PL 103-325

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1926 subpart B; 7 CFR 1806 subpart B

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Agency plans to initiate a complete rewrite of the regulations to conform to the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1994 (NFIA).

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal, Federal

Agency Contact: Don Stander, Environmental Protections Specialist, Program Support Staff, Department of Agriculture, Rural Housing and Community Development Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 6309 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-2960

RIN: 0575-AC07

317. • ACCESSIBILITY OF EXISTING MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING COMPLEXES

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1480

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1924 subpart A; 7 CFR 1944 subpart E; 7 CFR 1965 subpart B

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Rural Housing Service proposes to amend its regulations to establish a cost basis for defining substantial alterations or rehabilitations to existing rural rental housing complexes, and to require that such complexes undergoing substantial rehabilitations be made accessible to persons with disabilities in accordance with Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS) to the maximum extent feasible. The action is taken to provide consistent criteria for requiring that existing housing complexes be made accessible during rehabilitation.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	12/00/96	
Final Action	02/00/97	
Final Action Effective	04/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Vernon M. Rozas, Architect, Program Support Staff, Department of Agriculture, Rural Housing and Community Development Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 6309 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-1499

RIN: 0575-AC08

318. • MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISION OF MULTIPLE FAMILY HOUSING BORROWERS AND GRANT RECIPIENTS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1941 et seq

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1930 subpart C

USDA—RHCDs

Proposed Rule Stage

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Modify servicing regulations to reduce the Direct involvement of the Agency, increase accountability and protect program integrity. Streamline and clarify Multiple Family Policies to strengthen program performance and efficiency.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Larry Anderson, Senior Loan Specialist, Multi Family

Housing, Department of Agriculture, Rural Housing and Community Development Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 5329 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-1611

RIN: 0575-AC09

319. • COMMUNITY FACILITY GRANTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989; 16 USC 1005; 5 USC 301

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 3570 subpart B

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Agency is establishing a new grant program for community facilities. Grant purposes are the same,

as the Community Facilities direct and guaranteed programs.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Jennifer Barton, Loan Specialist, Community Programs Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Housing and Community Development Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Stop 3222, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-1504

RIN: 0575-AC10

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Final Rule Stage

Rural Housing and Community Development Service (RHCDs)

320. DENYING CREDIT TO APPLICANTS DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480; 5 USC 301

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1910 subpart A; 7 CFR 1942 subpart A; 7 CFR 1942 subpart C; 7 CFR 1942 subpart G; 7 CFR 1944 subpart A; 7 CFR 1944 subpart D; 7 CFR 1944 subpart E; 7 CFR 1944 subpart J; 7 CFR 1948 subpart B; 7 CFR 1948 subpart C; 7 CFR 1951 subpart E; 7 CFR 1980 subpart E; 7 CFR 1980 subpart G; 7 CFR 1980 subpart I

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: OMB Circular A-129 dated November 25, 1988, recommends that the processing of applications for Federal direct loans be suspended and require private lenders to suspend processing of loan guarantee applications when an applicant is found to be delinquent on a Federal debt. The Federal Debt Collections Procedures Act of 1990 also requires that credit be denied if an outstanding judgment lien obtained by the United States in a Federal Court (other than the United States Tax Court), which has been recorded, is found.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/04/94	59 FR 23018
NPRM Comment Period End	07/05/94	
Final Action	08/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: Local, Tribal, Federal

Agency Contact: A. Sherie Hinton, Director, Financial Management Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Housing and Community Development Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 5310 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-4439
Fax: 202 720-5184

RIN: 0575-AA66

321. HOUSING PRESERVATION GRANTS FOR REPLACEMENT OF HOUSING

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1490m

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1944 subpart N

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Housing Preservation Grant program will be expanded to include Housing Preservation Grant funds to be used for replacement housing. Funds will be used to provide

loans or grants, not to exceed \$15,000 per unit, to owners of single family housing to replace existing housing if repairs or rehabilitation of the housing is not practicable and the owner of the housing is unable to afford a loan under Section 502 for replacement housing.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/17/95	60 FR 19168
NPRM Comment Period End	06/17/95	
Final Action	12/00/96	
Final Action Effective	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Organizations

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sue M. Harris, Senior Loan Officer, Mutli-Family Housing Processing Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Housing and Community Development Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 5343 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-1606

RIN: 0575-AB43

322. ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: PL 91-190

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1940 subpart G

Legal Deadline: None

USDA—RHCDs

Final Rule Stage

Abstract: Section 1940.311 of FmHA Instruction 1940-G, describes certain utility systems which meet the criteria for environmental review using the format for a Class I environmental assessment. There has been some confusion as to what constitutes a "substantial increase" in withdrawal or discharge, and there has also been some confusion as to what criteria should be used when calculating a 50,000 gallon per day withdrawal from surface or groundwater. It is expected that the effect of this action will be to eliminate this unnecessary confusion, and reduce documentation and paperwork on the part of Rural Housing Service, and Rural Utilities Service, employees in the preparation and review of Class I environmental assessments based on these sections.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/15/95	60 FR 13928
NPRM Comment Period End	05/15/95	
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Additional Information: On March 15, 1995, the NPRM for RIN 0575-AB64 was published at 60 FR 13928 with incorrect RIN 0575-AB66.

Agency Contact: Susan Wieferrich, Senior Environmental Protection Specialist, Program Support Staff, Department of Agriculture, Rural Housing and Community Development Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 6309 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-9619

RIN: 0575-AB64

323. COMMUNITY FACILITY LOANS: INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE TAXPAYERS IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989; 16 USC 1005; 5 USC 301

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1942; 7 CFR 1948; 7 CFR 1951; 7 CFR 1980

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: To amend subject regulations to comply with OMB Circular A-129 and simplify procedures for the Agency's field staff. Specifically, the changes will implement the

requirement to use the Internal Revenue Service Taxpayers Identification number in the borrower's case number and will provide mechanism for documentation of contacts with lenders. Additionally, some sections have been modified to provide clarification of the rules.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/15/94	59 FR 30717
NPRM Comment Period End	06/15/94	
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Yoonie MacDonald, Loan Specialist, Community Programs Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Housing and Community Development Service, Stop 3222, 1400 Independence Ave SW., Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-1501

RIN: 0575-AB77

324. RURAL RENTAL AND RURAL COOPERATIVE HOUSING LOAN POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND AUTHORIZATIONS—POINT SCORE SYSTEM TO PRIORITIZE RURAL RENTAL HOUSING LOANS

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1489; 5 USC 301; 42 USC 1480

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1944 subpart E

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This regulatory action provides guidance for participation loans, addresses eligibility requirements for applicants with noncompliance issues or fair housing violations and allows the use of a market survey to establish market feasibility on a case-by-case basis for proposals of 12 or fewer units.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/17/96	61 FR 1153

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Comment Period End	03/18/96	
Interim Final Rule	12/00/96	
Final Action	03/00/97	
Final Action Effective	04/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Obediah G. Baker, Jr., Director, Multi-Family Housing, Processing Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Housing and Community Development Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 5339 South Building, Washington, DC 20250ing
Phone: 202 720-1604

RIN: 0575-AB93

325. REENGINEERING AND REINVENTION OF THE DIRECT SECTION 502 AND 504 SINGLE FAMILY HOUSING PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480; 31 USC 3700

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1806; 7 CFR 1900; 7 CFR 1944; 7 CFR 1951; 7 CFR 1955; 7 CFR 1956; 7 CFR 1965

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Rural Housing Service (RHS) has purchased a state-of-the-art dedicated loan origination servicing system (DLOSS) which includes escrow capability. To conform to this new system, RHS proposes to make further amendments to the regulations to allow the agency to provide escrow services to Single Family Housing borrowers which follow industry standards. In addition, the agency proposes to amend its regulations to conform to processes and techniques currently utilized by the private sector.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/08/96	61 FR 15395
NPRM Comment Period End	06/07/96	
Final Action	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

USDA—RHCDs

Final Rule Stage

Government Levels Affected: None

Procurement: This is a procurement-related action for which there is no statutory requirement. There is no paperwork burden associated with this action.

Agency Contact: Jean Leavitt, Senior Loan Specialist, Single Family Housing, Department of Agriculture, Rural Housing and Community Development Service, Room 5313 South Building, 1400 Independence Ave SW., Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-1462

RIN: 0575-AB99

326. SERVICING CASES WHERE UNAUTHORIZED LOAN OR OTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WAS RECEIVED—MULTIPLE FAMILY HOUSING

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989; 5 USC 301

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1951 subpart N
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This regulation is being revised to reflect needed changes as to how unauthorized assistance is being serviced. Also, this revision reflects new terminology.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/19/91	56 FR 58325

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Comment Period End	01/21/92	
Final Action	01/00/97	
Final Action Effective	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Local

Sectors Affected: All

Agency Contact: Ernest W. Harris, Senior Loan Specialist, Multiple Family Housing, Department of Agriculture, Rural Housing and Community Development Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 5321 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-1613
Fax: 202 720-0302

RIN: 0575-AC02

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Long-Term Actions

Rural Housing and Community Development Service (RHCDs)

327. CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS—1901-E TO 1940-D

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 15; 12 CFR 202; 28 CFR 42; 45 CFR 90; 41 CFR 60 to 64; 24 CFR 14; 7 CFR 1940 subpart D; 7 CFR 1901 subpart E

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Procurement: This is a procurement-related action for which there is no statutory requirement. There is a paperwork burden associated with this action.

Agency Contact: Carlton L. Lewis
Phone: 202 245-5530

RIN: 0575-AA83

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Larry Dye
Phone: 314 539-2150

RIN: 0575-AB55

329. PLANNING AND PERFORMING CONSTRUCTION AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED CONSTRUCTION SEISMIC SAFETY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1924 subpart A; 7 CFR 1942 subpart A; 7 CFR 1942 subpart C; 7 CFR 1948 subpart C; 7 CFR 1980 subpart E; 7 CFR 1980 subpart G; 7 CFR 1944

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/25/95	60 FR 44283
NPRM Comment Period End	10/24/95	
Final Action	00/00/00	
Final Action Effective	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sam Hodges III
Phone: 202 720-9653

RIN: 0575-AB59

330. SECTION 515 NONPROFIT SET-ASIDE FUNDS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1940 subpart L; 7 CFR 2.23; 7 CFR 2.70

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	07/21/93	58 FR 38949
Final Action	10/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Federal

Agency Contact: Obediah G. Baker, Jr.
Phone: 202 720-1604

RIN: 0575-AB60

328. OFFSETS OF FEDERAL PAYMENTS TO AGENCY BORROWERS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1951 subpart C; 7 CFR 2.23; 7 CFR 2.70

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/02/94	59 FR 22548
NPRM Comment Period End	06/01/94	
Final Action	00/00/00	
Final Action Effective	00/00/00	

331. ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM STREAMLINE ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 40 CFR 300; 40 CFR 260; 40 CFR 700; 40 CFR 400

USDA—RHCDs

Long-Term Actions

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Susan Wieferrich

Phone: 202 720-9619
RIN: 0575-AB98

332. PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING LEASE WRITE-OFF AND ANNUAL LEASE STATEMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1955 subpart B

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined
Government Levels Affected: Undetermined
Agency Contact: Kristine Kenniston
 Phone: 314 539-2261
RIN: 0575-AC01

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
 Rural Housing and Community Development Service (RHCDs)**

Completed Actions

333. RECAPTURE OF SECTION 502, RURAL HOUSING SUBSIDY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1951 subpart I

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn Incorporated into AB99	08/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Phil Girard
 Phone: 202 720-1461
RIN: 0575-AA29

335. HOUSING FOR RURAL HOMELESS AND MIGRANT FARMWORKERS; POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND AUTHORIZATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1944 subpart H (New)

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn Has not been funded, no plan to complete this action.	08/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations
Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal, Federal
Procurement: This is a procurement-related action for which there is a statutory requirement. There is a paperwork burden associated with this action.
Agency Contact: John Pentecost
 Phone: 202 720-1606
RIN: 0575-AB14

Phone: 202 720-1462
RIN: 0575-AB17

337. DEBT SETTLEMENT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1956 subpart B

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn - Incorporated into RIN 0575-AB99	08/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Jean Leavitt
 Phone: 202 720-1462
 Fax: 202 205-2476
RIN: 0575-AB80

334. SECTION 502 RURAL HOUSING LOAN POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND AUTHORIZATIONS (DEFERRED MORTGAGE PROGRAM)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1944 subpart A; 7 CFR 1951 subpart G

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	10/27/95	60 FR 55112
Final Action Effective	10/27/95	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: James Craun
 Phone: 202 720-1474
RIN: 0575-AA87

336. DISPOSITION OF INTERESTS IN INDIAN TRUST LAND

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1955; 7 CFR 1965

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn - Incorporated into RIN 0575-AB99	08/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Jean Leavitt

338. REQUIRE ALL SINGLE-FAMILY HOUSING BORROWERS AND NONPROGRAM BORROWERS WHO HAVE PURCHASED SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCE TO PAY ONE-TIME TAX SERVICE FEE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1944; 7 CFR 1951; 7 CFR 1965

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn - Incorporated into RIN 0575-AB99	08/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Jean Leavitt
 Phone: 202 720-1462
 Fax: 202 205-2476
RIN: 0575-AC00

USDA—RHCDs

Completed Actions

339. DAVIS-BACON AND RELATED ACTS

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1901 subpart D; 7 CFR 1940 subpart C; 7 CFR 1924 subpart A; 7 CFR 1944 subpart D

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	10/31/96	61 FR 56114
Final Action Effective	10/31/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Keith A. Suerdieck
Phone: 202 720-9619

RIN: 0575-AC06

BILLING CODE 3410-07-F

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Proposed Rule Stage

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC)

340. COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS; PEANUT CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS

Priority: Routine and Frequent

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1506(l)

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 457

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation hereby proposes regulations for provisions to insure peanuts. The provisions will be used in conjunction with the common crop insurance policy which contains standard terms and conditions common to most crops. The intended effect of this action is to provide automatic coverage for late and prevented planting as well as make other minor policy changes to better meet the needs of the insured. This rule proposes to remove the peanut endorsements which are currently a "stand-alone" policy located in part 425 and part 401.141 of the General Crop Insurance provisions and move them under part 457, Common Crop Insurance provisions.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/96	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0525, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0525
Phone: 202 690-2803

Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AA85

341. COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS; ONION CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS

Priority: Routine and Frequent

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1506(l)

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 457

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation hereby proposes regulations for provisions to insure onions. The provisions will be used in conjunction with the Common Crop Insurance Policy which contains standard terms and conditions common to most crops. The intended effect of this action is to provide automatic coverage for late and prevented planting as well as make other minor policy changes to better meet the needs of the insured. The previous onion crop insurance policy was located at 401.126 General Crop Insurance Provisions. This rule proposes that the onion policy fall under the Common Crop Insurance regulations located in part 457.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/96	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0525, 1400

Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0525
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AA87

342. COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS; NORTHERN POTATO CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS

Priority: Routine and Frequent

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1506(l)

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 457

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation hereby proposes regulations for provisions to insure northern potatoes. The provision will be used in conjunction with the Common Crop Insurance policy which contains standard terms and conditions common to most crops. The intended effect of this action is to provide automatic coverage for late and prevented planting as well as make minor policy changes to better meet the needs of the insured. This rule proposes to remove the potato policy which is currently a "stand-alone" policy located in part 422 and move it under part 457, Common Crop Insurance provisions. A separate rule proposes provisions for central-southern potatoes.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/96	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

USDA—FCIC

Proposed Rule Stage

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0525, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0525
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AA89

343. COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS; SUGARBEET CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS

Priority: Routine and Frequent

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1506(l)

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 457

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation hereby proposes regulations for provisions to insure sugarbeets. The provisions will be used in conjunction with the Common Crop Insurance Policy which contains standard terms and conditions common to most crops. The intended effect of this action is to provide automatic coverage for late and prevented planting as well as make other minor policy changes to better meet the needs of the insured. This rule proposes to remove the Sugarbeet policy which currently is a "stand-alone" policy located in part 430 and move it under part 457, Common Crop Insurance Provisions.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/96	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0525, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0525
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AA93

344. COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS; CANNING AND PROCESSING TOMATO CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS

Priority: Routine and Frequent

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1506(l)

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 457

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation hereby proposes regulations for provisions to insure canning and processing tomatoes. The provisions will be used in conjunction with the Common Crop Insurance Policy which contains standard terms and conditions common to most crops. The intended effect of this action is to provide automatic coverage for late and prevented planting as well as make other minor policy changes to better meet the needs of the insured. This rule proposes to remove the Canning and Processing tomato policy which currently is located at Part 401.114 under the General Crop Insurance Regulations and move under part 457, Common Crop Insurance Regulations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/96	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0525, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0525
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AA94

345. COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS; FRESH MARKET TOMATO (GUARANTEED PRODUCTION) CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS

Priority: Routine and Frequent

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in

the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1506(l)

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 457

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation hereby proposes regulations for provisions to insure fresh market tomatoes (guaranteed production plan). The provisions will be used in conjunction with the common crop insurance policy which contains standard terms and conditions common to most crops. The intended effect of this action is to provide automatic coverage for late and prevented planting as well as make other minor policy changes to better meet the needs of the insured. This rule proposes to remove the fresh market tomato (guaranteed production plan) policy which currently is a "stand-alone" policy located at part 454 and move it under part 457, common crop insurance regulations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/96	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0525, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0525
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AA95

346. COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS; DRY BEAN CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS

Priority: Routine and Frequent

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1506(l)

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 457

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation hereby proposes

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Proposed Rule Stage

regulations for provisions to insure dry beans. The provisions will be used in conjunction with the Common Crop Insurance Policy which contains standard terms and conditions common to most crops. The intended effect of this action is to provide automatic coverage for late and prevented planting as well as make other minor policy changes to better meet the needs of the insured. This rule proposes to

remove the dry bean policy which currently is a "stand-alone" policy located at part 433 and move it under part 457, Common Crop Insurance Regulations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/96	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0525, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0525
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB02

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC)**

Final Rule Stage

347. GROUP RISK PLAN CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS; PART 407

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1506(l)

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 407

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) hereby proposes to issue provisions which will outline a new risk management tool to be known as the Group Risk Plan of Insurance (GRP). This plan will insure against the widespread loss of production of certain crops in a county and is intended primarily for use by those farmers whose yields tend to follow the county average yield. GRP pays only when the average yield of the entire county drops below the expected county yield for the insured crop set by the FCIC. Payment is based on the percentage of county or area wide loss below the insured's trigger yield. Specific GRP Crop Insurance Provisions will be proposed for cotton, wheat, barley, corn, grain, sorghum, soybeans, forage production, and peanuts.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/08/96	61 FR 52717
Final Action	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0525, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0525
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB06

Administrative Regulations by repealing obsolete disaster guidelines and requiring the mandatory purchase of catastrophic crop insurance for program crops as a prerequisite for obtaining benefits under any commodity price subpart, production adjustment, or conservation program administered by USDA, or any farmer loan program, whether these programs are administered by FCIC or CFSIA.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0525, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0525
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB20

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC)**

Long-Term Actions

349. COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS; TOBACCO (GUARANTEED PLAN) CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS

Priority: Routine and Frequent

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 401.129

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
Phone: 202 690-2803

Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AA84

350. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; HIGH RISK LAND REGULATIONS

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400

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Long-Term Actions

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
 Phone: 202 690-2803
 Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AA98

351. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; SUBPART D; APPLICATION FOR CROP INSURANCE

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400, subpart D

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
 Phone: 202 690-2803
 Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB00

352. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; SUBPART U; INELIGIBLE FILE - CROP INSURANCE INELIGIBILITY

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/31/96	61 FR 56151
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
 Phone: 202 690-2803
 Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB01

353. COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS; RICE, FIG, ALMOND, RAISIN, FORAGE PRODUCTION, HYBRID SORGHUM SEED, PEAR, APPLE, CANNING AND PROCESSING SWEET CORN, DOLLAR PLAN FRESH MARKET TOMATO,

Priority: Routine and Frequent

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 457

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final: Figs	03/01/94	59 FR 9614
Final Rule: Nursery Crops	06/15/95	60 FR 31375
Final Rule: Figs	07/25/95	60 FR 37934
NPRM	04/25/96	61 FR 18293
NPRM Comment Period End	05/28/96	
Final Rule: Pears	11/07/96	61 FR 57578
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
 Phone: 202 690-2803
 Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB03

354. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; NONSTANDARD CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM; SUBPART O

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400, subpart O

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/07/96	61 FR 57595
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
 Phone: 202 690-2803
 Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB05

355. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; SUBPART S; REGULATIONS FOR INSURANCE COVERAGE BY WRITTEN AGREEMENT

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400, subpart S

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
 Phone: 202 690-2803
 Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB07

356. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; SUBPART V; SUPPLEMENTAL AND ALTERNATIVE CROP INSURANCE POLICY APPROVAL PROCESS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400, subpart V

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
 Phone: 202 690-2803
 Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB15

357. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; SUBPART J; APPEAL PROCEDURE REGULATIONS

Priority: Routine and Frequent

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400, subpart J

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/29/95	60 FR 67298
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
 Phone: 202 690-2803
 Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB17

358. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; FEDERAL JURISDICTION AND STATUTE OF LIMITATION FOR SUITS BASED UPON DENIAL OF CLAIMS FOR INDEMNITY

Priority: Routine and Frequent

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
 Phone: 202 690-2803
 Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB21

USDA—FCIC

Long-Term Actions

359. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; ACTUAL PRODUCTION HISTORY COVERAGE PROGRAM; TRANSITIONAL YIELDS FOR PRODUCERS OF FEED OR FORAGE

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB23

360. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS: SUBPART Q: COLLECTION AND STORAGE OF SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NUMBERS AND EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400, subpart Q

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB26

361. 1996 CROP YEAR PLANTAIN AND BANANA INSURANCE PROGRAM AND BANANA CROP INTENSIVE CULTIVATION INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR PUERTO RICO

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR Not yet determined

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman

Phone: 202 690-2803

Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB30

362. 1996 CROP YEAR COFFEE CROP INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR PUERTO RICO

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: Not yet determined

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB33

363. 1996 CROP YEAR COFFEE PLANTATION INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR PUERTO RICO

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: Not yet determined

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB34

364. 1996 CROP YEAR FRUIT CROP (AVOCADO, ORANGES, MANGO, CITRON, LEMON, PAPAYA, PASSION) INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR PUERTO RICO

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: Not yet determined

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB35

365. 1996 CROP YEAR FRUIT TREES (AVOCADO, ORANGES, MANGO, CITRON, LEMON) INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR PUERTO RICO

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: Not yet determined

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB36

366. 1996 CROP YEAR SUGARCANE INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR PUERTO RICO

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: Not yet determined

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB40

367. 1996 CROP YEAR VEGETABLE INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR PUERTO RICO

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: Not yet determined

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB41

USDA—FCIC

Long-Term Actions

368. COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS; SUNFLOWER SEED CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 457.108**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
 Phone: 202 690-2803
 Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB42**369. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; REINSURANCE AGREEMENT STANDARDS FOR APPROVAL****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 400.169**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	05/01/95	60 FR 20135
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
 Phone: 202 690-2803
 Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB44**370. TOBACCO, QUOTA PLAN CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 435**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
 Phone: 202 690-2803
 Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB47**371. POPCORN CORN INSURANCE REGULATIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 447**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
 Phone: 202 690-2803
 Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB48**372. COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS; TEXAS CITRUS TREE CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 457**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/29/96	61 FR 45369
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
 Phone: 202 690-2803
 Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB50**373. COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS; FLORIDA CITRUS FRUIT CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 401.143; 7 CFR 457**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/15/96	61 FR 10699
NPRM Comment Period End	04/15/96	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
 Phone: 202 690-2803
 Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB51**374. COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS—ELS COTTON CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS—UNIT DIVISIONS AND CANCELLATION AND TERMINATION DATES****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1501 et seq**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 475.105**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This action will clarify the unit division guidelines for non-irrigated corners of center pivot irrigation systems and change the cancellation and termination dates of March 15 to February 28 for all states except New Mexico. The date change is necessary to comply with moving the sales closing date 30 days earlier for all spring-planted crops. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/27/96	61 FR 43999
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0525, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0525
 Phone: 202 690-2803
 Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB52**375. COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS—COTTON****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1501**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 457.104**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This action will clarify the unit division guidelines for non-irrigated corners of center pivot irrigation systems and change the cancellation and termination dates of February 15 to January 15. The date change is necessary to comply with moving the sales closing date 30 days earlier for all spring-planted crops. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/03/96	61 FR 46401
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0525, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0525

USDA—FCIC

Long-Term Actions

Phone: 202 690-2803

Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB53

376. • COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS—SUGAR BEET

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1506

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 457

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will provide specific provisions for the insurance of sugar beets. They will be used in conjunction with the Common Crop Insurance Policy Basic Provisions, which contain standard terms and conditions common to most crops. The intended effect of this action is to provide policy changes to better meet the needs of the insured and include the current sugar beet endorsement with the Common Crop Insurance Policy for ease of use and consistency of policy terms. No significant cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/31/96	61 FR 27315
NPRM Comment Period End	07/30/96	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0525, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0525
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB55

377. • CATASTROPHIC RISK PROTECTION PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1508

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, July 3, 1996.

