

County line; then east on U.S. Highway 412 to State Highway 166; then southeast on State Highway 166 to Dry Creek Road; then south on Dry Creek Road to the Maury/Lawrence County line.

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Moore County. That portion of the county lying south of a line beginning at the intersection of State Highway 82 and the Moore/Bedford County line; then southeast on State Highway 82 to State Highway 55; then northeast on State Highway 55 to Cobb Hollow Road; then east on Cobb Hollow Road to the Moore/Coffee County line.

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Done in Washington, DC, this 2nd day of January 2002.

W. Ron DeHaven,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 02-455 Filed 1-8-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-U

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

7 CFR Part 354

[Docket No. 01-111-1]

Commuted Traveltime Periods: Overtime Services Relating to Imports and Exports

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: We are amending the regulations concerning overtime services provided by employees of Plant Protection and Quarantine by revising commuted traveltime allowances for travel between various locations in the State of Washington. Commuted traveltime allowances are the periods of time required for Plant Protection and Quarantine employees to travel from their dispatch points and return there from the places where they perform Sunday, holiday, or other overtime duty. The Government charges a fee for certain overtime services provided by Plant Protection and Quarantine employees and, under certain circumstances, the fee may include the cost of commuted traveltime. This action is necessary to inform the public of commuted traveltime for these locations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 9, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Roger F. West, Senior Staff Officer, Port Operations, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River

Road Unit 60, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236; (301) 734-8891.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The regulations in 7 CFR, chapter III, and 9 CFR, chapter I, subchapter D, require inspection, laboratory testing, certification, or quarantine of certain plants, plant products, animals, animal products, or other commodities intended for importation into or exportation from the United States.

When an employee of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) program must provide these services on a Sunday, holiday, or at any other time outside the PPQ employee's regular duty hours, the Government charges a fee for the services according to 7 CFR part 354. Under circumstances described in § 354.1(a)(2), this fee may include the cost of commuted traveltime. Section 354.2 contains administrative instructions prescribing commuted traveltime allowances, which reflect, as nearly as practicable, the periods of time required for PPQ employees to travel from their dispatch points and return there from the places where they perform Sunday, holiday, or other overtime duties.

We are amending § 354.2 of the regulations by revising the commuted traveltime allowances for travel between various locations in the State of Washington. The revised allowances are set forth in the rule portion of this document. This action is necessary to inform the public of the commuted traveltime between the dispatch and service locations.

Effective Date

The commuted traveltime allowances appropriate for employees performing services at ports of entry and the features of the reimbursement plan for recovering the cost of furnishing port of entry services depend upon facts within the knowledge of the Department of Agriculture. It does not appear that public participation in this rulemaking proceeding would make additional relevant information available to the Department.

Accordingly, pursuant to the administrative provisions in 5 U.S.C. 553, we find upon good cause that prior notice and other public procedures with respect to this rule are impracticable and unnecessary; we also find good cause for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication of this document in the **Federal Register**.

Executive Order 12866 and Regulatory Flexibility Act

This final rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12866. For this action, the Office of Management and Budget has waived its review process required by Executive Order 12866.

The number of requests for overtime services of a PPQ employee at the locations affected by this rule represents an insignificant portion of the total number of requests for these services in the United States.

Under these circumstances, the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has determined that this action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

Executive Order 12988

This final rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform.

This rule is intended to have preemptive effect with respect to any State or local laws, regulations, or policies that conflict with its provisions or that would otherwise impede its full implementation. This rule is not intended to have retroactive effect. There are no administrative procedures that must be exhausted prior to any judicial challenge to the provisions of this rule or the application of its provisions.

Paperwork Reduction Act

This rule contains no new information collection or recordkeeping requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 354

Exports, Government employees, Imports, Plant diseases and pests, Quarantine, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Travel and transportation expenses.

Accordingly, we are amending 7 CFR part 354 as follows:

PART 354—OVERTIME SERVICES RELATING TO IMPORTS AND EXPORTS; AND USER FEES

1. The authority citation for part 354 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 2260; 21 U.S.C. 136 and 136a; 49 U.S.C. 1741; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.3.

2. In § 354.2, the table is amended by revising the entry for the State of Washington to read as follows:

§ 354.2 Administrative instructions prescribing commuted traveltime.

* * * * *

COMMUTED TRAVELTIME ALLOWANCES
[In hours]

Location covered	Served from—	Metropolitan area	
		Within	Outside
Washington:			
Aberdeen	Seattle, maritime port		4
Anacortes	Blaine		3
Ault Field	Blaine		4
Bangor NSO	Seattle, maritime port		4
Bellingham	Blaine		2
Blaine		1	
Brewster	Ellensburg		6
Brewster	Spokane		6
Brewster	Wenatchee		4
Cherry Point	Blaine		1
Edmonds	Seattle, maritime port		2
Ellensburg		1	
Everett	Seattle, maritime port		3
Ferndale	Blaine		2
Fort Lewis	Tacoma		2
Grays Harbor	Seattle, maritime port		6
Grays Harbor	Tacoma		4
Hood River	Ellensburg		6
Lynden	Blaine		2
McChord AFB	Seattle, maritime port		3
McChord AFB	Tacoma		2
Moses Lake	Ellensburg		3
Moses Lake	Wenatchee		3
Olympia	Seattle, maritime port		3
Olympia	Tacoma		2
Oroville		1	
Paine Field	Seattle, maritime port		3
Pasco	Ellensburg		5
Pasco	Spokane		6
Pasco	Wenatchee		6
Point Wells	Seattle, maritime port		2
Port Angeles	Seattle, maritime port		6
Port Angeles	Tacoma		6
Port Townsend	Seattle, maritime port		4
Sawyer	Ellensburg		3
Sawyer	Wenatchee		5
SEA TAC Airport		2	
Seattle, maritime port		2	
Sumas	Blaine		2
Tacoma		2	
Wenatchee		1	
Wenatchee	Ellensburg		4
Wenatchee	Spokane		6
Yakima		1	
Yakima	Ellensburg		3
Yakima	Wenatchee		6

Done in Washington, DC, this 2nd day of January 2002.

