

meeting and limit their comments to three minutes.

#### Written Comment

By this notice, the Committee is soliciting submission of written comments, views, information and data pertinent to review of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Written comments will be accepted throughout the process. To be considered for the second meeting, comments should be submitted by 5:00 p.m. e.s.t. February 24, 1999. Comments should be sent to Shanthy Bowman, at Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, Nutrient Data Laboratory, 4700 River Road, Unit 89, Riverdale, MD 20737.

Dated: January 12, 1999.

#### Edward B. Knipling,

Associate Administrator, Agricultural Research Service, Department of Agriculture.

Dated: January 19, 1999.

#### Rajen Anand,

Executive Director, Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, Department of Agriculture.

Dated: January 15, 1999.

#### Linda Meyers,

Acting Director, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

[FR Doc. 99-1612 Filed 1-22-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food and Nutrition Service

#### The Emergency Food Assistance Program; Availability of Commodities for Fiscal Year 1999

**AGENCY:** Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the surplus and purchased commodities that the Department expects to make available for donation to States for use in providing food assistance to the needy under the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) in Fiscal Year (FY) 1999. The commodities made available under this notice shall, at the discretion of the State, be distributed to organizations for use in preparing meals, and/or for distribution to households for home consumption.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 1, 1998.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lillie Ragan, Assistant Branch Chief, Program Administration Branch, Food Distribution Division, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive,

Alexandria, Virginia 22302-1594 or telephone (703) 305-2662.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background and Need for Action

##### Surplus Commodities

Surplus commodities donated for distribution under TEFAP are Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) commodities determined to be available for donation by the Secretary of Agriculture under the authority of section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949, 7 U.S.C. 1431 (hereinafter referred to as section 416) and commodities purchased under the surplus removal authority of section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935, 7 U.S.C. 612c (hereinafter referred to as section 32). The types of commodities typically made available under section 416 include dairy, grains, oils, and peanut products. The types of commodities purchased under section 32 include meat, poultry, fish, vegetables, dry beans, juices and fruits. Donations of surplus commodities were initiated in 1981 as part of the Department's efforts to reduce stockpiles of government-owned commodities, such as cheese, flour, butter, and cornmeal, which had been acquired under section 416. These donations responded to concern over the costs to taxpayers of storing large quantities of foods, while at the same time there were persons in need of food assistance. The authority to donate surplus commodities for distribution through TEFAP is currently codified in Section 202 of the Emergency Food Assistance Act (EFAA) of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7502).

The supply of surplus commodities has been drastically reduced from the levels available in the early 1980s. These reductions are the result of changes in the agricultural price-support programs which have brought supply and demand into better balance, and accelerated donations and sales. However, this trend reversed itself beginning in FY 1997. In FY 1998, the Department purchased \$108 million worth of surplus commodities. The large surpluses were the result of the reduction in foreign sales due primarily to the Asian economic downturn. The following surplus commodities were purchased for donation in FY 1998 but will be delivered in the first quarter of FY 1999, because they did not become available for purchase until late in the year: frozen beef roasts, canned salmon, canned applesauce, canned apple slices, canned cherries, frozen apricots, grapefruit juice, apple juice, dried figs, prune puree, dried prunes, raisins, walnut pieces, and instant nonfat dried

milk. In addition to delivering these products for distribution in FY 1999, the Department anticipates that there will be sufficient quantities of nonfat dry milk available for donation under section 416, and salmon, pork, fresh apples and fresh grapefruit purchased under section 32, to support the donation of these commodities for distribution through TEFAP in FY 1999. While sufficient quantities of these commodities are anticipated to again be available in FY 1999 to support such donations, the Department would like to point out that commodity acquisitions are based on changing agricultural market conditions; therefore, the above commodities may not be available for donation in FY 1999, and additional types of surplus commodities may become available.

##### Purchased Commodities

Congress responded to the reduced availability of surplus commodities with section 104 of the Hunger Prevention Act of 1988, Pub. L. 100-435, which added sections 213 and 214 to the EFAA. Those sections require the Secretary to purchase commodities for distribution to States in addition to those surplus commodities which otherwise might be provided to States for distribution under TEFAP. Pursuant to section 871(d) of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Pub. L. 104-193, Congress repealed the authorization of funds for food purchases under section 214. In addition, section 871(g) added a new section 27 to the Food Stamp Act of 1977 under which the Secretary is required to use \$100 million from the funds made available to carry out the Food Stamp Act for each of FYs 1997 through 2002 to purchase a variety of nutritious and useful commodities and distribute the commodities to States for distribution through TEFAP. However, the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999, Pub. L. 105-277, has limited to \$90 million the amount of Food Stamp Program appropriations available in FY 1999 for the purchase of TEFAP commodities, although the \$45 million administrative funding appropriation, as divided among the States, may be used, in whole or in part, at the discretion of each State, by USDA for the purchase of additional commodities for TEFAP.