Abstract: This action will provide noninsured producers, policyholders, and insurance companies with a catastrophic risk protection program in conformance with the Federal Crop Insurance Reform Act of 1994. It will

also implement requirements of the Federal Agriculture Improvement Act of 1996 that allows producers to not obtain crop insurance if they waive eligibility for emergency crop loss assistance and still retain eligibility for certain other farm program benefits.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0525, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0525
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB57

378. • CATASTROPHIC RISK PROTECTION ENDORSEMENT

Priority: Economically Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1508

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 402

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, July 3, 1996.

Abstract: The catastrophic risk plan of insurance provides a basic level of insurance to producers. The Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 allows producers to forego obtaining crop insurance if they sign a waiver of eligibility for emergency crop loss assistance and still be eligible for certain other farm program benefits.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0525, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0525
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB58

379. • FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE ON HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND AND WETLANDS—PART 400

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 3811; 16 USC 3821

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400.47

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, July 3, 1996.

Abstract: This action will implement requirements of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 to provide that producers will no longer be required to be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985 in order to be eligible to obtain crop insurance. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	07/23/96	61 FR 38057
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0525, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0525
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB59

380. • FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE ON HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND AND WETLANDS—PART 401

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 3811; 16 USC 3821

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 401.8

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, July 3, 1996.

Abstract: This action will implement requirements of the Federal Agricultural Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 to provide that producers will no longer be required to be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985 in order to be eligible to obtain crop insurance. No cost is expected.

USDA—FCIC

Long-Term Actions

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	07/26/96	61 FR 39048
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0525, 1400

Independence Avenue SW.,
Washington, DC 20250-0525
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB60

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Completed Actions

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC)

381. CATASTROPHIC RISK PROTECTION ENDORSEMENT; PART 402

Priority: Economically Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 402

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	08/20/96	61 FR 42979

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB09

382. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS: SUBPART T; FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE REFORM ACT OF 1994; REGULATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Priority: Economically Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400, subpart T

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	08/20/96	61 FR 42970

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB11

383. NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, PART 404

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 404

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	02/27/96	61 FR 7193

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB13

384. COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS; SMALL GRAINS (INCLUDING MALTING BARLEY), COTTON, ELS COTTON, AND COARSE GRAINS CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 401.101; 7 CFR 401.102; 7 CFR 457.101; 7 CFR 457.103 to 457.105; 7 CFR 457.113

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	03/06/96	61 FR 8851

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB24

385. • COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS—TEXAS CITRUS FRUIT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or

duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1506

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 457

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action provides specific crop provisions for the insurance of Texas citrus fruit. They will be used in conjunction with the Common Crop Insurance Policy Basic Provisions, which contain standard terms and conditions common to most crops. The intended effect of the action is to provide policy changes to better meet the needs of the insured and to combine the current Texas Citrus Endorsement with the Common Crop Insurance Policy for ease of use and consistency of terms. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/05/96	61 FR 28512
NPRM Comment Period End	07/05/96	
Final Action - (Correction 11/07/96, 61 FR 57583)	08/08/96	61 FR 41297

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0525, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0525
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB56

BILLING CODE 3410-08-F

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA)

Proposed Rule Stage

386. • WEIGHING REGULATIONS REVIEW
Priority: Other Significant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.
Legal Authority: PL 94-582; 7 USC 71
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 800.96; 7 CFR 800.97; 7 CFR 800.98; 7 CFR 800.99
Legal Deadline: None
Abstract: This rulemaking is being taken as part of the President's

initiative on regulatory reform. It results from an agency review of material in the U.S. Grain Standards Act and 7 CFR 800.99 related to checkweighing procedures for sacked grain. The action removes 4 pages from the CFR. It is administrative in nature and will not change the Agency's present grain weight certification or checkweighing policies.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	
Final Action	02/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: George Wollam, Regulatory Liaison, Department of Agriculture, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, Room 0623-S, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-0292
Fax: 202 720-4628
Email: gwollam@fgis.usda.gov
RIN: 0580-AA49

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA)

Final Rule Stage

387. FEES FOR COMMODITY INSPECTION
Priority: Other Significant
Legal Authority: 7 USC 1621 et seq
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 868
Legal Deadline: None
Abstract: The Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration is proposing to make changes to fees charged for inspection services for commodities other than rice, performed under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946. These revisions are designed to generate revenue sufficient to cover projected operating costs.

Agriculture, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, P.O. Box 96454, Room 0623 South Building, Washington, D. C. 20090-6454
Phone: 202 720-0292
Fax: 202 720-4628
Email: gwollam@fgis.usda.gov

RIN: 0580-AA48

1324 of the Food Security Act of 1985 by allowing electronic filing of effective financing statements without the signature of the debtor provided State law authorizes such a filing. This amendment brings the regulations into conformity with Sec. 662 and 663 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/08/96	61 FR 35687
NPRM Comment Period End	08/07/96	
Final Action	12/00/96	
Final Action Effective	01/00/97	

388. • CLEAR TITLE - PROTECTION FOR PURCHASERS OF FARM PRODUCTS
Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.
Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined
Legal Authority: 7 USC 1631; PL 104-127; PL 99-198
CFR Citation: 9 CFR 205.101; 9 CFR 205.105; 9 CFR 205.202; 9 CFR 205.209
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Amends regulations relating to the establishment and management of statewide central filing systems pertaining specifically to the filing of "effective financing statements" for "farm products" as defined in Sec.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	10/22/96	61 FR 54727
Final Action	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: George Wollam, Regulatory Liaison, Department of Agriculture, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, Room 0623-s, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-0292
Fax: 202 720-4628
Email: gwollam@fgis.usda.gov
RIN: 0580-AA50

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA)

Completed Actions

389. FEES FOR OFFICIAL INSPECTION AND WEIGHING SERVICE
Priority: Other Significant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 800

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	08/22/96	61 FR 43301
Final Action Effective	10/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: George Wollam
Phone: 202 720-0292
RIN: 0580-AA40

USDA—GIPSA

Completed Actions

390. REGULATIONS AND STATEMENTS OF GENERAL POLICY UNDER THE PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS ACT (GROUP 2)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 201.49; 9 CFR 201.53; 9 CFR 201.55; 9 CFR 201.69; 9 CFR 201.70; 9 CFR 201.71; 9 CFR 201.73; 9 CFR 201.76; 9 CFR 201.98; 9 CFR 201.100; 9 CFR 201.108(1); 9 CFR 201.200; 9 CFR 203.4; 9 CFR 203.18; 9 CFR 203.19; ...

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/10/96	61 FR 36279
Final Action Effective	08/09/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Harold W. Davis
Phone: 202 720-7063

RIN: 0580-AA44

391. REGULATIONS AND STATEMENTS OF GENERAL POLICY UNDER THE PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS ACT (GROUP 3)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 201.10; 9 CFR 201.27; 9 CFR 201.28; 9 CFR 201.29; 9 CFR 201.30; 9 CFR 201.31; 9 CFR 201.32; 9 CFR 201.33; 9 CFR 201.34

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/10/96	61 FR 36277
Final Action Effective	08/09/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Harold W. Davis
Phone: 202 720-7063

RIN: 0580-AA45

392. STATEMENT OF GENERAL POLICY UNDER THE PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS ACT: CARE AND HANDLING OF LIVESTOCK

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing

Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 203.20

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	05/17/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Harold W. Davis
Phone: 202 720-7063

RIN: 0580-AA46

393. FEES FOR RICE INSPECTION

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 868

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/03/96	61 FR 34714
Final Action Effective	08/02/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: George Wollam
Phone: 202 720-0292
Fax: 202 720-4628
Email: gwollam@fgis.usda.gov

RIN: 0580-AA47

BILLING CODE 3410-EN-F

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Prerule Stage

Food and Consumer Service (FCS)

394. NOTICE OF NEW PRIVACY ACT SYSTEM OF RECORDS—FOOD STAMP RETAILER INFORMATION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 93-579

CFR Citation: None

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This notice proposes to create a new Privacy Act system of records entitled "Food Stamp Retailer Information." This will enable FCS to share personal information with other

Federal agencies pertaining to store owners currently participating in the Food Stamp Program, as well as those store owners who have previously participated in the program. Some of the identifying information which will be shared with other Federal agencies are the names and home addresses of owners, owners' Social Security Numbers, and dates of birth. (95-020)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC19

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Proposed Rule Stage

Food and Consumer Service (FCS)

395. SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC): FOOD DELIVERY SYSTEMS

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 1 in Part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

RIN: 0584-AA80

396. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS OF DISASTERS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2013 (b); 7 USC 2014 (h)

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 271; 7 CFR 272; 7 CFR 273; 7 CFR 274; 7 CFR 280

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule would define special eligibility and issuance procedures during disasters. The rule addresses the eligibility and issuance of food stamps by the Food Stamp Program during a disaster. (86-029)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	04/00/97	
Final Action	01/00/98	
Final Action Effective	03/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Federal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246
Fax: 703 305-2921

RIN: 0584-AA85

397. SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC): MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1786

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 246

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed rule responds to a variety of program concerns, most of which have been expressed by WIC

State agencies. The proposal strengthens the provision of services to participants in the areas of eligibility determination and nutrition education and increases State agency flexibility regarding the sharing of participant information with other programs. Several minor clarifications and technical corrections are also made. Principal provisions include: (1) mandatory minimum content requirements for nutrition education participant contacts; and (2) additional flexibility for State agencies to share participant information with related programs. (89-515)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	03/00/97	
Final Action	06/00/97	
Final Action Effective	06/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB10

398. FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMS—PAPERWORK REDUCTION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: PL 101-147

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 250; 7 CFR 251; 7 CFR 253

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule will implement the food distribution portion of the recommendations of the August 1990 task force on paperwork reduction. These recommendations were included in a report to Congress and included perpetual State/Federal agreements and longer contract duration for warehouses. (94-007)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/97	
Final Action	09/00/97	
Final Action Effective	10/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB27

399. FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMS—IMPLEMENTATION OF 1990 FARM BILL

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: PL 101-624

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 250; 7 CFR 251

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, July 30, 1992.

Abstract: This rule will revise the requirements for evaluation of State warehousing and distribution systems and conversion to commercial systems. (91-004)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	03/00/97	
Final Action	09/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB28

400. COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM: ELDERLY-ONLY SITES, ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDING, REFERRALS TO HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, CASELOAD ALLOCATION PROCESS, PRIORITY SYSTEM, AND MISCELLANEOUS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 612c

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 247

USDA—FCS

Proposed Rule Stage

Legal Deadline:

Final, Statutory, October 1, 1990, for funding provisions.
Final, Statutory, October 1, 1991, for all other provisions.

Abstract: This proposed rule would amend regulations governing the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) to replace the current method of assigning caseload with a system that is based on the allocation of grants to the State agencies. (91-015)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	12/00/97	
Final Action	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB37

401. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: 1995 QUALITY CONTROL TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2011 to 2032

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 271.2; 7 CFR 275.3; 7 CFR 275.10; 7 CFR 275.11; 7 CFR 275.12; 7 CFR 275.13; 7 CFR 275.23

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Food and Consumer Service is proposing technical changes to the Food Stamp Program's Quality Control System which will reduce the workload on State agencies and improve the efficiency of the quality control system. The proposed changes would: (1) permit State agencies to reduce their sample sizes; (2) clarify the minimum size of the Federal subsample; (3) clarify State sampling procedures; (4) change the formulas for calculating Federal subsample sizes; (5) clarify the process of conducting a

quality control review of negative subsystem cases and add suspended cases, those cases that are certified for the Program but do not receive benefits, to the sample universe of cases that are reviewed under the negative subsystem; (6) change the error dollar tolerance level; (7) modify the requirements regarding a home visit in active quality control reviews; (8) provide a variance exclusion under certain circumstances for errors resulting from incorrect policy issued in written State agency policies or directives; (9) adjust the case completion standard; and (10) codify into regulations those circumstances under which Federal quality control findings or disposition for a case will be changed. (92-006)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/10/96	61 FR 47680
NPRM Comment Period End	11/12/96	
Final Action	06/00/97	
Final Action Effective	10/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Federal

Additional Information: RIN 0584-AB07 has been withdrawn, and the actions in that proposed rule have been included in this action.

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB38

402. PROVISIONS OF COMPUTER MATCHING AND PRIVACY PROTECTION ACT OF 1988, AMENDMENTS OF 1990, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DISQUALIFIED RECIPIENT SUBSYSTEM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 552(a) Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act; 7 USC 2015(b) Food Stamp Act

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 272; 7 CFR 273

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: In accordance with the Computer Matching and Privacy

Protection Act, PL 100-503, and the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Amendments of 1990, PL 101-508, the Food Stamp Program must extend certain protections to persons whose benefits could be adversely affected by computer matches. These protections include independent verification of computer information, notification to the affected individual and provision of an opportunity to respond to the information before an adverse action becomes effective.

In addition, this proposed rule describes requirements for State agencies to report information on individuals disqualified from the program for intentional program violations to FCS and the related FCS computer matching program known as the Disqualified Recipient Subsystem (DRS). (89-010)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	04/00/97	
Final Action	10/00/97	
Final Action Effective	01/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB51

403. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: ANTICIPATING INCOME AND REPORTING CHANGES

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2011 to 2032

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 273

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule proposes several revisions in Food Stamp Program reporting and budgeting requirements. The changes in prospective budgeting and change reporting rules are intended to improve procedures for anticipating the eligibility and benefits of households whose income fluctuates unpredictably. The proposed revisions would provide a more stable level of benefits for these households by

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requiring them to report a change in employment status rather than a change in the amount of earnings. The rule also would allow suspension, as opposed to termination, of prospectively budgeted households that become ineligible for one month because of income fluctuations. (93-005)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB57

404. CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM: ELIMINATION OF WHOLE COW'S MILK FROM THE INFANT MEAL PATTERN

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1751 to 1760; 42 USC 1779

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 210; 7 CFR 220; 7 CFR 226

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action proposes an amendment that would affect meal pattern requirements for infants under the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, and Child and Adult Care Food Program, parts 210, 220, and 226, respectively. This rule proposes to prohibit the service of whole cow's milk to infants ages 8 months through 11 months and would require that breast milk or iron-fortified formula be served for an infant's entire first year of life. This proposal would also add or amend tables describing infant meal requirements to clarify which meals containing breast milk in place of iron-fortified formula may fulfill the infant meal pattern. Finally, this proposal would correct the definition of "infant formula" in part 226 and make the wording consistent with the definition currently in parts 210 and 220. (95-005)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/97	
Final Action	11/00/97	
Final Action Effective	12/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB81

405. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: FOOD STAMP RECIPIENT CLAIM ESTABLISHMENT AND COLLECTION STANDARDS

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 2 in Part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

RIN: 0584-AB88

406. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: REVISIONS IN RETAIL FOOD STORE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND IN ELIGIBILITY GUIDANCE AND PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 3 in Part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

RIN: 0584-AB90

407. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: RETAILER APPLICATION PROCESSING

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2011 to 2032

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 278.1

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule would increase from 30 to 90 days the initial application processing timeframe for stores that apply for authorization. It would also allow FCS to request specific documentation to verify applicant firms' eligibility. Such information would include, but would not be limited to, business licenses, photographic identification cards, bills of sale, deeds, leases, sales contracts, certificates of incorporation, sales records, invoice records, and tax records. This documentation would be used to confirm self-reported information provided on the

application form and to obtain third-party verification. (95-008)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC05

408. SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM: PROGRAM MEAL SERVICE DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 103-448; 42 USC 1769a

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 225

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Implements provision of PL 103-448 which permits Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) meal service to be provided at non-school sites to children who are not in school for a period during the months of October through April due to a natural disaster, building repair, court order, or similar cause. Rule also simplifies the SFSP sponsor application and State monitoring requirements in order to eliminate unnecessary paperwork and reduce administrative burden for sponsors and State agencies. (95-011)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	03/00/97	
Final Action	07/00/97	
Final Action Effective	08/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC06

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409. AMENDMENT TO REMOVE FORMULATED GRAIN—FRUIT PRODUCT SECTION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Legal Authority: 42 USC 1773; 42 USC 1779
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 220 app A
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Formulated grain-fruit products are specially fortified pastry type products which are currently authorized for use in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) to meet one bread/bread alternate and the fruit/vegetable requirements of the meal pattern. Originally intended to increase participation in the SBP by comprising a reimbursable meal when served with milk, subsequent additions to the meal patterns have made this impossible. In addition, these products do not make favorable contributions to a healthy diet. There is a minimum of 22% fat in the product specification, and high sugar levels are also necessary to meet the calorie minimum and produce a palatable product. These products are also low in fiber. Interest in these products from the food industry is low; only a few companies have approved grain-fruit products. These companies could reformulate their existing products into lower fat, tastier products without the constraints of this regulation. This regulation is no longer necessary or effective in promoting participation in the SBP. (95-010)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined
Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
 Phone: 703 305-2246
RIN: 0584-AC09

410. CONSOLIDATION OF NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM AND SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM INTO COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing

Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: PL 103-448
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 210; 7 CFR 220
Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, May 2, 1996.