W. Ron DeHaven,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 02-00453 Filed 1-8-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

9 CFR Part 94

[Docket No. 01-031-3]

Change in Disease Status of The Netherlands and Northern Ireland With Regard to Foot-and-Mouth Disease

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: We are amending the regulations governing the importation of certain animals, meat, and other animal products by adding The Netherlands and Northern Ireland to the list of regions considered free of rinderpest and foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) and to the list of regions subject to certain import restrictions on meat and animal products because of their proximity to or trading relationships with rinderpest- or FMD-affected regions. This final rule follows interim rules that removed France, Great Britain, Ireland, The Netherlands, and Northern Ireland from those lists due to detection of FMD in those regions. Based on the results of an evaluation of the current FMD situation in The Netherlands and Northern Ireland, we have determined that The Netherlands and Northern Ireland meet the standards of the Office International des Epizooties for being considered free of FMD. This rule relieves certain prohibitions and restrictions on the importation of ruminants and swine and fresh (chilled or frozen) meat and other products of ruminants and swine into the United States from The Netherlands and Northern Ireland.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 9, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Anne Goodman, Senior Staff Microbiologist, Regionalization Evaluation Services Staff, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 38, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-4356.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The regulations in 9 CFR part 94 (referred to below as the regulations) govern the importation of certain animals and animal products into the

United States in order to prevent the introduction of various animal diseases, including rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), African swine fever, hog cholera (also known as classical swine fever), and swine vesicular disease. These are dangerous and destructive communicable diseases of ruminants and swine. Section 94.1 of the regulations lists regions of the world that are considered free of rinderpest or free of both rinderpest and FMD. Rinderpest or FMD is considered to exist in all parts of the world not listed. Section 94.11 of the regulations lists regions of the world that the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has determined to be free of rinderpest and FMD, but from which importation of meat and animal products into the United States is restricted because of the regions' proximity to or trading relationships with rinderpest- or FMD-affected regions.

In an interim rule effective January 15, 2001, and published in the **Federal Register** on March 14, 2001 (66 FR 14825-14826, Docket No. 01-018-1), we amended the regulations by removing Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the list of regions considered to be free of rinderpest and FMD. (The **Federal Register** published a correction (66 FR 18357) to the interim rule on April 6, 2001.) In an interim rule effective February 19, 2001, and published in the **Federal Register** on June 1, 2001 (66 FR 29686-29689, Docket No. 01-031-1), we amended the regulations by removing France, Ireland, and The Netherlands from the list of regions considered to be free of rinderpest and FMD. These actions were necessary because FMD had been confirmed in each of those regions. The effect of the interim rules was to prohibit or restrict the importation of any ruminant or swine and any fresh (chilled or frozen) meat and other products of ruminants or swine into the United States from Great Britain, Northern Ireland, France, Ireland, and The Netherlands.

In those interim rules, we recognized that the appropriate authorities had responded to the detection of FMD by imposing restrictions on the movement of ruminants, swine, and ruminant and swine products from FMD-affected areas; by conducting heightened surveillance activities; and by initiating measures to eradicate the disease. We stated that we intended to reassess the situations at a future date in accordance with Office International des Epizooties (OIE) standards, and that as part of that reassessment process, we would consider all comments received regarding the interim rules.

Additionally, we stated that the future reassessments would enable us to determine whether it was necessary to continue to prohibit or restrict the importation of ruminants or swine and any fresh (chilled or frozen) meat and other products of ruminants or swine from Great Britain, Northern Ireland, France, Ireland, and The Netherlands, or whether we could restore some or all of those regions to the list of regions in which FMD is not known to exist or, alternatively, regionalize portions of those regions as FMD-free.

We solicited comments concerning Docket No. 01-018-1 for 60 days ending May 14, 2001, and received one comment by that date, submitted by a medical product manufacturer, requesting permission to import a specific medical product for human use that would otherwise be prohibited importation from regions not listed as free of FMD. As a result of this request, we determined that the product could be imported with negligible risk of FMD, and allowed the product to be imported in accordance with § 94.3, which allows certain types of products to be imported from FMD-affected regions for pharmaceutical or biological purposes.

We solicited comments concerning Docket No. 01-031-1 for 60 days ending July 31, 2001, and received four comments by that date. They were from businesses, a livestock association, and a Member State of the European Union. We addressed those comments in a final rule (66 FR 55872-55876, Docket No. 01-031-2), published in the **Federal Register** and effective November 5, 2001, in which we restored France and Ireland to both the list of regions considered to be free of rinderpest and FMD and the list of regions subject to certain import restrictions on meat and animal products because of their proximity to or trading relationships with rinderpest- or FMD-affected regions.

One of the four comments we received suggested that The Netherlands be recognized as FMD free, claiming that the Netherlands would be free of the disease by August 25, 2001. We made no changes to the FMD status of the Netherlands in the November 5 final rule, but responded that we were continuing to monitor that country's progress with respect to the disease and were reevaluating its FMD status. We stated that we would publish a separate document in the **Federal Register** with respect to the FMD status of The Netherlands when our evaluation was complete.