For FY 1999, the Department anticipates purchasing the following commodities for distribution through TEFAP: peanut butter, roasted peanuts, rice, macaroni, spaghetti, grits, fortified cereal, bakery mix, egg mix, dehydrated

potatoes, corn syrup, vegetable oil, dry bagged beans, raisins, the following canned foods: apple juice, applesauce, peaches, pears, vegetarian beans, refried beans, green beans, potatoes, tomatoes, spaghetti sauce, tomato juice, corn, orange juice, grapefruit juice, pineapple juice, pork, tuna, beef, and chicken, as well as the following frozen foods: ground beef, ground turkey, and turkey roasts. The amounts of each item purchased will depend on the prices USDA must pay, as well as the quantity of each item requested by the States. Changes in agricultural market conditions may result in the availability of additional types of commodities or the non-availability of one or more types listed above. State officials will be responsible for determining how to allocate the commodities each State receives among eligible organizations. States have full discretion in determining the amount of commodities that will be made available to organizations for distribution to needy households for use in home-prepared meals or for providing prepared meals to the needy at congregate feeding sites.

Dated: January 12, 1999.

**Samuel Chambers, Jr.,**  
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 99-1504 Filed 1-22-99; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 3410-30-U

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food Safety and Inspection Service [Docket No. 98-066N]

#### In-Distribution Inspection Pilot Test Project; Report

**AGENCY:** Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is making available for comment a draft paper describing a project that will test the feasibility of using FSIS inspectors in food safety activities outside of federally inspected plants. This In-Distribution Inspection Pilot Test Project is part of the FSIS HACCP-Based Inspection Models Project.

**DATES:** To receive full consideration, comments should be received by February 24, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** The document Report on the In-Distribution Inspection Pilot Test Project may be viewed at the FSIS Docket Room, Room 102 Cotton Annex Building, 300 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3700. An

electronic version of the document is available on-line at FSIS's homepage at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>. Written comments on the document may be sent in triplicate to FSIS Docket Clerk, DOCKET #98-066N, Room 102 Cotton Annex Building, 300 12th Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-3700.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Patricia F. Stolfa, Assistant Deputy Administrator, Office of Policy, Program Development and Evaluation, Food Safety and Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250-3700; (202) 205-0699.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

The In-Distribution (ID) Inspection Pilot Test Project discussed in the report being made available is part of the HACCP-based Inspection Models Project. In a June 1997 **Federal Register** Notice, FSIS requested public comments on the design and development of new inspection models for livestock and poultry slaughter and processing in a HACCP environment (62 FR 31553). The notice summarized recommendations by the National Academy of Sciences and the General Accounting Office that FSIS reduce its reliance on organoleptic (sensory) inspection, shift to inspection systems based on risk, and redeploy its resources in a manner that better protects the public from food-borne illnesses. To accomplish these objectives, inspection models must be developed that incorporate inspection procedures consistent with the pathogen reduction and HACCP systems rule. The HACCP-Based Inspection Models Project is designed to develop new approaches to inspection in plants slaughtering young, healthy, and uniform animals.

The In-Distribution part of the Inspection Models Project explores the possibility of redeploying some inspection resources from these plants in ways that will enhance food safety protection all along the farm-to-table continuum. Under provisions of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) and the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA), FSIS has authority to regulate the production, sale, transportation, and storage of meat and poultry food products. Traditionally, the Agency has assigned the great majority of its resources to inspection activities within livestock and poultry slaughter and processing plants. Consistent with its modernization and farm-to-table initiatives, FSIS intends to redistribute resources to more efficiently and effectively verify that the industry meets its responsibility to produce, store, and

distribute safe and wholesome products. The In-Distribution Pilot Test will help the Agency determine the feasibility of significantly increasing the frequency of certain tasks that are now performed outside of federally inspected plants. The in-distribution pilots also will explore how new activities can address food safety hazards and other consumer protection issues, such as economic adulteration or improper labeling, in regard to the distribution of meat and poultry products out of plants into distribution channels, storage, retail food stores, restaurants, commercial kitchens, hotels, and other institutions.

The paper Report on the In-Distribution Inspection Pilot Test Project is intended to inform project participants and the public of the Agency's views on this subject. The paper is available for review at the location indicated above in **ADDRESSES**.

Done at Washington, DC, on: January 14, 1999.

**Thomas J. Billy,**  
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 99-1614 Filed 1-22-99; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Cave Rock Management Direction, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU), Douglas County, NV

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice, intent to prepare environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** The Forest Service will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to establish new management direction for the Cave Rock landform and its environs, a nonsignificant amendment to the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit's (LTBMU's) Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan). Cave Rock is an important archaeological and ethnographic site that was first determined eligible to the National Register of Historic Places in August, 1996, as a "traditional cultural property" (TCP) stemming from the long association of the Washoe people with the site. In October, 1998, the Keeper of the National Register formally determined that Cave Rock was not only eligible as a TCP, but also as a historic transportation district and an archaeological site. Some modern uses of the rock may be adversely affecting the setting, feel, and association of the historic districts. The Cave Rock management direction will establish