Abstract: Sec. 301 of P.L. 103-448 required the consolidation of the school lunch program and the school breakfast program into a comprehensive school meal program. In establishing the comprehensive school meal program, (a) children who are eligible for free and reduced price benefits will continue to receive such benefits; (b) the meals will continue to meet the nutritional requirements of sec. 9(a)(1) of the National School Lunch Act (NSLA) and sec. 4(e)(1) of the Child Nutrition Act (CNA); and (c) breakfast and lunch payments will continue to meet the requirements of sec. 4 and 11 of the NSLA and sec. 4 of the CNA. This regulation will consolidate the two programs by making structural changes to the framework of 7 CFR Part 210 to accommodate the incorporation of the breakfast program and by removing repetitive and obsolete provisions. Further, 7 CFR Part 220 will be removed in its entirety. (95-013)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/97	
Final Action	09/00/97	
Final Action Effective	10/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302
 Phone: 703 305-2246
RIN: 0584-AC10

411. FSP: RETAILER DELINQUENT DEBT COLLECTION: OFFSETTING FEDERAL INCOME TAX REFUND

Priority: Other Significant
Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined
Legal Authority: PL 98-369; PL 100-203; PL 100-485; PL 102-164
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 278.6

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule notifies the public that FCS will begin offsetting Federal income tax refunds in 1997 to collect delinquent debts against food stamp retailers. These debts represent monetary penalties which FCS assessed against retailers who have violated Food Stamp Program rules and regulations. The offset will be made from Federal income tax refunds payable to retailers who are on FCS' records as having delinquent debts. This rule implements authority granted by the Cash Management Improvements Act, as amended. (95-014)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses
Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
 Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC11

412. MODIFICATION OF THE "VEGETABLE PROTEIN PRODUCTS" PORTION OF APPENDIX A OF 7 CFR PARTS 210, 225, AND 226

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Legal Authority: 42 USC 1758; 42 USC 1759a; 42 USC 1761; 42 USC 1762a; 42 USC 1765; 42 USC 1766

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 210 app A; 7 CFR 210.10(k)(3)(i); 7 CFR 210.10a(d)(2)(i); 7 CFR 225 app A; 7 CFR 225.16(f)(3); 7 CFR 226 app A; 7 CFR 220 app A

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The usage level of vegetable protein products (VPP) is currently limited to a 30% substitution of meat, fish or poultry. A nutritional profile has been established which specifies fortification of certain nutrients as well as a protein quality requirement. This regulation could better serve the child nutrition programs if it is modified to allow an increased utilization of foods containing VPP. The food industry has requested that we allow 100% soy products to serve as meat alternates in the food based system, since there are no restrictions on their use under the nutrient based system. In addition, current fortification levels of iron and

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zinc established for the VPP used in the child nutrition programs were based on early dietary research. It is now believed that these levels may be excessive if the VPP is used at greater than a 30% level of substitution in the diet. The Department intends to propose a rule to modify the regulations governing the use of vegetable protein products in the child nutrition programs which will provide a consistent nutritional policy regardless of menu planning system used, and will remove confusing regulatory burdens from programs and industry. (95-018)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC18

413. RELEASE OF FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL MEAL ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: PL 103-448, sec 108

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 245

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule would allow the disclosure and use of a student's free and reduced price school meal or free milk eligibility information when needed for certain educational programs, to facilitate eligibility determinations in other means tested programs, and for certain monitoring and investigative purposes. The rule would (1) establish limits on the persons and programs that may have access to a student's free and reduced price school meal or free milk eligibility information, (2) require that households be notified that information may be shared, and (3) provide penalties for unauthorized disclosures. The proposed amendments are intended to facilitate children's access to certain programs serving low-income children and protect free and reduced

price eligibility information from misuse and unauthorized disclosures. (95-022)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	06/00/97	
Final Action	10/00/97	
Final Action Effective	11/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC21

414. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: REGULATORY REVIEW/PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2011 to 2032

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 271; 7 CFR 272; 7 CFR 273.15; 7 CFR 273.16; 7 CFR 274; 7 CFR 275; 7 CFR 276; 7 CFR 277; 7 CFR 281; 7 CFR 284; 7 CFR 285

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Department of Agriculture is proposing substantial revisions to the Food Stamp Program regulations governing State agency administrative and management requirements. This action is being taken to incorporate certain provisions from the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (Welfare Reform) in response to the President's Regulatory Reform effort and as part of the Department's ongoing effort to expand State flexibility. This action will provide the State agencies with more flexibility in operating the Food Stamp Program by eliminating outdated or overly prescriptive requirements. This rule also proposes to implement provisions of the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GRPA), which shifts the

focus of Federal agencies from managing processes to achieving results. (95-023)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	09/00/97	
Final Action	10/00/97	
Final Action Effective	12/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Federal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC22

415. CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM INITIATIVE

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1758; 42 USC 1766

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 226

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rulemaking proposes to incorporate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program regulations several recommendations suggested by the Department's Office of Inspector General as a result of several audits recently conducted. The audits concluded that high levels of noncompliance by sponsors and family day care homes were evident in several areas of Program operations.

The Department also proposes to incorporate in the regulations several recommendations from a State-Federal task Force in the areas of (1) State approval of both new and renewing sponsoring organizations; (2) State oversight of sponsor operations; and (3) training and operational requirements for child care institutions, sponsors of family day care homes, outside-school-hours care centers, and family day care home providers.

As a result of the Task Force's recommendations, this rulemaking also

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proposes other changes to the CACFP regulations which are intended to streamline the operation of the Program at the State and local levels, improve its integrity, and strengthen oversight control. (95-024)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/97	
Final Action	09/00/97	
Final Action Effective	10/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC24

416. • DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR FREE & REDUCED PRICE MEALS AND FREE MILK IN SCHOOLS: PROVISION 2 AND PROVISION 3

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: PL 103-448

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 245

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Currently, schools that serve all meals free for 3 consecutive years may determine free and reduced price school meal eligibility and take daily meal counts by category (free, reduced price and paid) once every 3 years. In years when actual meal counts by category are not taken, schools claim meals for reimbursement based on claiming percentages. This counting and claiming alternative is commonly referred to as Provision 2. This rule would allow schools to extend current procedures an additional 2 years if the socioeconomic status of the schools population remains stable and allow subsequent 5-year cycles. This rule would also add another alternative for schools that serve all meals free for 4 consecutive years. These schools would receive the same level of cash and

commodity assistance they received in the last year free and reduce price eligibility determinations were made. For both alternatives, meal costs that exceed reimbursement must be paid for with other than Federal funds. (96-003)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246
Fax: 703 305-2921

RIN: 0584-AC25

417. • FSP: ELECTRONIC BENEFITS TRANSFER CARD SPECIFICATIONS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2011 to 2034

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 274.12

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action proposes to amend Food Stamp regulations affecting standards for approval and operation of Food Stamp Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) Systems in relation to card specifications. The revisions would prescribe additional card requirements and security features beyond the minimum industry standard currently required. These enhancements have been devised to deter counterfeiting and other fraudulent activities and will ensure a uniform minimum card standard across states. (96-005)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal, Federal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive Room 308, Alexandria VA 22302

Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC27

418. • FOOD STAMP PROGRAM REGULATORY REVIEW: CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2011 to 2026

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 273

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action proposes to amend Food Stamp Program rules governing the certification of eligible households. It results from a comprehensive, page-by-page review of all existing Food Stamp Program regulations conducted in response to the President's regulatory reform initiative. The proposed changes would empower States to set their own procedures for case management and customer service; remove overly prescriptive, outdated, and redundant provisions; and emphasize recipient responsibility for complying with Program requirements. (96-006)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive Room 308, Alexandria VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC28

419. • WIC: MINOR WIC FOOD PACKAGE ADJUSTMENTS AND CORRECTIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1786

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 246

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposal would make minor adjustments and corrections in

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the Federal regulations for the WIC food packages, to recognize new container sizes for and physical forms of several of the allowable WIC foods. This rule would also propose allowing more alternative physical forms of the current WIC foods (e.g., shelf-stable concentrated adult juices packaged in tetra boxes which are new on the market compared to frozen concentrated forms of adult juices). (96-007)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	09/00/97	
Final Action	12/00/97	
Final Action Effective	12/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246
Fax: 703 305-2921

RIN: 0584-AC29

420. • WIC: BLOODWORK REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1786

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 246

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule would propose revisions to the bloodwork requirements for WIC applicants. Currently, to be certified as eligible for the Program, applicants must be determined at nutritional risk. In determining nutritional risk, at a minimum height or length and weight must be measured, and a hematological test for anemia must be performed. This rule would eliminate the requirement for a hematological test for anemia as part of the certification process if another risk factor is present that would qualify the applicant as nutritionally at risk. Hematological test

data for anemia would still be required for counseling and food package purposes. (96-008)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	03/00/97	
Final Action	08/00/97	
Final Action Effective	08/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246
Fax: 703 305-2921

RIN: 0584-AC30

421. • PART 240, CASH IN LIEU OF DONATED FOODS AND PART 250, FOOD DISTRIBUTION REGULATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: PL 103-448

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 240; 7 CFR 250

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule will incorporate provisions of the Healthy Meals for Healthy Americans Act of 1994 relative to schools participating in the National School Lunch Program. (96-010)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: State

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246
Fax: 703 305-2921

RIN: 0584-AC31

422. • SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC): ACCOMMODATION OF CULTURAL FOOD PREFERENCES IN THE WIC PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1786

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 246

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed rule would address issues surrounding the accommodation of food preferences and cultural needs of WIC's diverse population. The rulemaking would explore adding new and different types of foods to WIC food packages within the program's current cost strictures. (96-011)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	06/23/94	59 FR 32406
ANPRM Comment Period End	12/20/94	
NPRM	02/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/97	
Final Action	07/00/97	
Final Action Effective	07/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246
Fax: 703 305-2921

RIN: 0584-AC32

423. • SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC): INFANT FORMULA COST CONTAINMENT REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1786

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 246

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed rule would update current cost containment regulations to ensure that free and open competition is maintained to achieve the greatest cost savings for infant formula. The rule would require State agencies to evaluate new infant formula

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rebate contracts on the basis of the lowest net cost of the formula unless the State agency can demonstrate that there is less than 5 percent variance in the retail prices in the State for different brands of infant formula. The rule will also address issues regarding the maintenance of contracts. (96-012)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	10/00/97	
Final Action	03/00/98	
Final Action Effective	03/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

Procurement: This is a procurement-related action for which there is a statutory requirement. There is no paperwork burden associated with this action.

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC33

424. • NUTRITION EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1788

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 227

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed rule would amend the Nutrition Education and Training Program (NET) regulations to comply with the statutory mandate of Public Law 101-147 and 103-448.

Section 124 of Public Law 101-147 amends the National School Lunch Act by requiring that school food service personnel be trained in the principles and practices of food service management, in cooperation with materials developed at any food service management institute established as authorized by section 21(a)(2) of the National School Lunch Act.

In addition to schools and child care institutions, nutrition education activities are also required to be conducted in institutions offering summer food service programs under

section 13 of the National School Lunch Act. Also, the State Plan requirement to solicit advice from the National Advisory Council on Child Nutrition will be deleted because the council requirement has been deleted.

Additionally, section 214 of Public Law 101-147 amends the National School Lunch Act by requiring States to modify their NET plans annually rather than resubmitting the entire plan each year. This proposed rule would bring the NET regulations into conformance with the National School Lunch Act by requiring States to submit a full plan for the first year of the five-year reauthorization mandated by Public Law 101-147, and thereafter to submit annual updates. (96-013)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC34

425. • REVISION OF THE REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS AND FREE MILK IN SCHOOLS

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1779

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 245

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Part 245, the regulations governing the determinations of eligibility for free and reduced price benefits under the school nutrition programs is proposed to be revised to clarify requirements, remove obsolete and unnecessary provisions, and streamline procedure. The intent of the proposal is to simplify provisions for both households applying for free and

reduced price meals or free milk in schools and for school officials responsible for making eligibility determinations. The proposal will also include the removal of Part 245. Rather, the regulations governing the determination of free and reduced price school meal and milk benefits will be added to the consolidation of the school lunch and breakfast program regulations, Parts 210 and 220, into a comprehensive school meals program under part 210 when that action is completed. (96-015)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	09/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC36

426. • FOOD STAMP PROGRAM REGULATORY REVIEW: FSP STANDARDS FOR APPROVAL AND OPERATION OF FOOD STAMP ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TRANSFER SYSTEMS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2011 TO 2034

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 274.12

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule proposes revisions to food stamp regulations affecting the standards and administration of EBT systems for food stamp issuance. Current regulations at 7 CFR 274.12 delineate the standards that EBT systems must meet in order to be approved for operation. This rule will revise those regulations to provide the State agency more flexibility in

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implementing and operating those systems. Clarifications and FCS settlement improvements will also be incorporated into the rule. (96-016)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246
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RIN: 0584-AC37

427. • NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM AND SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM: ADDITIONAL MENU PLANNING ALTERNATIVES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 104-149

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 210; 7 CFR 220

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Public Law 104-149, enacted on May 29, 1996, establishes additional menu planning alternatives for the school meals programs and requires the secretary to establish guidelines for the use of these additional alternatives. One alternative specified in the statute was the meal pattern in effect for the 1994-95 school year; the other was "any reasonable approach." This proposed regulation would reestablish the meal pattern as a menu planning alternative and provide guidelines for school food authorities to develop a difference approach to menu planning. (96-017)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/00/97	
Final Action	07/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246
Fax: 703 305-2921

RIN: 0584-AC38

428. • FSP: PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY PROVISIONS OF THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1996

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 4 in Part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

RIN: 0584-AC39

429. • FSP: STATE FLEXIBILITY AND CERTIFICATION PROVISIONS OF PUBLIC LAW 104-193

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 5 in Part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

RIN: 0584-AC40

430. • FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: SIMPLIFIED FOOD STAMP PROGRAM PROVISIONS OF THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY & WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1996

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: PL 104-193, sec 854

CFR Citation: Not yet determined

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed rule would implement section 854 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 and provides State agencies with an option to align food stamp and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program requirements in determining benefit levels for low-income eligible families. 96-023

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	08/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal, Federal

Sectors Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2446

RIN: 0584-AC43

431. • ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TRANSFER (EBT) PROVISIONS OF THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1996

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: PL 104-193, sec 825

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 274.12

Legal Deadline: Other, Statutory, October 1, 2002.

Statutory implementation date of EBT systems per section 825.

Abstract: On August 22, 1996, the President signed the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-193). This rule proposes to implement the Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) provisions found in Section 825 of this law which affect the Food Stamp Program. These provisions are meant to encourage implementation of EBT systems to replace food stamp coupons. 96-024

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	07/00/97	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Federal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC44

432. • FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: WORK PROVISIONS OF THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1996

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 6 in Part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

RIN: 0584-AC45

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Proposed Rule Stage

433. • FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: RETAILER INTEGRITY, FRAUD REDUCTION AND PENALTIES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: PL 104-193; PL 104-127

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 271; 7 CFR 278; 7 CFR 279

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rulemaking will implement the three-tiered legislative initiative for combating retailer fraud in the Food Stamp Program: (1) Pre-

authorization screening - tightens applicant retailer verification requirements to ensure only legitimate stores are authorized; (2) Post-authorization controls - allows FCS to move quickly to immediately suspend stores that are caught trafficking; access more information from more sources about business and tax integrity; and, better track stores using up-to-date technology; (3) Stiffer penalties - will impose tougher penalties on retailers found violating the program. 96-026

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/00/97	

Action Date FR Cite

NPRM Comment Period End	07/00/97	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC46

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Final Rule Stage

Food and Consumer Service (FCS)

434. CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM: AUTHORITY TO COLLECT OVERCLAIMS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1766

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 226

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Establishes the Department's authority to collect overclaims where participating institutions fail to comply with regulatory recordkeeping requirements. (87-514)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/05/95	60 FR 62227
NPRM Comment Period End	02/05/96	
Final Action	12/00/96	
Final Action Effective	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB19

435. PERMANENT AGREEMENTS/DIRECT CERTIFICATION IN NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH, SCHOOL BREAKFAST, AND SPECIAL MILK PROGRAMS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: PL 101-147

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 210; 7 CFR 215; 7 CFR 220; 7 CFR 245

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, July 1, 1990.

Abstract: The Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 1989 made the agreement between the school and the State agency to operate the school nutrition programs a permanent document to be amended as necessary. This law also authorized schools to certify children as eligible for free meals using information obtained directly from food stamp/AFDC offices attesting that these children are receiving food stamps or AFDC benefits. This rule implements these statutory provisions. In accordance with a provision in Welfare Reform, this rule will also make the school food authority's free and reduced price policy statement permanent unless there are substantive changes to the original policy statement. (89-520)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/28/91	56 FR 24033
NPRM Comment Period End	07/29/91	
Final Action	03/00/97	
Final Action Effective	04/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB35

436. FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMS—DISASTER PROVISIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 100-707

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 250

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule will propose to: (1) allow simultaneous distribution of commodities and food stamps during disaster; (2) allow commodity distribution to households during situations of distress. This rule will also define necessary accountability procedures. (90-0001)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/08/95	60 FR 62999
NPRM Comment Period End	02/06/96	
Final Action	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Organizations

Government Levels Affected: State

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer

USDA—FCS

Final Rule Stage

Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB55

437. FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS—OKLAHOMA WAIVER AUTHORITY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: PL 97-98, Sec 1338; PL 95-113

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 254

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This interim rule will extend the Department's authority to grant waivers to serve urban places in excess of 10,000 people. This authority expired on September 30, 1985. (94-002)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	06/00/97	
Final Action	01/00/98	
Final Action Effective	03/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB56

438. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: PAYMENT OF CERTAIN ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF STATE AGENCIES

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2011 to 2032; PL 103-66, sec 13961

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 277

Legal Deadline: Other, Statutory, April 1, 1994.

The Act requires funding rate reduction effective 04/01/94.

Abstract: State agencies are reimbursed by FCS at standard or enhanced Federal reimbursement level for all allowable costs incurred in the State's operation of the Food Stamp Program. This proposed rule would reduce the Federal reimbursement rate for State agencies for fraud control, system

development, and immigration status verification to the standard 50 percent rate. It would also limit the time period during which State agencies may file a claim for retroactive funding, and allows the cost of certifying aid to families with dependent children to be charged to the Food Stamp Program for purposes of Federal reimbursement. (93-010)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/22/94	59 FR 60079
NPRM Comment Period End	01/23/95	
Final Action	01/00/97	
Final Action Effective	04/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB66

439. FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS: DEFINITION OF INDIAN TRIBAL HOUSEHOLD

Priority: Other Significant

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: PL 88-525; PL 97-98, sec 1338; PL 95-113

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 253; 7 CFR 254

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This final rule will amend part 253 to permit households containing a Native American living in "near areas" to participate in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) regardless of the Native American's tribal affiliation or age. It will also amend part 254 to permit households containing a Native American to participate in FDPIR in Oklahoma regardless of the Native American's age. (82-217)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/20/87	52 FR 39158
Interim Final Rule	01/11/94	59 FR 1447
Final Action	09/00/97	
Final Action Effective	10/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB67

440. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: QUALITY CONTROL PROVISIONS OF THE MICKEY LELAND CHILDHOOD HUNGER RELIEF ACT

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: PL 103-66, sec 13951

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 272; 7 CFR 275

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: To implement quality control changes to the Food Stamp Act required by section 13951 of the Mickey Leland Childhood Hunger Relief Act in the following areas: 1) interest on quality control claims, 2) the formula for determining quality control claim amounts, 3) variance exclusion for the application of new regulations, 4) time frames for completion of the arbitration process, 5) time frames for determining final error rates, the national average payment error rate, and the amounts of payment claims against State agencies, 6) time frames for notifying State agencies of payment claims, 7) the addition of specific criteria for a determination that "good cause" exists for not imposing a payment claim, and 8) the transfer of authority to make "good cause" determinations from FNS to the Administrative Law Judges. These provisions are nondiscretionary and will not result in an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more, or a major increase in costs or prices for consumers, individuals, industries, Federal, State or local government agencies, or geographical regions. (93-018)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/23/95	60 FR 32615
NPRM Comment Period End	08/22/95	
Final Action	01/00/97	
Final Action Effective	10/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

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Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246
RIN: 0584-AB75

441. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: REVISIONS IN USE AND DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION PROVIDED BY RETAIL FOOD STORES AND WHOLESALE FOOD CONCERNS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 103-225; 7 USC 2018(c)

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 278.1

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed rule sets forth changes required by provisions of the Food Stamp Program Improvements Act of 1994, PL 103-225, Title II, 108-109 (1994). The purpose of this rule is to implement these statutory changes to the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended. It would permit the use and disclosure of information provided by stores to State and Federal law enforcement and investigative agencies for the purposes of administering or enforcing the Food Stamp Act, and establishes penalties against persons who misuse any of the information. (94-022)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/12/95	60 FR 25625
NPRM Comment Period End	06/12/95	
Final Action	10/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Governmental Jurisdictions

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Federal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB87

442. SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMS: TECHNICAL AND NONDISCRETIONARY AMENDMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing

Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: PL 103-488

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 215; 7 CFR 235; 7 CFR 245

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The rule proposes to (1) allow USDA to withhold State Administrative Expense (SAE) funds when State agencies are seriously deficient in program administration and to withhold SAE funds from State agencies unwilling to participate in studies; (2) remove the authority for child care centers in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to participate in the lunch and breakfast program; and (3) make other technical amendments to remove obsolete references. (96-001)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC01

443. SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC): IMPLEMENTATION OF WIC MANDATES OF THE HEALTHY MEALS FOR HEALTHY AMERICANS ACT OF 1994

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1786

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 246

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This final rule implements the WIC-related reauthorization provisions mandated in Pub. L. 103-448, the Healthy Meals for Healthy Americans Act of 1994. All of the WIC-related provisions may be deemed nondiscretionary. These provisions include: counting the unborn child of an otherwise income-ineligible pregnant woman, allowing State agencies to deem income-eligible

pregnant women presumptively eligible for a period not to exceed 60 days, an increase in the national breastfeeding promotion and support expenditure, and a requirement that Medicaid managed care providers be included in the programs to which WIC must make referrals. (95-004)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/00/96	
Final Action Effective	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC02

444. CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM: CHILD NUTRITION AND WIC REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1989 AND OTHER AMENDMENTS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: PL 101-147; PL 102-342; PL 102-375

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 226

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This interim rule implements changes required in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) by the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 1989 (P.L. 101-147), the Child Nutrition Improvement Act of 1992 (P.L. 102-342) and the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1992 (P.L. 102-375) by: (1) allowing the Governor of a State to designate a State administering agency for the adult day care component of the Program that is different from the State agency which administers the child care component; (2) changing the basis for making commodities available to State agencies; (3) permitting private for-profit child care centers to participate in CACFP if at least 25 percent of their enrolled children or 25 percent of their licensed capacity, whichever is less, are Title XX recipients; (4) allowing adult day care centers to participate in the CACFP if they provide day care services to qualified persons in a group setting outside their homes, or in a group living arrangement; and (5)

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making three specific technical adjustments in Program regulations. This interim rule also makes a discretionary change which allows households participating in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) to be categorically eligible as free meal recipients under the CACFP. These changes are intended to reduce the level of administrative burden at the Federal, State and local levels. (95-009)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	05/00/97	
Final Action	08/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC07

445. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM REGULATORY REVIEW: ALASKA, PUERTO RICO, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2011 to 2032

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 271; 7 CFR 272; 7 CFR 282; 7 CFR 284; 7 CFR 285

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action proposes to amend Food Stamp Program rules affecting Alaska, The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and demonstration projects. This action is one result of a comprehensive page by page review of all existing Food Stamp Program regulations which was conducted in response to the President's efforts to reform the Federal regulatory system. The changes will eliminate prescriptive detailed processes and empower States to set their own procedures for case management and customer service; eliminate outdated and redundant

regulatory requirements; and emphasize recipient responsibility for applying and reporting their circumstances properly. (95-015)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/24/96	61 FR 1849
NPRM Comment Period End	03/25/96	
Final Action	10/00/96	
Final Action Effective	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC14

446. CREDITING OF YOGURT IN THE SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAMS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1758

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 210; 7 CFR 220

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule would allow yogurt to be credited as a meat/meat alternate in the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program when the school uses a food-based menu planning system. (95-021)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/05/96	61 FR 35152
NPRM Comment Period End	09/03/96	
Final Action	02/00/97	
Final Action Effective	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC15

447. CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM: CHILD NUTRITION AND WIC REAUTHORIZATION ACT AMENDMENTS AND HEALTHY MEALS FOR HEALTHY AMERICANS ACT OF 1994

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1758; 42 USC 1766

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 226

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule would implement changes to the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) as required by the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 1989 and the Healthy Meals for Healthy Americans Act of 1994 by: (1) providing administrative funds to family day care home sponsors for expansion into low-income or rural areas; (2) permitting State agencies to allow three-year applications from child and adult care institutions; (3) granting Federally funded income-eligible Head Start participants automatic eligibility for free CACFP meals without further application or eligibility determination; (4) granting pre-kindergarten Even Start participants automatic eligibility for free CACFP meals without further applications or eligibility determination; and (5) allowing the use of administrative funds to conduct outreach and recruitment to unlicensed day care homes. WIC. These revisions are intended to encourage Program participation in low-income and rural areas and to reduce paperwork burden for Federal, State and local Program administrators and for program participants. (90-508)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	01/00/97	
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	03/00/97	
Final Action	06/00/97	
Final Action Effective	07/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC20

448. SFSP IMPLEMENTATION OF HEALTHY MEALS FOR HEALTHY AMERICANS ACT OF 1994

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Legal Authority: 42 USC 1758; 42 USC 1761; 42 USC 1762a
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 225
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This interim rule implements five amendments to section 13 of the National School Lunch Act that are mandated by the Healthy Meals for Healthy Americans Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-448) to improve Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) delivery, outreach, and access. The law revises the "sponsor priority list" used by States to approve applications to give private nonprofit organizations that have successfully participated in SFSP higher priority than prospective service institutions that are new to the program. Further, it removes the requirement that a private nonprofit organization be prohibited for one year from serving an area previously served by a school or public sponsor. It also removes the requirement that State agencies collect and report to USDA all information gathered on food service management companies that wish to participate in SFSP. That requirement is replaced by a provision that allows USDA to maintain records on all food service management companies, but requires State agencies to report information only when a company is seriously deficient in its performance. Pub. L. 103-448 also reduces the number of required components in the Management and Administration Plan (MAP) which State agencies submit annually by eliminating reporting by States of sponsor applications schedules, efforts to encourage self-preparation or school preparation of meals, plans for food service management company registration, plans to determine and process reimbursement payments to sponsors, and hearing procedures for sponsors. In addition, it removes the requirement that sponsor applications for nonprofit organizations contain specific warnings of penalties for improper or unsuccessful program participation. (95-025)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	01/00/97	
Final Action	07/00/97	
Final Action Effective	07/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: State
Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
 Phone: 703 305-2246
RIN: 0584-AC23

449. • FSP: NONDISCRETIONARY PROVISIONS OF THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1996

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 7 in Part II of this issue of the Federal Register.
RIN: 0584-AC41

450. • IMPROVED TARGETING OF DAY CARE HOME REIMBURSEMENTS IN THE CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 8 in Part II of this issue of the Federal Register.
RIN: 0584-AC42

451. • SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC): DISQUALIFICATION OF WIC VENDORS WHO ARE DISQUALIFIED FROM THE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Legal Authority: 42 USC 1786
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 246
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule would establish criteria for the disqualification of WIC vendors who are disqualified from the Food Stamp Program, as required by Pub. L. 104-193, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996. As mandated in Pub. L. 104-193, such disqualifications are for the same period of time as the Food Stamp Program disqualification and are not subject to judicial or administrative review.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	01/00/97	
Final Action	09/00/97	
Final Action Effective	11/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Governmental Jurisdictions
Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal, Federal
Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
 Phone: 703 305-2246
RIN: 0584-AC50

452. • SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC): IMPLEMENTATION OF WIC-RELATED PROVISIONS OF PUB. L. 104-193, THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.
Legal Authority: 42 USC 1786
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 246
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule would implement the WIC-related provisions of Pub. L. 104-193, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996. These provisions include: sharing of WIC information with the Immigration and Naturalization Service; revision to the definition of homeless individual; and the elimination of several current requirements including annual evaluation of nutrition education and breastfeeding promotion and support efforts, provision of written information on certain programs, and timeframes for action on local agency applications for program participation.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	03/30/97	
Final Action	09/00/97	
Final Action Effective	11/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal, Federal
Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302

USDA—FCS

Final Rule Stage

Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC51

453. • IMPLEMENTATION OF LEGISLATIVE CHANGES IN THE CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: PL 104-193

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 226

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This interim rulemaking will implement non-discretionary changes to the Child and Adult Care Food Program regulations mandated by Public Law 104-193, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996. This rule will not implement changes to section 708(e) of P.L. 104-193, targeting reimbursement for meals served in family daycare homes, which is being addressed in a separate interim rulemaking.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	07/00/97	

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	03/00/98	
Final Action Effective	03/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC52

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Long-Term Actions

Food and Consumer Service (FCS)

454. SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC): FOOD COST CONTAINMENT REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 246

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	03/15/90	55 FR 9709
Next Action	Undetermined	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

Procurement: This is a procurement-related action for which there is a statutory requirement. There is a paperwork burden associated with this action.

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB11

paperwork burden associated with this action.

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB52

456. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: UTILITY REIMBURSEMENT EXCLUSION

Priority: Economically Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 272; 7 CFR 273

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	06/16/94	59 FR 30864
Next Action	Undetermined	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB79

deterrence of fraud, bidrigging and other anticompetitive activities in the procurement of products for the child nutrition programs. In addition to proposing those fraud-deterrence provisions that are exclusive to the child nutrition programs, the rule will augment already existing provisions concerning debarment of persons and companies that are convicted of violations of anti-trust laws, fraud or other types of offenses that breach public agreements or transactions. (96-004)

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Procurement: This is a procurement-related action for which there is a statutory requirement. The agency has not yet determined whether there is a paperwork burden associated with this action.

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 308, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246
Fax: 703 305-2921

RIN: 0584-AC26

455. SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC): INFANT FORMULA PROCUREMENT ACT OF 1992

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 246

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Federal

Procurement: This is a procurement-related action for which there is a statutory requirement. There is no

457. • NSLP / SBP / SMP / FDP / CACFP / SFSP / WIC: NONPROCUREMENT DEBARMENT

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: PL 103-448

CFR Citation: None

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule will propose procedures and clarifications that are needed to enhance the Department's ability to promote the prevention and

USDA—FCS

Long-Term Actions

458. • FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM: REGULATORY IMPLEMENTATION OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1996, (P.L. 104-193, 110 STAT. 2105)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 104-193

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 250 to 251 (Revision); 7 CFR 253 (Revision)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Definition of eligible TEFAP recipient agencies; change of definition of "Emergency Feeding Organization." TEFAP State Plan: change annual

submission requirement to every four (4) years. Miscellaneous commodity distribution: eliminate Secretary's authority to modify TEFAP 60/40 formula, delete description of types and varieties of commodities to be purchased, extend deadline for delivery of commodities to States. Allowable administrative costs: broaden State authority to use administrative funds for indirect costs associated with distribution and processing of USDA and non-USDA commodities. Repeal of Section 110 of Hunger Prevention Act of 1988: removes authority for SK/FB program, former beneficiaries of which will be served under TEFAP, under

revised definition (above). Alien Provisions, FDPIR: grants State and Indian Tribal Organizations authority to serve unqualified aliens, if they so choose. 96-029

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2777

RIN: 0584-AC49

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Completed Actions

Food and Consumer Service (FCS)

459. MISCELLANEOUS FARM BILL PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE AUTHORIZATION OF RETAIL FIRMS AND WHOLESALE FOOD CONCERNS

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 271; 7 CFR 272; 7 CFR 274; 7 CFR 278

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	10/15/96	61 FR 53595
Final Action Effective	02/10/92	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB02

460. SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC): PART 246.10, FOOD PACKAGE III, PARTICIPANTS WITH CERTAIN MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 246

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	10/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB09

461. DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR FREE MEALS BY SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM SPONSORS AND FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS BY CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM INSTITUTIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 225; 7 CFR 226

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	05/22/96	61 FR 25550
Final Action Effective	06/21/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB17

462. NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM: REVIEW OF FREE AND REDUCED PRICE APPLICATION UNDER THE COORDINATED REVIEW EFFORT

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 210

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn will be included in RIN	05/19/96	
		0584-AC10.

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman

Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB50

463. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: CHILD SUPPORT DEDUCTION

Priority: Other Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 273

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	10/17/96	61 FR 54282
Final Action Effective	12/16/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AB58

464. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: EXCESS SHELTER EXPENSE LIMIT AND STANDARD UTILITY ALLOWANCES

Priority: Economically Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 273

USDA—FCS

Completed Actions

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
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Withdrawn because of new legislation	08/01/96	
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Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local**Agency Contact:** Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246**RIN:** 0584-AB59**465. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: SIMPLIFICATION OF PROGRAM RULES****Priority:** Other Significant**Reinventing Government:** This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 273**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
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Final Action	10/17/96	61 FR 54303
Final Action Effective	11/18/96	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local**Agency Contact:** Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246**RIN:** 0584-AB60**466. FSP: TARGETING FOR INCOME AND ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 272**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
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Withdrawn Due to Legislative Changes	08/01/96	
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Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local, Federal**Agency Contact:** Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246**RIN:** 0584-AB74**467. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: CERTIFICATION PROVISIONS OF THE MICKEY LELAND CHILDHOOD HUNGER RELIEF ACT****Priority:** Economically Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 271.2; 7 CFR 273.1; 7 CFR 273.2; 7 CFR 273.7; 7 CFR 273.8; 7 CFR 273.9; 7 CFR 273.10; 7 CFR 273.12; 7 CFR 273.21**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
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Final Action	10/17/96	61 FR 54270
Final Action Effective	12/16/96	

Small Entities Affected: Governmental Jurisdictions**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local, Tribal, Federal**Agency Contact:** Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246**RIN:** 0584-AB76**468. NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH, SPECIAL MILK, SCHOOL BREAKFAST, CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD AND SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAMS: PURCHASE OF FOOD PRODUCTS PRODUCED IN THE U.S****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 210; 7 CFR 215; 7 CFR 220; 7 CFR 225; 7 CFR 226**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
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Withdrawn - will be included in RIN0584-AC10 for school nutri progs	05/19/96	
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Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local**Procurement:** This is a procurement-related action for which there is a statutory requirement. There is no paperwork burden associated with this action.**Agency Contact:** Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246**RIN:** 0584-AB82**469. TREATMENT OF EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING ASSISTANCE****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 272; 7 CFR 273**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
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Final Action	10/17/96	61 FR 54292
Final Action Effective	12/17/96	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local**Agency Contact:** Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246**RIN:** 0584-AB84**470. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM AUTOMATED DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES; REDUCTION IN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS****Priority:** Other Significant**Reinventing Government:** This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 272; 7 CFR 277**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
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Final Action	06/28/96	61 FR 33641
Final Action Effective	07/29/96	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** State**Procurement:** This is a procurement-related action for which there is no statutory requirement. There is no paperwork burden associated with this action.**Agency Contact:** Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246**RIN:** 0584-AB92**471. MONTHLY REPORTING ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS PROVISION OF FOOD STAMP PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 1994****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 273.21**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
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Final Action	10/17/96	61 FR 54298
Final Action Effective	12/16/96	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local

USDA—FCS

Completed Actions

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246
RIN: 0584-AB98

472. REMOVAL OF THE "CHEESE ALTERNATE PRODUCTS" REQUIREMENTS FROM THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 210.10 (k)(3)(i); 7 CFR 210.10a (d)(2)(i); 7 CFR 210 app A; 7 CFR 225.16 (f)(3)

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/19/96	61 FR 37670
Final Action Effective	07/19/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC04

473. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL WORK PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 271; 7 CFR 273

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	05/01/96	61 FR 19155
Final Action Effective	05/31/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC08

474. AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION AND RECORDS TO THE PUBLIC

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 295.1 to 295.10

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/26/96	61 FR 39047
Final Action Effective	08/26/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246

RIN: 0584-AC13
BILLING CODE 3410-30-F

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Prerule Stage

Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)

475. MEAT AND POULTRY STANDARDS OF IDENTITY AND COMPOSITION

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 451 et seq; 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 318; 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: FSIS is carrying out a thoroughgoing regulatory review that will decide the future of its standards of identity and composition for meat and poultry products. These standards, established over many years, define particular products or product categories in terms of meat and poultry content or other characteristics. The standards are enforced through prior approval of labeling and by other means. Because of new technologies, changing lifestyles, changed consumer expectations, and the information now available to consumers through

ingredient and nutrition labeling, the usefulness of many of the standards is in question. FSIS is soliciting information from the interested public on what direction reform of its food standards regulations should take, including suggestions on whether to fundamentally alter or eliminate entirely this regulatory program. FSIS recognizes that the current program impedes innovation, slowing the introduction of nutritionally beneficial products in the marketplace. FSIS seeks information on how its product standards--if they are needed at all--can provide sound and reliable consumer protection, while being flexible enough to encourage the development and marketing of improved meat and poultry products.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	09/09/96	61 FR 47453
ANPRM Comment Period End	11/25/96	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert Post, Chief, Food Standards and Ingredients Branch, Regulatory Programs, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety

and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250-3700
Phone: 202 254-2588

RIN: 0583-AC01

476. TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS FOODS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 21 USC 601 et seq; 21 USC 451 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 305; 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), in conjunction with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), plans to publish an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPR) addressing possible transportation and storage requirements for potentially hazardous foods. (A potentially hazardous food is one, either natural or synthetic, that is in a form capable of supporting the rapid and progressive growth of infectious or toxigenic microorganisms.) For purposes of this ANPR, potentially

USDA—FSIS

Prerule Stage

hazardous foods include meat, poultry, egg, seafood, and dairy products.

In the past, FSIS and FDA regarded their ability to control adulterated food products in commerce, combined with the standard practices of transportation and storage firms, as adequate to prevent public health problems from occurring. However, FSIS and FDA are now considering efforts to ensure that potentially hazardous foods outside food processing establishments will be handled in a way that will minimize

the growth of pathogenic microorganisms and prevent the introduction of new pathogenic organisms or other hazards. The ANPR will solicit comments and information on various aspects of the transportation and storage of potentially hazardous foods.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	10/00/96	
ANPRM Comment	12/00/96	
Period End		

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Ralph Stafko, Deputy Director, Policy, Evaluation and Planning Staff, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250-3700
Phone: 202 205-0700

RIN: 0583-AC05

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)**

Proposed Rule Stage

477. FOOD STANDARDS: REQUIREMENTS FOR PROCESSED MEAT AND POULTRY PRODUCTS NAMED BY USE OF AN EXPRESSED NUTRIENT CONTENT CLAIM AND A STANDARDIZED TERM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 451 et seq; 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 319; 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed rule would amend the Federal meat and poultry regulations to establish a general definition and standard of identity for standardized meat and poultry food products that have been modified to qualify for use of certain expressed nutrient content claims as part of the product name. These products would be identified by a nutrient content claim, such as "fat free," in conjunction with an appropriate standardized product name, e.g., "fat free frankfurter." The general standard proposes to set requirements that would allow for modified versions of standardized meat and poultry food products, i.e., "substitute standardized products." These products would be formulated and processed with ingredients otherwise not in or in amounts greater than that allowed by

FSIS regulatory food standards in 9 CFR parts 319 and 381, subpart P.

FSIS is taking this action to: (1) Assist consumers in maintaining healthy dietary practices by providing for substitute versions of standardized processed meat food and poultry food products that have reductions in certain constituents that are of health concern to consumers, such as fat and cholesterol, (2) increase regulatory flexibility and support product innovation in accord with Executive Orders 12861 and 12866 and with President Clinton's Memorandum to Heads of Departments and Agencies, "Regulatory Reinvention Initiative," dated March 4, 1995, and (3) provide consumers with an informative nutrition labeling system.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/29/95	60 FR 67474
NPRM COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED	02/27/96	61 FR 26470
NPRM Comment	11/25/96	
Period End		
Final Action	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Charles Edwards, Director, Product Assessment Division, Regulatory Programs, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 254-2565

RIN: 0583-AB51

478. USE OF TRISODIUM PHOSPHATE (TSP) ON RAW, UNCHILLED POULTRY CARCASSES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 21 USC 451 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed rule would amend the poultry products inspection regulations to permit the application of trisodium phosphate (TSP) on raw, unchilled poultry carcasses. TSP would be permitted as an antimicrobial agent on raw, unchilled poultry carcasses. Tests conducted by industry and FSIS have shown that the use of TSP reduces microbial populations on raw, unchilled poultry carcasses. This proposed rule is in response to a petition.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	
NPRM Comment	05/00/97	
Period End		

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Alice Thaler, Slaughter Inspection Standards and Procedures Division, Science and Technology, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-3219

RIN: 0583-AB80

USDA—FSIS

Proposed Rule Stage

479. NUTRITION LABELING; NEW PRODUCT CATEGORIES AND REFERENCE AMOUNTS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 21 USC 601 et seq; 21 USC 451 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 317; 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed rule would amend the Federal meat and poultry products inspection regulations by adding three new product categories and reference amounts to the new product categories and reference amounts chart. FSIS has received requests through public comments and the labeling application process to add new product categories and reference amounts for "Beans with meat, plain or in sauce," "Appetizers," and "Major condiments." FSIS is also proposing to allow manufacturers of meal-type products packaged in volumes greater than one serving to be labeled as the fractional statement of the promoted serving size (e.g., 1/2 package, 1/4 package).

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Charles Edwards, Director, Product Assessment Division, Regulatory Programs, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 254-2565

RIN: 0583-AB81

480. CONTINUOUS CHILLING OF SPLIT TURKEY PORTIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 21 USC 451 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed rule would amend the poultry products inspection regulations to permit the chilling of

split turkey portions in a continuous chiller. Under the current regulations, turkey carcasses must be intact in one piece before they may be chilled in a continuous chiller. They may not be continuously chilled if they have been split into major portions unless the carcasses have been trimmed or otherwise salvaged. This amendment would permit establishments to intentionally split dressed turkey carcasses into major portions prior to being placed into a continuous chiller. Permitting the splitting of whole turkey carcasses into major portions prior to chilling would have several benefits. First, it would improve public safety by reducing the amount of time needed to cool the whole carcasses. A decrease in the chilling time significantly diminishes the period that the carcass portion is in the "danger zone" for microbial growth. The process itself would not cause the product to become adulterated or unwholesome. Second, it would provide the inspector with easier access to the interior of the carcass. This in turn would allow for a better visual inspection of the cavity than is possible with a whole carcass. Finally, the separated portions of the carcass would be appropriately handled immediately after splitting. The white meat portion would immediately be chilled to the proper temperature for direct sale to consumers while the dark meat portion, which is usually processed, could be directly deboned and used in further processed cooked products. This rulemaking is being initiated in response to a petition.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Alice M. Thaler, Slaughter Inspection Standards and Procedures Division, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-3119

RIN: 0583-AB95

481. GLYCERINE USED AS A HUMECTANT IN SHELF STABLE MEAT SNACKS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 317

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is proposing to amend the Federal meat inspection regulations to permit the use of food grade glycerine as a humectant in shelf stable meat snacks. It is proposing that the glycerine be used at a level not to exceed 2 percent of the formulation weight of the product. This proposed rule is in response to a petition. As a humectant, glycerine controls moisture in meat products and, at the 2 percent level, it reduces the amount of water available for microbial growth to occur. This use is Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS) by FDA.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Charles Edwards, Director, Product Assessment Division, Regulatory Programs, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 254-2565

RIN: 0583-AC00

482. USE OF SORBITOL IN COOKED ROAST BEEF PRODUCTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 318

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: FSIS is proposing to amend the Federal meat inspection regulations to permit the use of sorbitol in cooked roast beef products. Sorbitol is listed in 21 CFR 184.1835 as a substance generally recognized as safe for various uses when used in accordance with good manufacturing practices. Sorbitol functions as a sweetening agent and prevents charring of meat and meat

USDA—FSIS

Proposed Rule Stage

food products due to its moisture-retention properties. Sorbitol could be used for these two purposes in cooked roast beef products, at a level not more than two percent of the weight of the formula excluding the formula weight of water or ice.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Charles Edwards, Director, Product Assessment Division, Regulatory Programs, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250-3700
Phone: 202 254-2588

RIN: 0583-AC02

483. ELIMINATION OF PRIOR APPROVAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EGG AND EGG PRODUCTS ESTABLISHMENT DRAWINGS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1621 et seq; 7 USC 1031 to 1056 Egg Products Inspection Act

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 55; 7 CFR 59

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is proposing to amend the Federal eggs and egg products inspection regulations by removing current requirements for prior approval by FSIS of establishment drawings and specifications prior to the construction or remodeling of official establishments. Requirements involving the comparison of blueprints and specifications with actual facilities and equipment would end. FSIS would continue to verify through inspection that good sanitation is being achieved. This action is taken to streamline and modernize the eggs and egg products food safety regulations, to separate the roles of Government and the regulated industry, to encourage innovations that

will improve food safety, and to remove unnecessary regulatory burdens on inspected egg establishments. In addition, the proposal represents an important shift away from FSIS's "command-and-control" regulatory approach and toward a less bureaucratic approach consistent with the Agency's food safety mission.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	
NPRM Comment	05/00/97	
Period End		

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Paula M. Cohen, Director, Regulations Development, Policy, Evaluation and Planning Staff, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250-3700
Phone: 202 720-7164

RIN: 0583-AC06

484. • GRANT AND INAUGURATION OF INSPECTION

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 304; 9 CFR 305

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: FSIS is proposing to streamline and clarify the regulations in 9 CFR Parts 304 and 305, which provide for grant and inauguration of inspection in meat and poultry establishments.

Under the current regulations, prior to commercial operation, establishments must apply for grant of inspection by submitting for FSIS review and approval establishment floor plans and blueprints, equipment specifications, and other information. If FSIS approves this information and grants inspection, a circuit supervisor visits the establishment to inform the operator of the applicable regulations. Subsequently, FSIS inspection is inaugurated and the establishment may

begin manufacturing product for commercial distribution.

FSIS is proposing to streamline these requirements by eliminating the provisions regarding inauguration of inspection and clarifying that FSIS will provide a conditional grant of inspection to establishments following completion of written sanitation standard operating procedures and a HACCP plan. As set forth in Docket 93-016F, the conditional grant of inspection would last for 90 days, during which the establishment would be required to validate its HACCP plan. After HACCP plan validation, FSIS will provide the establishment with a permanent grant of inspection.

This action will also revise the regulations in light of a related proposal (Docket No. 95-032P) to eliminate the requirement that floor plans, blueprints, equipment specifications be preapproved by FSIS before inspection is granted.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Paula M. Cohen, Director, Regulations Development, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Policy, Evaluation and Planning Staff, Washington, DC 20250-3700
Phone: 202 720-3530

RIN: 0583-AC07

485. • BEEF OR PORK WITH BARBECUE SAUCE; REVISION OF STANDARDS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 319

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has been

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petitioned to amend the Federal meat inspection regulations by removing a meat yield requirement for the standardized products “Beef With Barbecue Sauce” and “Pork With Barbecue Sauce.” Current regulations for these products require that the product contain not less than 50 percent of the species identified on the label, and that the weight of the cooked pork or beef not exceed 70 percent of the uncooked weight of the meat. The first requirement is consistent with other meat and sauce requirements, but the second requirement is not. The petitioner asserts that the product standard (promulgated in 1952) does not reflect current production practices or the commercial marketability of beef or pork with barbecue sauce. The petitioner further states that producers of these products are at a competitive disadvantage with other meat and sauce producers, because other meat and sauce producers do not have a 70 percent yield requirement. For example, producers of the standardized products “Beef with Gravy,” “Meat Pies,” and “Spaghetti with Meat and Sauce” and similar standardized products do not have any meat yield requirements.

FSIS has determined that the petitioner’s request should be granted. This action would permit fair competition between meat and barbecue sauce producers, and poultry and sauce producers, and would provide consistent requirements in both the meat and poultry inspection regulations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Everett Lail, Food Labeling Division, Regulatory Programs, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250-3700
Phone: 202 254-2588

RIN: 0583-AC09

486. • USE OF CORN SYRUP, CORN SYRUP SOLIDS AS FLAVORING AGENTS IN SAUSAGE PRODUCTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 318

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Food Safety and Inspection Service plans to amend the meat inspection regulations to permit the use of corn syrup in sausages as a flavoring agent at an amount sufficient for that purpose. Corn Syrup is listed in 21 CFR 184.1865 as a substance generally recognized as safe with no limitation on its use other than good manufacturing practice. This action is in response to a petition.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Direct Final Rule	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Robert Post, Chief, Food Standards and Ingredient Branch, Product Assessment Division, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250-3700
Phone: 202 254-2588

RIN: 0583-AC10

487. • USE OF SODIUM DIACETATE AND SODIUM ACETATE AS FLAVORING AGENTS IN MEAT AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 450; 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 318; 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) plans to amend the Federal meat and poultry products inspection regulations to permit the use of sodium diacetate and sodium acetate as flavoring agents in meat and poultry products. Sodium diacetate and sodium acetate would be permitted at a level of 0.25 percent in meat and poultry products. Use of these substances is listed in FDA regulations 21 CFR 1721 and 21 CFR 1754 as generally recognized as safe and consistent with good manufacturing practice. This action is in response to a petition.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Direct Final Rule	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Charles Edwards, Director, Product Assessment Division, Regulatory Programs, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250-3700
Phone: 202 254-2565

RIN: 0583-AC11

488. • PROCEDURAL DUE PROCESS FOR OFFICIAL ESTABLISHMENTS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 451 et seq; 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 335; 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: FSIS is proposing to amend the Federal meat and poultry inspection regulations by streamlining and consolidating the rules of practice governing FSIS procedures to: refuse or withdraw inspection service because of unfitness of responsible establishment officials to engage in a business requiring inspection, or because of failure to maintain sanitary conditions; withdraw inspection service because of failure to destroy condemned carcasses,

parts, or products; suspend inspection service because of inhumane slaughtering or because of threats against, intimidation or assault of an FSIS employee; or suspend or withdraw inspection service because of inadequate hazard analysis and critical control point (HACCP) systems. The proposed amendments would ensure procedural due process for official establishments under FSIS's "Pathogen Reduction; HACCP Systems regulations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Paula M. Cohen, Director, Regulations Development, Policy, Evaluation and Planning Staff, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250-3700
Phone: 202 720-7164

RIN: 0583-AC12

489. • USE OF LIQUID NITROGEN FOR CONTACT FREEZING MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 318

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: FSIS plans to amend the Federal meat inspection regulations to permit the use of liquid nitrogen for contact freezing of meat and meat products. Liquid nitrogen is listed in 21 CFR 184.1540 as a substance generally recognized as safe as a direct human food ingredient when used as a propellant, aerating agent, and gas as defined in 21 CFR 170.3(o)(25), at levels not to exceed current good manufacturing practice. When used as a direct-contact freezing agent for food, liquid nitrogen must be of a purity suitable for its intended use.

Liquid nitrogen is an extremely effective and efficient freezing/cooling agent. Liquid nitrogen is already approved for use in the poultry products inspection regulations (9 CFR 381.147(f)(4)) as a contact freezing agent for poultry or poultry products. Its use on meat and meat products will ensure the microbiological safety of those products and will be an effective process control in a HACCP program.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Paula M. Cohen, Director, Regulations Development, Policy, Evaluation and Planning Staff, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250-3700
Phone: 202 720-7164

RIN: 0583-AC14

490. • NUTRITION LABELING; REFERENCE DAILY INTAKES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 21 USC 451 et seq; 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 317; 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is proposing to amend the list of Reference Daily Intakes (RDI's) in the Federal meat and poultry products inspection regulations by adding RDI values for vitamin K, selenium, manganese, chromium, molybdenum, and chloride. FSIS is also proposing to modify the units of measure for the RDI values for calcium, folate, biotin, and phosphorous. This action would provide consistency between the Food and Drug Administration's and FSIS's nutrition labeling requirements.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Charles Edwards, Director, Product Assessment Division, Regulatory Programs, Department of

Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250-3700
Phone: 202 254-2565

RIN: 0583-AC15

491. • USE OF TWO KINDS OF POULTRY WITHOUT LABEL CHANGE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 21 USC 451

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has been petitioned to amend the poultry products inspection regulations by permitting the use of different amounts of two kinds of poultry to be used in a poultry product without changing the product's ingredients statement. Currently, the Federal meat inspection regulations provide that beef and pork may be interchanged in a product formulation without requiring new labels for each formulation. In these situations, the word "and," instead of a comma, between the declaration of the two meat components in the ingredients statement indicates that the order of predominance of the two meat components may be interchanged.

The regulation for meat products was promulgated to allow meat processors flexibility in utilizing least cost formulations, while maintaining label integrity. Formulations can be modified within set parameters without requiring new labels, thus reducing required label inventories and lowering costs.

FSIS has determined that the petition should be granted. There are no health or safety issues involved with this proposed change. The ingredients statement of the product will still list both kinds of poultry that are present in the product. However, under this proposal, poultry producers, like their meat counterparts, would not need to change labels when the order of predominance of the poultry ingredients changes.

This action would make the regulations consistent with regard to the flexibility afforded meat and poultry processors to adjust product formulations without having to change labels.

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Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Cheryl Wade, Food Labeling Division, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Regulatory Programs, Washington, DC 20250-3700
Phone: 202 254-2590

RIN: 0583-AC17

492. • PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF CERTAIN MEAT AND POULTRY PRODUCTS WITH ESTABLISHED STANDARDS OF IDENTITY

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 451 et seq; 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 319; 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is proposing to amend the Federal meat and poultry inspection regulations by establishing food safety performance standards for certain raw, partially cooked, and ready-to-eat meat and poultry products listed in 9 CFR 319. Performance standards spell out the objective level of performance establishments must meet during their operations to produce safe products, but allow the use of customized, plant-specific processing procedures. The standards of identity or composition in Part 319 define these products in terms of meat and poultry content, ingredients, methods of processing and preparation, or other characteristics relative to product content, representation, and labeling. However, currently there are few food safety standards or requirements specific to the processing or handling of these products in the regulations. FSIS must rely upon statutory authorities, general regulations, regulations for similar products, or

FSIS directives when regulating these products. Establishing food safety performance standards specific to these products would provide FSIS with a better regulatory mechanism for ensuring their safety and would grant establishments flexibility to comply with the new requirements.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn, Chief, Quality Control and Systems Development Branch, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250-3700
Phone: 202 501-7319

RIN: 0583-AC18

493. • PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR THE THERMAL PROCESSING OF MEAT AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 451 et seq; 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 318; 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: FSIS is proposing to replace the current, "command-and-control" procedures for the thermal processing of meat and poultry products with performance standards. The current regulations are highly prescriptive, redundant with HACCP, and inhibit the adoption by the industry of new, more efficient technologies. The proposed performance standards, which spell out the objective level of performance establishments must meet during their operations, would permit the use of alternative processing procedures by establishments. Establishments would be required to develop written process schedules describing their alternative procedures, but could incorporate these schedules into their HACCP plans. FSIS would allow establishments that do not

develop alternative procedures to follow the current regulations, which would be retained as "safe harbors."

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dorothy Stringfellow, Director, Processed Products Inspection Division, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Science and Technology, Washington, DC 20250-3700
Phone: 202 501-7319

RIN: 0583-AC19

494. • PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR THE IRRADIATION OF POULTRY TO CONTROL FOODBORNE PATHOGENS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 451 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: FSIS is proposing to amend the Federal poultry products inspection regulations to replace the current "command-and-control" procedures for the irradiation of poultry to control foodborne pathogens with performance standards. The current regulations are highly prescriptive, redundant with HACCP, and inhibit the adoption by the industry of new, more efficient technologies. The proposed performance standards spell out the objective level of performance establishments must meet during their operations to produce safe products, but allow the use of customized, plant-specific procedures. Establishments would be required to develop written process schedules describing their alternative procedures, but could incorporate these schedules into their HACCP plans. FSIS would allow establishments that do not develop alternative procedures to follow the

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current regulations, which would be retained as “safe harbors.”

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dorothy Stringfellow, Director, Processed Products Inspection Division-HACCP, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Science and Technology, Washington, DC 20250-3700 Phone: 202 501-7319

RIN: 0583-AC20

495. • PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR THE HANDLING, CHILLING, AND FREEZING OF POULTRY

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 451 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: FSIS is proposing to replace the current, “command-and-control” procedures for the handling, chilling, and freezing of poultry products in 9 CFR 381.66 with performance standards. The current regulations are highly prescriptive, redundant with HACCP, and inhibit the adoption by the industry of new, more efficient technologies. The proposed performance standards, which spell out the objective level of performance establishments must meet during their operations, would permit the use of alternative procedures, but could incorporate these schedules into their HACCP plans. FSIS would allow establishments that do not develop alternative procedures to follow the current regulations, which would be retained as “safe harbors.”

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: William James, Director, Slaughter Inspection Standards and Procedures Division, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Science and Technology, Washington, DC 20250 Phone: 202 720-3219

RIN: 0583-AC21

496. • PREVENTION OF PHYSICAL OR CHEMICAL CONTAMINATION OF MEAT AND POULTRY PRODUCTS OR PRODUCT INGREDIENTS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 451 et seq; 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 318; 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: FSIS is proposing to replace with performance standards the current regulations ensuring that meat and poultry products and product ingredients are not physically or chemically contaminated. Performance standards spell out the objective level of performance establishments must meet during their operations to produce safe products, but allow the use of customized, plant-specific processing procedures. Under requirements for mandatory establishment-operated HACCP systems, the performance standards and establishment-developed procedures could be a part of establishment HACCP plans. FSIS would allow establishments that do not develop alternative procedures to follow the current regulations, which would be retained as “safe harbors.”

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dorothy Stringfellow, Director, Processed Products Inspection Division -- HACCP, Department of

Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Science and Technology, Washington, DC 20250-3700 Phone: 202 501-7319

RIN: 0583-AC22

497. • LABELING OF EGG PRODUCTS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 1031 et seq

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 59

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is proposing to amend the egg products inspection regulations by revising current egg product labeling requirements to make them consistent with the labeling requirements for meat and poultry products. On October 1, 1995, FSIS became responsible for the review and approval of egg product labels, and the Agency is now reviewing and approving labels for egg products.

The current system for the review and approval for egg product labels, developed by the Agricultural Marketing Service, is inconsistent with the system FSIS applies to meat and poultry labels. FSIS’s current system of label approval places the responsibility for the preparation of the label approval request on the industry. This system maximizes the label reviewer’s time available for review and decisionmaking, rather than for clerical tasks. FSIS proposes to amend the egg products inspection regulations to establish the same system for egg product labels.

FSIS’s new rule on prior label approval, effective July 1996, allows meat and poultry manufacturers to prepare and use labels that meet certain conditions without any preapproval from FSIS (generic approvals). In contrast, the egg product inspection regulations require that any change to a label, no matter how minor, must be approved at headquarters. FSIS is proposing to amend the egg products inspection regulations to provide for the generic approval of egg product labels that

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meet certain conditions, which would parallel those governing meat and poultry labels.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Cheryl Wade, Food Labeling Division, Regulatory Programs, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety

and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250-3700
Phone: 202 254-2590

RIN: 0583-AC23

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Final Rule Stage

Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)

498. REQUIREMENTS FOR FOREIGN COUNTRY IMPORT CERTIFICATION AND LIVE ANIMAL IMPORTATION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 99-198

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 327; 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule will respond to amendments to the Federal Meat Inspection Act by the Food Security Act of 1985. The amendments require that FSIS periodically certify residue control programs submitted by foreign countries desiring to export meat and poultry products to the United States. The amendments also provide the Secretary with the authority to issue an order prohibiting the importation of livestock for immediate slaughter that have been administered a drug or antibiotic banned for use in the United States.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/26/88	53 FR 27998
NPRM Comment Period End	09/26/88	
Reproposal	03/09/90	55 FR 8956
Reproposal Comment Period End	04/09/90	
Final Action	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Lawrence Skinner, Director, Foreign Programs Division, International Programs, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-6933

RIN: 0583-AA47

499. SUBSTANCES APPROVED FOR USE IN THE PREPARATION OF MEAT FOOD AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 451 et seq; 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 318; 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule will amend the Federal meat and poultry products inspection regulations to simplify the procedures by which FSIS approves food additives and Generally Recognized as Safe substances to be used as ingredients in meat food products and poultry products. The proposed rule will be developed in cooperation with the Food and Drug Administration to make the Federal regulation of food additives and other substances that may be used as ingredients in meat food and poultry products more efficient and uniform.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/29/95	60 FR 67459
NPRM Comment Period End	05/06/96	
Final Action	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Ralph E. Stafko, Deputy Director, Policy, Evaluation and Planning Staff, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-8168

RIN: 0583-AB02

500. NUTRITION LABELING: HEALTH CLAIMS ON MEAT AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 21 USC 601 et seq; 21 USC 451 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 317; 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule will amend the Federal meat and poultry products inspection regulations to permit the use of health claims that characterize the relationship of a substance to a disease-related or health-related condition on labeling of meat and poultry products. The rule will also establish a labeling application process for such health claims. This action stems from the final nutrition labeling regulations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/25/94	59 FR 27144
NPRM Comment Period End	07/25/94	
Final Action	12/00/96	
Final Action Effective	05/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Charles Edwards, Director, Product Assessment Division, Regulatory Programs, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 254-2565

RIN: 0583-AB64

USDA—FSIS

Final Rule Stage

501. ELIMINATION OF PRIOR APPROVAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ESTABLISHMENT DRAWINGS AND SPECIFICATIONS, FACILITIES EQUIPMENT, AND CERTAIN PARTIAL QUALITY CONTROL PROGRAMS

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 9 in Part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

RIN: 0583–AB93

502. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR CERTAIN MEAT PRODUCTS AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 10 in Part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

RIN: 0583–AB94

503. • NET WEIGHT STATEMENT FOR SHINGLE-PACKED BACON

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 317

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has been petitioned to amend the Federal meat inspection regulations by removing a labeling requirement for certain sizes of shingle packed bacon. Current regulations for shingle packed bacon require that the labeling of packages that are not 8 ounces, 16 ounces (1 pound), or 2 ounces (2 pounds) display the net quantity of the contents (net weight statement) in the same size as the largest feature of the label.

Historically, shingle packed bacon was sold in 8-ounce, 1-pound, or 2-pound packages. Over time, the weight of the bacon was reduced, but the industry continued to sell the product in the same size packaging. To ensure that consumers were aware that there as less product in the same size packages, FSIS promulgated the current regulation to highlight (to consumers) the net weight statement on these packages. However, with heightened consumer awareness,

the use of nutritional labeling, and the use of unit pricing at the retail level, FSIS agrees with the petitioner that this labeling requirement is no longer needed.

This action would provide the same net weight labeling requirements for all package sizes of bacon.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Direct Final Rule	08/14/96	61 FR 42143
Comment Period End	10/15/96	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Irvin Dubinsky, Processed Products Inspection Division, Science and Technology, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250-3700
Phone: 202 501-7319

RIN: 0583–AC08

504. • FEE INCREASE FOR INSPECTION SERVICES

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 21 USC 451 et seq; 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 391

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Food Safety and Inspection Service is proposing to increase the fees FSIS charges meat and poultry establishments, importers and exporters for providing voluntary inspection, identification, and certification services and overtime and holiday services. These fee increases are based upon the Agency's analysis of projected costs for fiscal year 1996, which identifies increased costs resulting from the January 1996 FSIS national and locality pay raise average of 2.4 percent for Federal employees and increased health insurance costs. FSIS also is proposing to reduce the fees charged for providing laboratory services to meat and poultry establishments. The Agency's analysis of projected costs for fiscal year 1996 identified decreased costs resulting from the use of automated equipment for testing laboratory samples and for other inspection related services not covered under the base time, overtime, and holiday costs.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/03/96	61 FR 34747
NPRM Comment Period End	08/02/96	
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: William L. West, Director, Budget and Finance Division, Administrative Management, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250-3700
Phone: 202 720-3367

RIN: 0583–AC13

505. • USE OF A BLEND OF CARAGEENAN, LOCUST BEAN GUM, AND XANTHAN GUM AS A BINDER MATRIX IN WATER-ADDED HAMS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 318

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: FSIS plans to amend the Federal meat inspection regulations to permit the use of a blend of carageenan, locust bean gum, and xanthan gum as a binder to prevent purging of brine solution in water-added hams. Carageenan and xanthan gum are permitted as direct food additives under 21 CFR 172.620 and 172.695 at use-levels consistent with good manufacturing practice as stabilizers, emulsifiers, or thickeners. The currently permitted use-level for carageenan is 1.5 percent of the formulation of water-added hams. The Federal meat and poultry products inspection regulations already allow the use of xanthan gum in various meat and poultry products without a restriction for use as a binder. Locust bean gum is listed in 21 CFR 184.1343 as a substance generally recognized as safe at a maximum use-level of 0.5 percent as a stabilizer and thickener.

The maximum use-level for the binder matrix will be 0.5 percent, consisting of 70 percent carageenan, 15 percent xanthan gum, and 15 percent locust bean gum. Permitting the use of this binder matrix in water-added hams will provide ham processors with another

USDA—FSIS

Final Rule Stage

binder option from which to choose when formulating their product.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Direct Final Rule	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Paula M. Cohen, Director, Regulations Development,

Policy, Evaluation and Planning Staff, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250-3700

Phone: 202 720-7164

RIN: 0583-AC16

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Long-Term Actions

Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)

506. NUTRITION LABELING OF GROUND BEEF AND HAMBURGER

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 317; 9 CFR 381

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/24/94	59 FR 26916
NPRM Extension of Comment Period	07/05/94	59 FR 34396
NPRM Comment Period End	07/08/94	
NPRM Extension of Comment Period End	08/22/94	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Charles Edwards
Phone: 202 254-2565

RIN: 0583-AB74

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Charles Edwards
Phone: 202 254-2565

RIN: 0583-AB82

508. FSIS AGENDA FOR CHANGE: REGULATORY REVIEW; FOOD STANDARDS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 301 to 350; 9 CFR 381

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	12/29/95	60 FR 67469
ANPRM Reopening of Comment Period	03/11/96	61 FR 9655

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM Comment Period End	05/10/96	
Next Action	Undetermined	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Paula M. Cohen
Phone: 202 720-7164

RIN: 0583-AB89

509. REFRIGERATION AND LABELING REQUIREMENTS FOR SHELL EGGS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 56; 7 CFR 59

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/27/92	57 FR 48569
NPRM Comment Period End	12/28/92	
Next Action	Undetermined	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Patrick Clerkin
Phone: 202 205-0700

RIN: 0583-AC04

507. USE OF SOY PROTEIN CONCENTRATE AND FOOD STARCH—MODIFIED AS BINDERS IN CURED PORK PRODUCTS

Priority: Routine and Frequent

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 318

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Completed Actions

Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)

510. USE OF TRISODIUM PHOSPHATE ON RAW, CHILLED POULTRY CARCASSES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 381

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/29/96	61 FR 39273
Final Action Effective	08/28/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: William O. James
Phone: 202 720-3219

RIN: 0583-AB65

511. PATHOGEN REDUCTION; HAZARD ANALYSIS AND CRITICAL CONTROL POINT (HACCP) SYSTEMS

Priority: Economically Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

Unfunded Mandates: This action may affect State, local or tribal governments and the private sector.

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 304; 9 CFR 308; 9 CFR 310; 9 CFR 320; 9 CFR 327; 9 CFR 381; 9 CFR 416; 9 CFR 417

USDA—FSIS

Completed Actions

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/25/96	61 FR 38806
Final Action Effective	07/25/96	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal, Federal

Agency Contact: Paula M. Cohen
 Phone: 202 720-7164
 Fax: 202 690-4794

RIN: 0583-AB69

512. SODIUM CITRATE BUFFERED WITH CITRIC ACID USED AS AN ANTIMICROBIAL AGENT IN CURED AND NONCURED MEAT AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 9 CFR 318; 9 CFR 381

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/24/96	61 FR 18047
Final Action Effective	06/24/96	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Charles Edwards
 Phone: 202 254-2565

RIN: 0583-AB97

513. LABELING OF SAUSAGES MADE WITH NATURAL CASINGS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 317; 9 CFR 381

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Notice of Policy Statement	07/31/96	61 FR 39853

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Cheryl Wade
 Phone: 202 254-2590

RIN: 0583-AB98

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-F

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Prerule Stage

Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)

514. • EXPORT SALES REPORTING REQUIREMENT

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 5712

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 20

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Consideration of a proposal to add meat and meat products to the list of commodities to be reported under the Export Sales Reporting

requirements. The Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will ask for public comment on the benefits, costs, and methods for collecting meat export sales information.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	11/00/96	
ANPRM Comment Period End	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert Riston, Regulatory Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 4957-S, Washington, DC 20250-1000

Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA51

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Proposed Rule Stage

Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)

515. DAIRY TARIFF RATE IMPORT QUOTA LICENSING

Priority: Economically Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 624; 19 USC 1202; 31 USC 9701; PL 103-465

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 6.20 to 6.34

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, January 1, 1995.

Abstract: This rule would supersede the import regulation which governs the administration of the Import Licensing System for certain dairy products which are subject to in-quota tariff rates established in the

harmonized tariff schedule of the United States resulting from the entry into force of certain provisions in the Uruguay Round Agreement.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	06/02/94	59 FR 28495
ANPRM Comment Period End	08/01/94	
Interim Final Rule	05/02/95	60 FR 21425
Interim Final Rule	09/13/95	60 FR 47453
NPRM	01/18/96	61 FR 1233
NPRM Comment Period End	03/18/96	
Final Rule	10/09/96	61 FR 53002
Proposed	09/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert Riston, Regulatory Coordinator, Department of

Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 4957 South Building, Washington, D. C. 20250
 Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA27

516. SUGAR IMPORT LICENSING

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 19 USC 1202

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1530 subpart A; 7 CFR 1530 subpart B; 7 CFR 1530 subpart C

Legal Deadline: None

USDA—FAS

Proposed Rule Stage

Abstract: This notice of proposed rulemaking addresses some administrative changes to the sugar import licensing programs. These changes are intended to increase the regulatory efficiency, assist in verifying program compliance and provide for the adherence of the applicable sugar provisions of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

The NPRM will also provide for implementation of certain changes to the lead note to chapter 17 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, pursuant to the Uruguay Round agreement.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	05/04/94	59 FR 23017
ANPRM Comment Period End	07/08/94	
NPRM	08/06/96	61 FR 40749
NPRM Comment Period End	10/07/96	
Final Action	02/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Robert Riston, Regulatory Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 4957 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-1000
Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA39

517. REGULATION GOVERNING THE FINANCING OF COMMERCIAL SALES OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES (PL 480, TITLE I)

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1701 to 1705; 7 USC 1736a; 7 USC 1736c; 7 USC 5676; EO 1220

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 17

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The proposed rule revises the P.L. 480, title I financing regulations to simplify and streamline the purchasing and shipment of commodities by -- Removing the requirement that the buyer open letters of credit through a U.S. bank for the commodity and for ocean freight costs financed by CCC. Instead, CCC would pay the suppliers directly. --Permitting any suppliers eligible under the GSM-102 or GSM-103 programs to participate in title I, without submitting additional information --Eliminating the requirement that suppliers report to USDA any payments to representatives of the importer or importing country, due to repeal of the underlying legislation. --Deleting Appendices A and B from the regulations; the specific contracting and documentation requirements for the commodity will be placed in each purchase authorization. --Defining the term "private entity"

based on the 1996 FAIR Act, which provided that Title I agreements may be signed with private entities as well as with foreign governments. -- Requiring shipping agents to provide background information only once per fiscal year instead of with every nomination. --Transferring to FAS the notice of sale, price review, and vessel approval functions for cotton, which are now performed by the Kansas City Commodity Office, FSA.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	09/13/95	60 FR 47495
ANPRM Comment Period End	11/12/95	
NPRM	12/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Robert Riston, Regulatory Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 4957 South Building, 14th and Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-1060
Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA42

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Final Rule Stage

Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)

518. REGULATIONS GOVERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MARKET ACCESS PROGRAM (MAP) OVERSEAS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1485

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1736; 7 CFR 1485

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These regulations are promulgated to provide minimum requirements and criteria for parties interested in participating in the Market Access Program (MAP) as authorized by the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978, as amended, and how they may apply and participate.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/26/90	55 FR 17618

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Comment Period End	06/26/90	
Interim Final Rule	08/16/91	56 FR 40745
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	10/15/91	
Second Interim Final Rule	11/17/93	58 FR 60549
Final Rule	02/01/95	60 FR 6352
NPRM	01/10/96	61 FR 704
Third Interim Final Rule	02/01/96	61 FR 3548
NPRM Comment Period End	02/09/96	
Final Rule	05/14/96	61 FR 24205
Final Rule	10/11/96	61 FR 53303
Final Action	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert Riston, Regulatory Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 4957 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA24

519. CCC EXPORT CREDIT GUARANTEE PROGRAM (GSM-102) AND CCC INTERMEDIATE EXPORT CREDIT GUARANTEE PROGRAM (GSM-103)

Priority: Economically Significant

Legal Authority: 15 USC 714(b); 15 USC 714(f); 7 USC 5602; 7 USC 5622; 7 USC 5661; 7 USC 5663; 7 USC 5664; 7 USC 5676

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1493

Legal Deadline: None

USDA—FAS

Final Rule Stage

Abstract: The final rule will amend regulations for CCC export credit guarantee programs by adding a new subpart D, supplier credit guarantee program. Subpart D will establish the terms and conditions by which U.S. exporters of U.S. agricultural commodities and products may obtain CCC credit guarantees for short term credits extended directly to foreign buyers.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Rule	10/19/94	59 FR 52866
NPRM	07/19/95	60 FR 37025
Interim Final Rule	07/01/96	61 FR 33825
Final Action	07/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert Riston, Regulatory Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 4957 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA30

520. FACILITY GUARANTEE PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 5622(b)

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 17; 7 CFR 1493

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The regulations will provide the terms and conditions of obtaining a Commodity Credit Corporation Export Credit Guarantee for the establishment or improvement of an agricultural related facility in an emerging market that will primarily benefit the export of U.S. Agricultural Commodities.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule Effective	03/01/93	

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	06/01/93	
Final Action	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Additional Information: CCC will issue a second interim final rule for the facilities guarantee program. The rule will make changes to substitute "Emerging Market" for "Emerging Democracy" as per the 1996 Fair Act. The interim rule will provide operational requirements for applicants to apply for facility guarantees. The interim final will be pilot tested before a final rule is developed.

Agency Contact: Robert Riston, Regulatory Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 4957 South Building, 14th & Independence Ave SW., Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA35

521. EXPORT SALES REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 5712

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 20

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Regulation to be revised to add sunflowerseed and sunflowerseed oil to the list of commodities to be reported under the Export Sales Reporting requirements.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/23/96	61 FR 38107
NPRM Comment Period End	09/23/96	
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert Riston, Regulatory Coordinator, Department of

Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 4957 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA44

522. ● EXPORT BONUS PROGRAMS CCC EXPORT CREDIT GUARANTEE PROGRAMS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 7 USC 5602; 7 USC 5622; 7 USC 5661 to 5664; 7 USC 5676; 7 USC 714b; 7 USC 714c; 7 USC 5651; 15 USC 714c

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1493; 7 CFR 1494

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This final rule changes the definition of a United States Agricultural Commodity under the EEP, DEIP, GSM-102, GSM-103, and SCGP in response to a provision of the 1996 Fair Act which became effective April 4, 1996. The revised definition contains two subparagraphs. The first subparagraph is similar to the former definition of a U.S. Agricultural Commodity. The second subparagraph applies only to a product of an agricultural commodity that has been designated by the Secretary as a high value product.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Robert Riston, Regulatory Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 4957-S, Washington, DC 20250-1000
Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA50

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)

Long-Term Actions

523. PROPOSED REGULATIONS GOVERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COOPERATOR MARKET DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM OVERSEAS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1550

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert Riston
 Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA26

524. FOREIGN DONATION OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Major: Undetermined

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1499

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/14/94	59 FR 6916
NPRM Comment	04/15/94	
Period End		
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Organizations

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Robert Riston
 Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA38

525. REFORM OF EXPORT BONUS PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1494; 7 CFR 1570

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	06/26/95	60 FR 32923
ANPRM Comment	07/26/95	
Period End		
Next Action	Undetermined	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Robert Riston
 Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA41

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)

Completed Actions

526. PROGRAM CRITERIA FOR THE SUNFLOWERSEED OIL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SOAP) AND THE COTTONSEED OIL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (COAP)

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1570

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	08/17/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Robert Riston
 Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA31

528. SUNFLOWERSEED OIL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OPERATIONS (SOAP) AND COTTONSEED OIL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OPERATIONS (COAP)

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1570 subpart B; 7 CFR 1570 subpart C

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	08/17/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert Riston
 Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA33

Phone: 202 730-6713

RIN: 0551-AA43

530. LIMITATION ON IMPORTS OF MEAT

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 16

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/17/96	61 FR 37199
Final Action Effective	07/17/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert Riston
 Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA45

527. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO TOBACCO EXPORTS

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1525

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	04/04/96	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert Riston
 Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA32

529. REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE FINANCING OF COMMERCIAL SALES OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES (P.L. 480, TITLE I)

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 17

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/23/96	61 FR 17823
Final Action Effective	05/23/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert Riston

531. SECTION 22 IMPORT FEES

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 6.50 to 6.55; 7 CFR 6.66; 7 CFR 6.57

USDA—FAS

Completed Actions

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	06/06/96	61 FR 28723
Final Action Effective	06/06/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert Riston
Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA46

532. REENTRY OF COTTON INTO THE UNITED STATES

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 6.71 to 6.75

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	06/06/96	61 FR 28723
Final Action Effective	06/06/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert Riston
Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA48

533. CALCULATION OF MARKET STABILIZATION PRICE

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing

Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 6.100 to 6.102

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	06/06/96	61 FR 28723
Final Action Effective	06/06/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert Riston
Phone: 202 720-6713

RIN: 0551-AA49

BILLING CODE 3410-10-F

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Proposed Rule Stage

Forest Service (FS)

534. NATIONAL FOREST PROHIBITIONS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 472; 16 USC 551; 16 USC 683; 7 USC 1011(f); 16 USC 1246(i); 16 USC 1133(c) to 1133(d)(1); 16 USC 4306; 16 USC 4307

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 261

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Regulations at 36 CFR 261, subpart A, set out the acts prohibited on National Forest System (NFS) lands. These prohibitions derive from either statutes governing National Forest programs or other regulations. The regulations at Subpart B authorize Regional Foresters, Forest Supervisors, or Station Directors to close National Forest System lands under their jurisdiction to certain uses or to restrict some uses of NFS lands. These closures are issued by order. Comments on the first proposed rule have been reviewed. Because of the high level of public interest in this rulemaking the Agency has decided to issue a second proposed rule for comment. This action no longer includes the minor revisions to Part 262, Law Enforcement Support Activities, which is now described as a separate action.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Begin Review	10/01/87	
End Review	08/01/88	
NPRM	02/16/94	59 FR 7880
NPRM Comment Period End	05/18/94	
Second NPRM	05/00/97	
Second NPRM Comment Period End	07/00/97	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Additional Information: RIN 0596-AA65 was combined with RIN 0596-AA75

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AA75

535. SMALL TRACTS ACT REGULATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 521(c) to 521(i)

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 254, subpart C

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Implementation of the Agency's Small Tracts regulations has revealed an inadvertent inconsistency between the regulations at 36 CFR 254.35(f) and 254.41(a) and the legislative history of the Small Tracts Act of January 12, 1983. The regulations imply that the disposal of mineral fractions by sale can only be made in response to an application from an abutting landowner, thus discouraging the conveyance by sale to the public. The Act clearly authorizes sale of mineral fractions to the public through public sale, as well as individual applications, provided that certain conditions are met. The revisions will clarify the application of the Act to ensure that both individual applications and public sale are permissible means of disposing of qualifying tracts.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	01/00/97	
Final Action	04/00/97	
Final Action Effective	04/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090

USDA—FS

Proposed Rule Stage

Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AA79

536. ISOLATED CABIN POLICY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 477 to 482; 16 USC 551

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 251

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Agency policy is to terminate isolated cabin authorizations on National Forest System land that were constructed without advance authorization and subsequently authorized by special-use permit. These cabins are used for part- or full-time occupancy. These cabins differ from recreation residences which were established in tracts specific for this purpose and built with Agency approval and supervision. Isolated cabins originated in several ways, including encroachment and mining claims. They restrict management of the surrounding National Forest land and deprive the public the use and enjoyment of the land actually occupied and the surrounding area. The action proposed is to seek input from the public as to whether the present policy should be continued, or whether it should be revised so as to examine each isolated occupancy and determine whether, in the interest of fairness and equity, the cabin should be converted to a recreation residence. This proposal to revise current policy was originally included in proposed policy on recreation residences (RIN No. 0596-AB06).

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	08/00/97	
Final Action	01/00/98	
Final Action Effective	01/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090 Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AA85

537. TIMBER SALE PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT BOND FORM REVISION

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 31 USC 9301 to 9309; 31 USC 223 to 225

CFR Citation: None

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Following a period of high-priced timber sales bid prior to 1982, the Forest Service experienced a number of contract defaults on these sales. Subsequently, the Forest Service has had difficulty collecting from some sureties on the bonds guaranteeing performance on these sales. As part of a financial security initiative affecting future sales, the Forest Service is proposing to revise the payment and performance bonds to clarify surety's obligation in regard to what is being guaranteed, when payment is due in case of default, what additional charges will be assessed if payment is not made when due and when collection action may be suspended. Other alternatives include eliminating surety bonds as a form of security, reducing surety guarantee to mid-point and periodic payment and retention of current bond forms. Upon adoption, the final revised bond forms will be issued for use by Forest Service Contracting and Fiscal Officers for future timber sale contracts. The former title, Surety Bond Form Revision, has been modified to more accurately reflect the content of the proposed rule.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/17/89	54 FR 1742
NPRM Comment Period End	03/20/89	
Second NPRM	01/00/97	
Second NPRM Comment Period End	04/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Additional Information: Final action on this entry was delayed to obtain advice of the Comptroller General. Because of the lengthy delay this action will be published as proposed once more.

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090

Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AA94

538. DISPOSAL OF NATIONAL FOREST TIMBER; CANCELLATION OF TIMBER SALE CONTRACTS

Priority: Other Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 16 USC 551

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 223.40; 36 CFR 223.116

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Current regulations governing cancellation of National Forest timber sale contracts do not adequately protect the Government's financial interests in the event the Forest Service is forced to cancel contracts due to events beyond its control arising from compliance with environmental statutes. This rulemaking would remove an unworkable compensation-of-damages formula and establish a termination-for environmental-protection clause in timber sale contracts, a standard in most Federal procurement contracts.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	01/00/97	
Final Action	00/00/00	
Final Action Effective	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090 Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB21

539. SPECIES SURPLUS TO DOMESTIC MANUFACTURING NEEDS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 620 et seq

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 223.200

USDA—FS

Proposed Rule Stage

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed rule would amend 36 CFR 223.200, to list species proposed to be surplus to domestic manufacturing needs. This proposed rule would implement a portion of section 620a(b) of the Forest Resources Conservation and Shortage Relief Act of 1990 (16 USC 620 et seq). Section 620a(a) of the Act provides that no person who acquires unprocessed timber originating from Federal lands west of the 100th meridian in the contiguous 48 States may export such timber from the United States, or sell, trade, exchange or otherwise convey such timber from the United States, unless such timber has been determined under subsection (b) to be surplus to the needs of timber manufacturing facilities in the United States. Section 620a(b) of the Act provides that the prohibition contained in section (a) shall not apply to specific quantities of grades and species of unprocessed timber originating in Federal lands which the Secretary concerned determines through rulemaking to be surplus to domestic manufacturing needs.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/97	
Final Action	00/00/00	
Final Action Effective	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Federal

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090 Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB27

540. RETENTION OF DOWNPAYMENT ON TIMBER SALE CONTRACTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 472(a); 16 USC 618

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 223.49

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Federal Timber Sale Contract Payment Modification Act directs the Forest Service to require purchasers to make downpayments and periodic payment on timber sales. The

objective of these requirements is to discourage speculative bidding on National Forest System timber sales. This rule will identify the requirements to hold downpayments until the timber sale contract is substantially completed.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	02/02/94	59 FR 4879
ANPRM Comment Period End	03/04/94	
NPRM	03/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/97	
Final Action	00/00/00	
Final Action Effective	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Public Compliance Cost: Initial Cost: \$10,000; Yearly Recurring Cost: \$0

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090 Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB28

541. NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING FOREST SERVICE MANUAL CHAPTER 1920

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1600 et seq

CFR Citation: None

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The proposed manual policy would incorporate all direction for land and resource management planning into one Forest Service Manual chapter (FSM 1920). The proposed policy would clarify how the revised land and resource management planning regulations at 36 CFR 219 will be implemented. The proposal will focus on implementing forest plans: monitoring, evaluating, amending, and revising forest plans; and clarifying the relationship between forest planning and project decisionmaking. (See entry for RIN 0596-AB20.)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	09/00/97	
Final Action	01/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090 Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB31

542. COLLECTION OF REIMBURSABLE COSTS FOR PROCESSING SPECIAL-USE APPLICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION OF SPECIAL-USE AUTHORIZATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 43 USC 1764; 30 USC 181

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 251

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The objective of this proposal is to incorporate into regulation the authority contained in the Mineral Leasing Act and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act to reimburse the United States for reasonable administrative costs associated with the issuance and administration of special-use authorizations on National Forest System lands.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	01/00/97	
Final Action	04/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: None

Additional Information: Cost reimbursement for processing special-use applications and administration of special-use authorizations was originally included under RIN 0596-AA36. All provisions pertaining to the special-use application and administration process have been merged with RIN 0596-AB35. Thus, this rulemaking addresses only the cost-reimbursement provisions.

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090 Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB36

543. SALE AND DISPOSAL OF NATIONAL FOREST TIMBER; INDICES TO DETERMINE MARKET-RELATED CONTRACT TERM ADDITIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: 16 USC 618(b)

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 223.50; 36 CFR 223.53 (New)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Based on General Accounting Office Testimony Report Number T-RCED-92-58, 04/28/92, the Secretary of Agriculture agreed to reexamine the use of the Bureau of Labor Statistics unadjusted indices to determine whether wood product prices have shown a drastic decline. The Secretary of Agriculture indicated the Forest Service would develop and publish for comment a proposed rule to use an alternative method to determine whether wood prices have drastically declined and warrant granting of a Market-Related Contract Term Addition. The proposed rulemaking proposes minor changes in procedures to determine whether a drastic reduction in wood product prices has occurred.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/21/96	61 FR 54589
NPRM Comment Period End	11/20/96	
Final Action	03/00/97	
Final Action Effective	05/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090 Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB41

544. APPEAL OF DECISIONS RELATING TO OCCUPANCY AND USE OF NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 472; 16 USC 551

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 251, subpart C

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These proposed regulations are housekeeping amendments to 36

CFR Part 251, Subpart C, to correlate with regulations at 36 CFR Part 215 and with statutory direction. For example, changes to Part 251 would clarify the application of this rule to the issuance of permits for occupancy and use of National Forest System lands. After further consideration, the Agency does not intend to proceed with timber sale set aside regulations as stated in the previous regulatory agenda since the set aside revisions are not related to special use permits. When 36 CFR Part 251, Subpart C, regulations were promulgated in 1989, NEPA analysis and documentation was not consistently applied to issuance of permits or other authorizations. Now the issuance of permits and other authorization requires application of the NEPA process prior to issuance. In addition, since these regulations were implemented, Congress has passed the Appeal Reform Act. The proposed changes to Part 251, Subpart C, are needed to make this regulation consistent with regulations at 36 CFR Part 215. Specific proposed changes to 36 CFR Part 251 include removing the second level of appeal opportunity, deleting the discretionary review option, shortening timeframes for scheduling oral presentations, and changes to conform with 36 CFR Part 215, including consistent terminology and definitions as well as removal of the automatic stay on permit issuance prior to appeal resolution.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/97	
Final Action	00/00/00	
Final Action Effective	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090 Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB45

545. SALE AND DISPOSAL OF NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM TIMBER; EXTENSION OF TIMBER SALE CONTRACTS TO PERMIT URGENT REMOVAL OF OTHER TIMBER

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 472a

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 223.50; 36 CFR 223.53

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule and policy change will provide for extension of National Forest System (NFS) timber sale contracts when such extension will permit the prompt removal and utilization of non-NFS owned timber damaged by catastrophic events. The change will define the responsibilities of the parties for requesting and approving such extensions and specify when such extension should be approved. This change will also allow for the use of scarce timber resources and the recovery of economic benefits from timber that might otherwise be lost because of contractual obligations to harvest undamaged timber.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	04/03/96	61 FR 14618
NPRM	11/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	01/00/97	
Final Action	00/00/00	
Final Action Effective	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090 Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB48

546. DISPOSAL OF NATIONAL FOREST TIMBER: TIMBER SALE CONTRACT REVISIONS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: PL 94-588; 16 USC 472a; 16 USC 528; 15 USC 631

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 223, subpart B

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed policy would revise the 2400-6 and the 2400-6T timber sale contracts currently used by the Forest Service to sell National Forest System timber. The proposed timber sale contracts, included as part of the proposed policy, would reflect recent court decisions and recent natural resource and environmental legislation and would clarify the rights, responsibilities, and obligations of the

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contracting parties. The proposed policy would address specific provisions in the current contract that have generated costly litigation in the past between the Government and the purchaser and would address the concerns regarding timber theft and log accountability.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	01/00/97	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB52

547. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT; REVISED POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: 42 USC 4371

CFR Citation: None

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The proposed manual and handbook policy would be revised to clarify the environmental analysis process used by the Forest Service to implement the NEPA regulations at 40 CFR 1500. The proposal will focus on better defining the process for determining when projects are categorically excluded and expanding the categories of action that can be excluded under NEPA.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/97	
NPRM Comment Period End	09/00/97	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P. O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB54

548. 36 CFR 223 SUBPART C-SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT OF TIMBER PURCHASERS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: EO 12549; EO 12689

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 223, subpart C

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: On December 20, 1994, Federal Agencies proposed a common rule to ensure reciprocal governmentwide effect on debarments and suspensions. On January 6, 1996, the Department of Agriculture published its final rule (61 FR 250) to implement regulations for Nonprocurement Debarment and suspension in 7 CFR 3017. These rules became effective February 5, 1996. As such, Forest Service timber sale related debarments and suspensions will now be governed by the governmentwide common rule and USDA rule. Accordingly, Forest Service debarments and suspensions rules will be amended or removed as necessary to conform to the governmentwide common rule.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB55

549. PREFERENCE FOR VISITOR SERVICE; ALASKA NATIONAL FOREST CONSERVATION SYSTEM UNITS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: 16 USC 3197

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 251

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Regulations are proposed to define and establish procedures for administering the statutory rights and preferences established by the Alaska National Interest Lands Act of 1980 for

historical operators, Native Corporations, and local residents to conduct revenue producing visitor services on certain National Forest System Lands in Alaska. The regulations are necessary to comply with section 1307 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Act which requires the Secretary of Agriculture to give preference to persons he determines by rule are local residents. The regulations would apply only to Conservation System Units administered by the Forest Service.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	01/00/97	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB57

550. • FEE SCHEDULE FOR COMMUNICATION FACILITIES AUTHORIZED TO USE AND OCCUPY NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS IN REGIONS 8, 9, AND 10

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 43 USC 1764

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 251.57

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Forest Service proposes to adopt a revised policy and fee schedule for determining annual rental charges for communications uses authorized on National Forest System lands in Regions 8, 9, and 10. The proposed schedule adopts a fee schedule and policy for communications uses similar to the fee schedule and policy adopted in Regions 1-6 on October 27, 1995 (60 FR 55089). The proposed fee schedule and policy is based on sound business management practices and reflect fair market value, as required by Title V of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, the Independent Offices Appropriations Act of 1952, and the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-25.

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The total number of communications uses in Regions 8, 9, and 10 (1,273 permit holders) account for approximately 16 percent of all communication uses (7,756 permit holders) on the National Forests. Therefore, this proposed fee schedule and policy affect a relatively small number of interested parties, since communications fee issues do not attract the interest of the public at

large. We expect controversy over this issue to be isolated to a few permit holders and do not expect Congressional interest due to the limited scope of this proposal.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/97	
NPRM Comment	03/00/97	
Period End		

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, PO Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB60

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Final Rule Stage

Forest Service (FS)

551. HYDROPOWER APPLICATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 551; 43 USC 1761

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 251.54; 36 CFR 251.57

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: A revision of Agency procedures is needed to reduce confusion regarding the role of the Forest Service in permitting hydropower uses on National Forest System lands. The goal of the directives will be to establish procedures, compatible with the procedures of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), for obtaining various approvals and involvement of the Forest Service in a timely manner.

In addition, the directives will establish a fee system for hydropower uses as required by Title V, Section 501 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. The agency will propose streamlined procedures for hydropower use approval in response to public comments received on proposed policy.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/22/95	60 FR 27154
NPRM Comment	07/17/95	60 FR 36401
Period Extended		
NPRM Comment	09/05/95	
Period End		
Final Action	11/00/96	
Final Action Effective	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of

Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AA47

552. INDIAN ALLOTMENTS ON NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 472; 16 USC 551; 16 USC 1603; 43 USC 1740; 25 USC 337

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 254, subpart D (New)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule sets forth Forest Service procedures and role in the regulation of Indian allotments on National Forest System land. The Indian Allotment Act, as amended, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to make allotments of National Forest System lands to Indians for homesteading and agricultural and grazing purposes. The Forest Service has relied upon USDI rules and procedures at 43 CFR 2533 to govern its involvement in Indian allotment cases. Litigation and a decision by the Interior Board of Land Appeals require the Forest Service to set forth its own regulations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/22/87	52 FR 23473
NPRM Comment	07/22/87	
Period End		
Final Action	11/00/96	
Final Action Effective	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AA52

553. NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 11 in Part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

RIN: 0596-AB20

554. STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY ASSISTANCE STEWARDSHIP INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 16 USC 2101 et seq

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 230

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This final rule would incorporate streamlined procedural changes in response to public comments on the interim rule published December 4, 1991. The interim rule established the interim procedures for administration of the Stewardship Incentive Program. The Program is intended to encourage private landowners, through cost-share assistance, to manage their forest lands for economic, environmental, and social benefits. Only two alternatives were considered in detail: (1) to implement the Program in accordance

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with 16 USC 2101, et seq, and (2) not to implement the Program, in which case there would be no accelerated program for multiple resource management on nonindustrial private forest lands. The overall effects of the Program over time will be environmentally beneficial by enhancing wetlands, wildlife habitat, forest health, forest productivity, and recreation. The Program will help meet future demand for commodity and noncommodity forest resources. There are no potential negative impacts anticipated for the Program.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/04/91	56 FR 63581
Interim Final Rule Public Comment Period End	01/21/92	
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB32

555. SPECIAL-USE APPLICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION OF SPECIAL-USE AUTHORIZATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 43 USC 1764; 31 USC 483(a); 30 USC 181; 16 USC 551

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 251(b)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Forest Service proposes to amend the regulations governing the use and occupancy of National Forest System lands to minimize application expenses, streamline and make more efficient environmental analysis of special use proposals, provide the ability to use one-time payments for easements as presently used in the marketplace, limit certain liability requirements to amounts determined by a risk assessment, make certain definitions more explicit, and clarify direction on renewal of existing special use regulations. The intended effect is to reduce costs to proponents and the agency, expedite decisionmaking, and

administer authorizations in a more "user friendly" manner by removing certain requirements deemed unnecessary and/or outdated. This rulemaking responds to goals identified in the National Performance Review Regulatory Reform effort.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/14/92	57 FR 36618
NPRM Comment Period End	09/28/92	
Final Action	11/00/96	
Final Action Effective	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB35

556. SKI AREA PERMIT FEE SYSTEM

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: PL 99-522; 16 USC 497b

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 251.57

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Forest Service proposes to revise existing procedures for determining permit fees for the use of National Forest System lands by ski areas. Permit fees for most ski areas operating on National Forest System lands are determined under the graduated rate fee system (GRFS). As applied to large ski areas, GRFS is complex and costly to administer, and has thus been the subject of several audits, appeals, and lawsuits. Under the proposed policy, the Agency would determine permit fees by site-specific appraisal of the use of National Forest System land by ski areas.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/13/95	60 FR 36097
NPRM Comment Period End	09/11/95	
Final Action	11/00/96	
Final Action Effective	03/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB49

557. SUBSISTENCE MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS FOR PUBLIC LANDS IN ALASKA

Priority: Other Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

Legal Authority: PL 96-487

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 242; 50 CFR 100

Legal Deadline: NPRM, Judicial, April 5, 1996.

Abstract: The proposed rule would respond to rulemaking petitions submitted by the Northwest Arctic Regional Advisory Council (et al, 4/12/94) and the Mentasta Village Council (et al, 7/15/93) regarding Federal regulation of subsistence hunting and fishing on lands, which have been selected from non-Federal and Federal land for conveyance to Alaska Native Corporations or to the State of Alaska, but which have not yet been conveyed. The proposed rule would also respond to the April 20, 1995, decision by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals regarding Federal subsistence management authority over hunting and fishing in navigable waters in Alaska. This proposed rulemaking will address identification of waters that meet the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act definition of "public lands," and will address Federal Subsistence Board authority to restrict or limit hunting or fishing on non-Federal lands that interferes with subsistence hunting or fishing on Federal public lands.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/04/96	61 FR 15014
NPRM Comment Period End	06/14/96	
Interim Final Rule	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB56

USDA—FS

Final Rule Stage

558. • DISPOSAL OF NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM TIMBER; MODIFICATION OF TIMBER SALE CONTRACTS IN EXTRAORDINARY CONDITIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 472(a)

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 223.115

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The interim rule revises the existing regulations regarding noncompetitive sale of timber based on the Secretary of Agriculture's determination that extraordinary conditions exist. The interim final rule authorizes forest officials, without advertisement, to make modifications to 2001(k) of the 1995 Rescissions Act timber sales, which result in the substitution of timber from outside the sale area specified in the contract for timber within the timber sale contract area. A final rule will be promulgated after the public comment period ends.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	04/03/96	61 FR 14618
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Local, Federal

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB58

Reorganization Act of 1994, the Secretary of Agriculture is required to offer mediation of grazing permit disputes on National Forest System lands in those States which have USDA certified mediation programs. In response to the Act, the Forest Service proposes to publish an interim rule modifying the Agency's administrative appeal rule at 36 CFR Part 251, Subpart C, to allow for mediation of grazing permit disputes. The interim rule would be published, to be effective immediately, with request for public review and comment before a final rule is published.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Liaison, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, PO Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB59

559. • APPEAL OF DECISIONS RELATING TO OCCUPANCY AND USE OF NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS; MEDIATION OF GRAZING PERMIT DISPUTES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 5101 to 5106

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 251 subpart C

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Under section 282 of the Federal Crop Insurance Reform and Department of Agriculture

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Long-Term Actions

Forest Service (FS)

560. • LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1011(f); 16 USC 472; 16 USC 551; 16 USC 559(a) to 559(g); 40 USC 484(m)

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 262

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: In February, 1994, the Forest Service published proposed rule changes for 36 CFR, Parts 261 and 262. Due to the high level of interest in and comment on Part 261, the decision was

made to publish a second proposed rule. Since few comments were received on Part 262, Law Enforcement Support Activities, the Forest Service has decided to proceed to adopt a final rule for this part. The majority of the public comment on Part 262 referred to the definition section which has been revised to respond to those comments. Proposed revisions to Part 261 will proceed separately at a later time.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/16/94	59 FR 7880

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Comment Period End	05/18/94	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, PO Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB61

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Completed Actions

Forest Service (FS)

561. MANAGEMENT OF GRAZING USE WITHIN RANGELAND ECOSYSTEMS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 222, subpart A

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	10/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly

Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AA35

USDA—FS

Completed Actions

562. SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL POLICY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 251

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	10/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Governmental Jurisdictions

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Federal

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AA92

563. TIMBER SALE CONTRACTS; APPRAISAL PROCEDURES FOR DETERMINING FAIR MARKET VALUE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing

Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 223.60

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	02/14/96	61 FR 5684
Final Action Effective	03/14/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB26

564. USE OF FIXED ANCHORS FOR ROCK CLIMBING IN WILDERNESS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 261.16; 36 CFR 293.9

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	10/01/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB33

565. SMITH RIVER NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 292, subpart G

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/03/96	61 FR 14621

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly
Phone: 703 235-1488

RIN: 0596-AB39

BILLING CODE 3410-11-F

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Office of Chief Financial Officer (OCFO)**

Long-Term Actions

566. AUDITS OF STATE, LOCAL, AND INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 3015; 7 CFR 3016; 7 CFR 3050

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: Governmental Jurisdictions

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Allen Johnson
Phone: 202 720-8345

RIN: 0505-AA09

BILLING CODE 3410-KS-F

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Office of the Secretary (AgSEC)**

Final Rule Stage

567. NONDISCRIMINATION IN USDA CONDUCTED PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 15

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule proposes to revise regulations governing nondiscrimination in programs and activities conducted by the Department. The proposal would remove current regulation on this subject, place it in

a new part; clarify that the regulation applies to all Department-conducted programs and activities; add familial status and marital status to the protected classes contained in the regulation; add a provision on Department agencies' compliance efforts; reflect that the Assistant Secretary for Administration has been delegated the authority to make final determinations as to whether prohibited discrimination occurred and the corrective action required to solve complaints; remove the Appendix to the regulation that lists the Department

programs subject to these provisions; and make other clarifications to the regulation.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/23/96	
Final Action	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: George Robertson, Acting Director, Office of Civil Rights Department of Agriculture, Office of the

USDA—AgSEC

Final Rule Stage

Secretary, Room 1322 South Building,
Washington, D. C. 20250

Phone: 202 720-5212
RIN: 0503-AA15

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Office of the Secretary (AgSEC)**

Long-Term Actions

**568. SUPPLEMENTAL STANDARDS
OF ETHICAL CONDUCT FOR
EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE**

Priority: Other Significant
CFR Citation: 5 CFR 2635

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Gary M. Whitaker
Phone: 202 720-3327

RIN: 0503-AA05

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Office of the Secretary (AgSEC)**

Completed Actions

**569. GRANTS AND AGREEMENTS
WITH INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER
EDUCATION, HOSPITALS AND OTHER
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 3019

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	09/24/95	60 FR 44121
Final Action Effective	09/24/95	

Small Entities Affected: Organizations

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Gerald Miske
Phone: 202 720-1553

RIN: 0503-AA10

BILLING CODE 3410-90-F

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS)**

Prerule Stage

**570. • RURAL COOPERATIVE
DEVELOPMENT GRANTS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Legal Authority: 7 USC 1932; PL 101-624

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 4284 subpart F;
7 CFR 1940 subpart L; 7 CFR 1951
subpart E

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will implement changes and simplification of a grant program to fund the establishment and/or operation of cooperative development centers. Grants will be available to nonprofit organizations and

institutions of higher learning. This action is necessary to comply with the Federal Agricultural Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, which eliminated "Technology" from the former Rural Technology and Cooperative Development Grant program. The purpose of this program is to encourage and stimulate the development of effective cooperative organizations in rural America as a part of the Department's total package of rural development efforts.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: State, Tribal, Federal

Agency Contact: James E. Haskell, Assistance Deputy Administrator, Cooperative Services, Department of Agriculture, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Room 4016 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-8460

RIN: 0570-AA20

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS)**

Proposed Rule Stage

**571. RURAL BUSINESS
OPPORTUNITY GRANTS**

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989; 7 USC 1926

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 4284; 7 CFR 1951

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service proposes to add a new regulation implementing a grant program to fund local technical assistance and planning activities in rural areas for the purpose of improving economic conditions in the areas. Grants will be available to public

bodies and nonprofit organizations. This action is necessary to comply with P.L. 104-127. Grants may be used for technical assistance and training for small businesses, identifying and analyzing business opportunities in rural areas establishing business support centers, conducting local or

USDA—RBS

Proposed Rule Stage

multi-county economic development planning, coordination of economic development activities, and leadership development training of local government officials.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Wayne Stansbery, Loan Specialist, Department of Agriculture, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 2246- South, Washington, DC 20250

Phone: 202 720-6819

Fax: 202 720-6003

RIN: 0570-AA05

572. RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOAN AND GRANT PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 940c

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1703 subpart B

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The current provisions that govern grant fund disbursement that were published on March 14, 1994, and October 27, 1994, need to be revised to provide more flexibility to advance grant funds to electric and telephone borrowers (the "grantees"). The agency will review on a case-by-case basis the

requirements for disbursement of funds and provide for the advance of funds on an appropriate basis. This rule will greatly improve the Agency's ability to advance grant funds in a manner that is in both the government and the grantee's best interest. The Agency and current grantees believe the changes should be made effective as soon as possible to avoid financial hardships for both the grantees and the ultimate recipients who will receive loans from the revolving loan funds.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Public Compliance Cost: Initial Cost: \$25,000; Yearly Recurring Cost: \$25,000; Base Year for Dollar Estimates: 1995

Sectors Affected: None

Agency Contact: Mark Wyatt, Team Leader, Specialty Lenders Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Room 2245 South Building, Washington, DC 20250

Phone: 202 720-0410

RIN: 0570-AA19

573. • NATIONAL SHEEP INDUSTRY IMPROVEMENT CENTER

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: PL 104-127, sec 759

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 4286 subpart A

Legal Deadline: Other, Statutory, April 4, 1997.

By PL 104-127, Board of Directors must hold public hearing on strategic plan by April 4, 1997.

Abstract: Rule will establish a National Sheep Industries Improvement Center as called for by the 1996 Farm Bill. Rule will establish procedures for appointing the Board of Directors who will operate the Center. The Center will have control over a revolving fund from which low or zero interest loans, grants, contracts, and agreements may be made. The Center's activities will focus on the production and marketing of meat, fiber and hair in order to assist and strengthen the U.S. sheep and goat industries.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Thomas H. Stafford, Director, Cooperative Marketing Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Stop 3252, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 690-2723

RIN: 0570-AA21

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Final Rule Stage

Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS)

574. RURAL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE GRANTS AND TELEVISION DEMONSTRATION GRANTS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: PL 102-552; 7 USC 1927; 7 USC 1939 (c)

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1942 subpart G; 7 CFR 4284 subpart B

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Public Law 102-554 authorizes grants to qualified nonprofit organizations for the provision of technical assistance and training to rural communities for the purpose of improving passenger transportation

services or facilities; to amend the definition for small and emerging private business enterprise to agree with the program size standards established by the Small Business Administration; to clarify certain administrative regulatory guidelines in order to effect improved program administration; and also authorizes grants for educational purposes and distance learning networks.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
RBE: Interim Final Rule Provide Educational/Job Training Instruction.	05/23/94	59 FR 26585

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/09/94	59 FR 40478
NPRM Comment Period End	09/08/94	
Final Action	05/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal, Federal

Agency Contact: Mark Wyatt, Team Leader, Specialty Lenders Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Room 2245 South Building, Washington, DC 20250

USDA—RBS

Final Rule Stage

Phone: 202 720-0410

RIN: 0570-AA08

575. RURAL BUSINESS LOAN STREAMLINING

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 12 in Part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

RIN: 0570-AA09

576. INTERMEDIARY RELENDING PROGRAM REWRITE

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1932 note; 5 USC 301

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1948

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This regulatory package is an initiative to enhance the program through revisions based on experience with operation of the program. The primary changes under consideration include the following: (1) Provide clarifications as to which requirements apply only to Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS) Intermediary

Relending Program (IRP) loan funds and which apply to everything in the IRP revolving funds, (2) Authorize State Offices to accept and process applications, (3) Clarify conditions under which an intermediary that does not have lending experience may qualify, (4) Provide that proposed intermediaries that are delinquent on a Federal debt are not eligible, (5) Authorize loans for refinancing, (6) Provide general guidelines for interest rates and terms of loan to ultimate recipients, (7) Provide that intermediaries may receive a series of subsequent loans of up to \$1 million each and raise the ceiling on loans to an ultimate recipient to \$250,000, (8) Provide for a reserve for bad debts, (9) Allow intermediaries to draw up to 25 percent of their loan at loan closing, (10) Revise application requirements to eliminate some items, provide more detail and provide for streamlined subsequent loan applications, (11) Adjust the priority point scoring system, (12) Provide guidelines for RBS concurrence in proposed loans to ultimate recipients.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule To Raise Loan Limit From \$2 Million to \$4 million	05/12/94	59 FR 24635
NPRM	01/18/95	60 FR 3566
NPRM Comment Period End	03/20/95	
Second Interim Final Rule To raise loan limit from \$2 million to \$4 million	02/22/96	61 FR 6761
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Additional Information: This entry was reported as RIN 0575-AB83 prior to the reorganization of USDA.

Agency Contact: Wayne Stansbery, Loan Specialist, Specialty Lenders Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Department of Agriculture, Stop 1521, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-6819

RIN: 0570-AA15

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Long-Term Actions

Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS)

577. ● DIRECT BUSINESS AND LOAN PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480; 5 USC 301

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1980 subpart A; 7 CFR 1980 subpart E; 7 CFR 1942 subpart A; 7 CFR 1951 subpart E

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Agency has not received direct Business and Industry (B&I) funding in recent years, but some loan authority is possible in Fiscal Year 1997. The Agency currently utilizes FmHA Instructions 1980-A and E, 1942-A, 1951-E to service existing direct (B&I) loans. These regulations contain very limited direction in direct B&I loan making. The Agency is writing a new regulation to replace the instructions for direct loan making and servicing. This program will complement the Agency's existing guaranteed (B&I) loan program.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Mr. Rick Bonnet, Loan Specialist, Business Programs Loan Servicing, Department of Agriculture, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 6339 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-1804

RIN: 0570-AA22

578. ● RURAL BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL LOAN PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480; 5 USC 301

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1980 subpart E; 7 CFR 4279 subpart A; 7 CFR 4279 subpart B; 7 CFR 4287 subpart B

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposal will implement a provision of the 1996 Farm Bill which authorizes the establishment of a certified and preferred lender program for rural development guaranteed loan programs. This will further streamline the Business and Industry (B&I) Guaranteed Loan Program. Additional responsibility will be shifted to the lenders through the preferred lender program. The certified lender program is implemented in the proposed B&I regulations which were published in the Federal Register on February 2, 1996. We are also implementing a provision of the 1996 Farm Bill which authorizes designation of up to 10 community development venture capital organizations for a rural venture capital demonstration project. Up to \$15 million from the B&I National Reserve will be used to

USDA—RBS

Long-Term Actions

guarantee up to 30 percent of funds in a rural investment pool to be established by the selected community development venture capital organizations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Kenneth F. Hennings, Loan Officer, Business Program Loan Processing, Department of Agriculture, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 6337 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 690-3809

RIN: 0570-AA23

579. • AFFIRMATIVE FAIR HOUSING MARKETING PLAN

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1948 subpart C; 7 CFR 1942 subpart G; 7 CFR 4284 subpart B; 7 CFR 1980 subpart E; 7 CFR 4279 subpart B; 7 CFR 1703 subpart B; 7 CFR 1980 Subpart A

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will incorporate the requirement for housing-related projects (such as apartment buildings, nursing homes, group homes, and assisted living type facilities) to develop an Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan (plan) when receiving funding from the Intermediary Relending Program, Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program, and the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Programs and the Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan Program. The plan will describe strategies to attract applications from all groups in housing market area and efforts to reach those persons in the market area who traditionally would not be expected to apply for housing. The Rural Housing Service Multi-Family Housing Program

regulations currently include this borrower requirement. We estimate this action will impact a total of 100 housing related projects not previously required to complete a plan.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Rick Bonnet, Loan Specialist, Rural Business Cooperative Service, Department of Agriculture, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 6339 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-1804

RIN: 0570-AA24

BILLING CODE 3410-07-F

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Rural Utilities Service (RUS)**

Proposed Rule Stage

580. ELECTRIC SYSTEM PLANNING AND DESIGN—POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 901 et seq; 7 USC 1921 et seq

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1724

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule will codify and update Agency policies and procedures for the planning and design of electrical systems of RUS borrowers.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	
NPRM Comment	02/00/97	
Period End		

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr., Director, Program Support & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, 14th & Independence Avenue SW., Room 2234 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AA48

581. ELECTRIC STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 901 et seq

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1728

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This regulation provides RUS borrowers and the public with specifications for material and

equipment as a complement to the list of construction standards and specifications incorporated by reference.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/96	
NPRM Comment	01/00/97	
Period End		

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr., Director, Program Support & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, 14th & Independence Avenue SW., Room 2234 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AA67

USDA—RUS

Proposed Rule Stage

582. POST-LOAN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES COMMON TO INSURED AND GUARANTEED ELECTRIC LOANS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 901 et seq

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1717, A to F; 7 CFR 1717, J to K

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This regulation will codify most basic post-loan policies and procedures common to insured and guaranteed electric loans.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	
NPRM Comment	02/00/97	
Period End		

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr., Director, Program Support & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, 14th & Independence Avenue SW., Room 2234 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AA71

583. ELECTRIC SYSTEMS OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 901 et seq

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1730

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) proposes to codify and clarify RUS policy concerning operation and maintenance of borrower electric systems. In addition, it is proposed to add RUS policies relating to the review and evaluation of borrower systems and facilities financed with loans from RUS. These policies are presently contained

in RUS Bulletin 161-5 which will be rescinded upon publication of the final rule.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/96	
NPRM Comment	12/00/96	
Period End		

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr., Director, Program Support & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, 14th & Independence Avenue SW., Room 2234 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AA74

584. RUS FIDELITY AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRIC AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS BORROWERS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 901 et seq; 7 USC 1921 et seq

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1788

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is considering revising its regulations concerning the fidelity and insurance requirements for electric and telecommunications borrowers.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	04/28/93	58 FR 25786
ANPRM Comment	06/28/93	
Period End		
NPRM	11/00/96	
NPRM Comment	01/00/97	
Period End		

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr., Deputy Director, Program Support & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, 14th & Independence Ave. SW., Room 2234 South Building, Washington, DC 20250

Phone: 202 720-9550

Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AA86

585. USE OF GENERAL FUNDS INVESTMENTS, LOAN GUARANTEES, AND RETIREMENT OF CAPITAL CREDITS BY ELECTRIC BORROWERS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 901 et seq

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1717 O

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule will set forth procedures for RUS approval of a borrower's use of its own funds that are not the proceeds of RUS loans for additions to electric plan. RUS loans are secured by a first mortgage on the borrower's total electric system. RUS approvals are intended to ensure that the proposed capital additions will not adversely affect the borrower's ability to provide service consistent with the RE Act and to repay its RUS loans.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/96	
NPRM Comment	01/00/97	
Period End		

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Additional Information: RUS is splitting the old RIN due to the fact that the four subparts of the old RIN were split into separate actions which are progressing at different rates in the regulatory process.

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr., Director, Program Support & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, 14th & Independence Ave. SW., Room 2234 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-1500

Phone: 202 720-9550

Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB01

USDA—RUS

Proposed Rule Stage

586. STREAMLINING THE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE'S WATER AND WASTE PROGRAM REGULATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989; 16 USC 1005; 5 USC 301

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1780

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: RUS amends the regulations utilized to administer the Water and Waste disposal loan and grant programs. The rule will combine the water and waste loan and grant regulations into one regulation. Unnecessary and burdensome requirements for entities seeking financial assistance under the programs will be eliminated.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/12/96	61 FR 48075
NPRM Comment Period End	10/15/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr., Director, Program Support & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, 14th & Independence Avenue SW., Room 2234-S, Washington, DC 20250
 Phone: 202 720-9550
 Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB20

587. ESTABLISH WATER AND WASTE DISPOSAL REGULATIONS WITHIN THE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989; 7 USC 1005; 7 USC 301

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1680; 7 CFR 1690; 7 CFR 1691; 7 CFR 1693; 7 CFR 1694

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: RUS amends the regulations originally published by the Farmers Home Administration (FMHA) and the Rural Development Administration (RDA). These amendments implement legislation directing the Secretary of Agriculture to establish the RUS with responsibility for the water and waste disposal programs formerly administered by FMHA and RDA.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr., Director, Program Support & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, 14th & Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250, Room 2234-S
 Phone: 202 720-9550
 Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB21

588. • DISTANCE LEARNING AND TELEMEDICINE PRE-AND POST-LOAN REGULATIONS (LOAN PROGRAM)

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: PL 104-127

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1703 D

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Rural Utilities Service proposes to amend 7 CFR part 1703, subpart D, to incorporate changes to the Distance Learning and Telemedicine regulations by adding a new loan program mandated by the 1996 Farm Bill. The pre- and post-loan requirements for this new loan program will essentially mirror the existing grant program requirements.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr., Director, Program Support & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 2234-S, Washington, DC 20250-1522
 Phone: 202 720-0736
 Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB28

589. • RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS TO STATES

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: PL 104-127

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1774

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Secretary is authorized to make a grant to a State for certain rural development purposes. A state can request an amount not to exceed 5 percent of the total amount of certain funds allocated each fiscal year for the state.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr., Director, Program Support & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 2234-S, Washington, DC 20250-1522
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 Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB29

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Rural Utilities Service (RUS)

Final Rule Stage

590. LOAN ACCOUNT COMPUTATIONS, POLICIES, AND PROCEDURES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 901 et seq
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1785; 7 CFR 1786 A

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: RUS proposes to codify, consolidate, and update the policies and procedures currently contained in RUS Bulletin 20-9:320-12.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/07/93	58 FR 18043
NPRM Comment Period End	05/07/93	
Final Action	10/00/96	
Final Action Effective	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr., Director, Program Support & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, 14th & Independence Avenue SW., Room 2234 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
 Phone: 202 720-9550
 Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AA65

591. LONG-RANGE FINANCIAL FORECASTS OF ELECTRIC BORROWERS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 901 to 950(b); PL 99-591

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1710 G

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) proposes to amend its pre-loan regulations for electric loans to clarify and revise the requirement that borrowers submit to RUS a long-range financial forecast as part of an

application for a loan, loan guarantee, lien accommodation. This proposed rule is intended to strengthen credit practices and to assist borrowers in preparing, and RUS staff in reviewing loan applications.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/20/93	58 FR 44288
NPRM Comment Period End	09/20/93	
Final Action	10/00/96	
Final Action Effective	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr., Director, Program Support & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, 14th & Independence Ave. SW., Room 2234 South Building, Washington, DC 20250
 Phone: 202 720-9550
 Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AA89

592. RUS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR MERGERS AND CONSOLIDATIONS OF ELECTRIC BORROWERS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 901 et seq

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1710; 7 CFR 1714; 7 CFR 1717 D; 7 CFR 1786

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Vast changes are occurring in the regulatory and business environment of the electric industry. In response to these changes, many electric borrowers are considering measures that can result in operating efficiencies or other economies. One example of such a measure is a merger or consolidation

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/07/96	61 FR 41025
NPRM Comment Period End	09/06/96	
Final Action	10/00/96	
Final Action Effective	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr., Director, Program Support & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, 14th & Independence Ave. SW., Room 2234 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-1522

Phone: 202 720-9550
 Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB24

593. • RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ACT "BUY AMERICAN" PROVISION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 901 et seq; PL 103-345; PL 103-456

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1726; 7 CFR 1753

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Uruguay Round Agreement Act amends the RE Act's "Buy American" provision. In the amended provision, "Mexico, or Canada" is replaced with "or in any eligible country" and who qualifies as an eligible country is determined by the USTR.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	10/00/96	
Final Action Effective	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr., Director, Program Support & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, 14th & Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250-1522

Phone: 202 720-9550
 Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB25

594. • SETTLEMENT OF DEBT OWED BY ELECTRIC BORROWERS

Priority: Other Significant
Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined
Legal Authority: 7 USC 901 to 950b; PL 99-591; PL 103-354

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1717 subpt Y

Legal Deadline: None

USDA—RUS

Final Rule Stage

Abstract: On April 4, 1996, P.L. 104-127 amended section 331(b) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to extend to RUS loans and loan guarantees to the Secretary of Agriculture's authority to compromise, adjust, reduce, or charge-off debts or claims owed to the Government. The Secretary of Agriculture has delegated most of the new authority to the Administrator of RUS.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Director, Program Support & Regulatory, Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., STOP 1522, Washington, DC 20250-1522
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB26

595. • RUS PRIVATIZATION DEMONSTRATION PREPAYMENT PROGRAM FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

Legal Authority: PL 104-127

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1786 D

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will implement section 780 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (HR 2854) (Farm Bill). Section 780 of the Farm Bill repealed section 311 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 940a). Section 311 established a privatization demonstration program that allowed borrowers in Alaska 10, under certain circumstances, to prepay loans made by the Federal Financing Bank and guaranteed by RUS using private sector capital with a 90 percent guarantee. RUS regulations implementing this program are at 7 CFR 1786 subpart D.

This regulatory action will remove 7 CFR 1786 subpart D which implemented this now defunct program. This action will enhance the delivery of customer service by removing an obsolete regulation. Because the statutory authority for this program no longer exists, no period for public comment is needed.

RUS recommends that this regulation be designated "not significant."

Section 342 Subtitle E of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (FAIRA) expands the membership and roles of State Technical Committees set forth in section 1261 of Subtitle G of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended. Under these guidelines, the Secretary is required to establish a technical committee in each State to assist in making technical considerations relating to the implementation of conservation provisions. The Natural

Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) uses these State Technical Committees in an advisory capacity. The rule will set forth the policies and procedures for the State Technical Committees by the United States Department of Agriculture, membership criteria, and the responsibilities assigned to these committees.

The NRCS has delivered the majority of the technical assistance provided to private landowners through the authorities provided in 7 CFR Part 610.2. Section 610.2 has not yet been revised to provide for the responsibilities assigned to the NRCS beyond that of soil conservation. To more accurately reflect the broader mission of NRCS, particularly as it relates to technical assistance provided to private grazing land, Section 610.2 is being amended to acknowledge that one of NRCS's missions is to

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	10/00/96	
Final Action Effective	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F.Lamont Heppe, Jr., Director, Program Support & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 2234-S, Washington, DC 20250-1522
Phone: 202 720-0736
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB27

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Long-Term Actions

Rural Utilities Service (RUS)

596. LOAN SECURITY DOCUMENTS—TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1744

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr.

Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AA30

597. WHOLESALE CONTRACTS FOR THE PURCHASE AND SALE OF ELECTRIC POWER AND ENERGY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1717.300 to 1717.349

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/21/90	55 FR 38930
NPRM Comment Period End	11/20/90	
Final Action	00/00/00	
Final Action Effective	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr.
Phone: 202 720-9550

USDA—RUS

Long-Term Actions

Fax: 202 720-4120
 RIN: 0572-AA41

598. MARGIN STABILIZATION PLANS AND REVENUE AND EXPENSE DEFERRALS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1767, subpart E
Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr.
 Phone: 202 720-9550
 Fax: 202 720-4120
RIN: 0572-AA50

599. CIVIL RIGHTS POLICIES APPLICABLE TO RUS BORROWERS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1790
Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe
 Phone: 202 720-9550
 Fax: 202 720-4120
RIN: 0572-AA75

600. LOAN DOCUMENTS—BANK PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1620
Timetable: Next Action Undetermined
Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr.
 Phone: 202 720-9550
 Fax: 202 720-4120
RIN: 0572-AA76

601. DEPRECIATION RATES AND PROCEDURES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1767 C
Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr.
 Phone: 202 720-9550
 Fax: 202 720-4120
RIN: 0572-AA80

602. PRESERVATION OF RECORDS ACCOUNTING REQUIREMENTS FOR RUS ELECTRIC BORROWERS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant.
 Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1767 D
Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr.
 Phone: 202 720-9550
 Fax: 202 720-4120
RIN: 0572-AA92

603. RUS APPROVAL OF SALE OF CAPITAL ASSETS BY ELECTRIC BORROWERS

Priority: Other Significant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1717 P
Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr.
 Phone: 202 720-9550
 Fax: 202 720-4120
RIN: 0572-AB02

604. LOAN DEFERMENTS FOR ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION - ELECTRIC PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1717 L
Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr.
 Phone: 202 720-9550
 Fax: 202 720-4120
RIN: 0572-AB03

605. POWER REQUIREMENT STUDIES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

USDA—RUS

Long-Term Actions

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1710 E

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr.
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB05

subpart A; 7 CFR 1955 subpart B; 7 CFR 1955 subpart C; 7 CFR 2.23; 7 CFR 2.70

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr.
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB13

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: Local

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr.
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB15

606. COMMUNITY FACILITY LOANS - TIMBER-DEPENDENT COMMUNITIES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1942 subpart A

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Governmental Jurisdictions

Government Levels Affected: Local

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr.
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB11

608. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1692; 7 CFR 1942 J

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: Local

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr.
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB14

610. WATER AND WASTE LOAN AND GRANT SERVICING

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1782

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr.
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB23

607. LIQUIDATION OF LOANS AND ACQUISITION, MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL OF SECURITY PROPERTY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1696; 7 CFR 1697; 7 CFR 1951 subpart E; 7 CFR 1955

609. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING GRANTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1691; 7 CFR 1942 subpart J

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Completed Actions

Rural Utilities Service (RUS)

611. ACCOUNTING REQUIREMENTS FOR RUS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BORROWERS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1770 C

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/31/96	61 FR 39844
Final Action Effective	08/30/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr.
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB10

612. USE OF CONSULTANTS FUNDED BY BORROWERS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1789

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	09/16/96	61 FR 48605
Final Action Effective	10/16/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr.
Phone: 202 720-9550

USDA—RUS

Completed Actions

Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB17

**613. DISTANCE LEARNING AND
TELEMEDICINE GRANT PROGRAM**

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing

Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1703

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	06/27/96	61 FR 33622
Final Action Effective	06/27/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr.
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB22

BILLING CODE 3410-15-F

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Proposed Rule Stage

National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

**614. • ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQUIP)
ESTABLISHED IN THE FEDERAL
AGRICULTURE IMPROVEMENT OF
REFORM ACT OF 1996**

Priority: Economically Significant

Unfunded Mandates: This action may affect State, local or tribal governments.

Legal Authority: PL 104-127

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1466

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: EQUIP is established to assist producers deal with environmental and natural resource conservation improvements on their agricultural lands. Program funding will be \$130 Million in FY 1996 & \$200 Million in FY 1997 through FY 2002. One-half of the available funds are for conservation activities related to livestock production. Technical assistance, cost-share payments, incentive payments, and education will be focused on priority area and natural resource concerns identified in cooperation with State Technical Committees. Five to ten year contracts, based on conservation plans, will be used to implement the program. A priority evaluation process will be used to maximize environmental benefits per dollar expended under EQUIP. The Secretary, through the rule making process, will establish eligibility criteria for EQUIP assistance, including determining standards for large livestock operations which will be ineligible for cost sharing to construct animal waste management facilities. For 180 days after the date of enactment of the Act, an interim program will be administered using the term and conditions of the agricultural conservation program, the Great Plains conservation program, the water quality incentives program, and the Colorado

River Basin salinity control program, which are eliminated by the Act.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/11/96	61 FR 53574

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Peter Zeck,
Regulatory Liaison, Department of
Agriculture, National Resources
Conservation Service, P.O. Box 2890,
Room 5235-S, Washington, DC 20013
Phone: 202 690-4860
Fax: 202 690-3174
Email: pzeck@usda.gov

RIN: 0578-AA19

through 2002 with a total of \$197.5 million, coming from CCC, dedicated to this option.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Peter Zeck,
Regulatory Liaison, Department of
Agriculture, National Resources
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Email: pzeck@usda.gov

RIN: 0578-AA20

**615. • CONSERVATION FARM OPTION
(CFO)**

Priority: Other Significant

Unfunded Mandates: This action may affect State, local or tribal governments.

Legal Authority: PL 104-127

CFR Citation: None

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: A conservation farm option pilot program is established for producers of wheat, feed grains, cotton, and rice. Owners or operators with farms that have a production flexibility contract are eligible for participation. Under the pilot program producers may receive on consolidated USDA program payment in lieu of a list of specified payments. The producer must implement a conservation plan that addresses soil, water, and related resources, water quality, wetlands, and wildlife habitat. Participation is voluntary and based upon a 10-year contract between the Secretary and the producer. Funding varies by year

**616. • WILDLIFE HABITAT
INCENTIVES PROGRAM (WHIP)**

Priority: Other Significant

Unfunded Mandates: This action may affect State, local or tribal governments.

Legal Authority: PL 104-127; 15 USC 714b to 714c; 7 USC 14452

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1470

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Wildlife habitats of all types have become degraded as a result of development pressures of modern society. Some habitat types are disappearing from the face of the earth, such as natural prairie. As development encroaches and a habitat disappears, the wildlife dependent upon that habitat also disappear. The rate of species lost to extinction has exceeded any known prior extinction event and the single, most significant cause cited is the loss of habitat. The U.S. Department of Agriculture recognizes the environmental, social, economic, and aesthetic importance of wildlife.

USDA—NRCS

Proposed Rule Stage

The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) provides landowners incentives for developing and restoring habitat for wildlife.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Peter Zeck, Regulatory Liaison, Department of Agriculture, National Resources Conservation Service, PO Box 2890, Room 5235-S, Washington, DC 20013
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 Fax: 202 690-3174
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RIN: 0578-AA21

set forth the policies and procedures for the use of State Technical Committees by the United States Department of Agriculture, membership criteria, and the responsibilities assigned to these committees.

The NRCS has delivered the majority of the technical assistance provided to private landowners through the authorities provided in 7 CFR Part 610.2. Section 610.2 has not yet been revised to provide for the responsibilities assigned to the NRCS beyond that of soil conservation. To more accurately reflect the broader mission of NRCS, particularly as it relates to technical assistance provided to private grazing land. Section 610.2 is being amended to acknowledge that one of NRCS's missions is to improve the quality of all agricultural lands, including grazing land, pastureland, rangeland, forestland, and cropland so that the long-term sustainability of the resource base is achieved.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Peter Zeck, Regulatory Liaison, Department of Agriculture, National Resources Conservation Service, PO Box 2890, Room 5235-S, Washington, DC 20013
 Phone: 202 690-4860
 Fax: 202 690-3174
 Email: pzeck@usda.gov

RIN: 0578-AA22

Legal Authority: PL 104-127; 7 USC 2903; 7 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: None

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: CPGL provides producers on private grazing lands needed technical assistance from qualified grazing land management specialists to voluntarily implement management programs meeting the ecological, environmental and economic demands placed on the grazing land resources. Program funding is authorized through line item funding at \$20 million for FY 1996, \$40 million for FY 1997, and \$60 million for 1998 and each subsequent FY for the NRCS. Technical, informational, and related assistance will be developed to provide owners and managers of private grazing land public agencies, and the nation the benefits derived from a voluntarily implemented grazing land for the development of 2 grazing management districts as recommended by the grazing land conservation coalition steering committee to demonstrate the benefits of sound grazing management practice.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/96	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Peter Zeck, Regulatory Liaison, Department of Agriculture, National Resources Conservation Service, PO Box 2890, Room 5235-S, Washington, DC 20013
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RIN: 0578-AA23

617. • 7 CFR PART 610 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Priority: Other Significant

Unfunded Mandates: This action may affect State, local or tribal governments.

Legal Authority: PL 104-129

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 610

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Section 342 Subtitle E of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (FAIRA) expands the membership and roles of State Technical Committees set forth in Section 1261 of Subtitle G of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended. Under these guidelines, the Secretary is required to establish a technical committee in each State to assist in making technical considerations relating to the implementation of conservation provisions. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) uses these State Technical Committees in an advisory capacity. The rule will

618. • CONSERVATION OF PRIVATE GRAZING LAND (CPGL)

Priority: Other Significant

Unfunded Mandates: This action may affect State, local or tribal governments.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Long-Term Actions

619. • HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND AND WETLAND CONSERVATION

Priority: Other Significant

Unfunded Mandates: This action may affect State, local or tribal governments.

Legal Authority: 16 USC 3801 et seq

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 12

Legal Deadline: NPRM, Statutory, July 3, 1996.

Abstract: Soil erosion and its results, including damage to water quality and air quality, loss of productive capacity of the land, and offsite damages, is caused in part by inadequate or inappropriate management systems. The 1985 Food Security Act required

producer who farm highly erodible land to do so in accordance with an acceptable conservation system in order to remain eligible for most USDA program benefits. This act gave producers a major incentive to install conservation practices on the country's most fragile lands. The 1996 Farm Bill refines these requirements.

USDA—NRCS

Long-Term Actions

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	09/06/96	61 FR 47019
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal, Federal

Agency Contact: Peter Zeck, Regulatory Liaison, Department of Agriculture, National Resources

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Completed Actions

National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

620. • WETLANDS RESERVE PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: PL 104-127, sec 342

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 610

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule would allow the continuation of the enrollment of acres from prior sign-ups, respond to public

suggestions and enable the NRCS to conduct a mid-summer sign-up in accordance with FAIRA enrollment goals.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	08/14/96	61 FR 42137

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Peter Zeck, Regulatory Liaison, Department of Agriculture, National Resources Conservation Service, P. O. Box 2890, Room 5235-S, Washington, D. C. 20013
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RIN: 0578-AA16

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Proposed Rule Stage

Office of Operations (OO)

621. AGRICULTURE ACQUISITION REGULATION

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 40 USC 486(c)

CFR Citation: 48 CFR 401 to 453 (Revision)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Agriculture Acquisition Regulation is the Department of Agriculture's agency acquisition regulation, issued to implement or supplement the Federal Acquisition Regulation. This rule anticipates the need to make miscellaneous changes to the Agriculture Acquisition Regulation to implement and reflect the changes to the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/97	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Sectors Affected: Multiple

Procurement: This is a procurement-related action for which there is no statutory requirement. The agency has not yet determined whether there is a paperwork burden associated with this action.

Agency Contact: Joseph Daragan, Procurement Analyst, Department of Agriculture, Office of Operations, Rm 1546 South Building, Washington, DC 20250

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RIN: 0599-AA00

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Final Rule Stage

Office of Operations (OO)

622. NEW RESTRICTIONS ON LOBBYING

Priority: Routine and Frequent

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 31 USC 1352

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 3018

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Prescribes USDA policy and procedures for compliance with section 319 of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations

Act for Fiscal Year 1990 (31 USC 1352). Imposes restrictions and disclosure requirements on payments to persons for influencing activities in connection with contracts (excluding contracts subject to the Federal Acquisition Regulation), grants, cooperative agreements, loans, or commitments to insure or guarantee loans.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	02/26/90	55 FR 6736

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	10/00/96	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Josephs J. Daragan, Procurement Analyst, Department of Agriculture, Office of Operations, Rm. 1546 South Building, 14th and Independence Ave SW., Washington, DC 20250

USDA—OO

Final Rule Stage

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