

2001. We received one comment by that date. The comment was from an animal protection organization and supported APHIS' efforts toward limiting or eradicating rabies in wildlife populations. The commenter did not, however, support the use of lethal monitoring methods or local depopulation as part of an ORV program.

Finally, on August 30, 2001, we published a notice in the **Federal Register** (66 FR 45835–45836, Docket No. 01–009–3) in which we advised the public of APHIS' decision and finding of no significant impact (FONSI) regarding the use of oral vaccination to control specific rabies virus strains in raccoons, gray foxes, and coyotes in the United States. That decision allows APHIS–WS to purchase and distribute ORV baits, monitor the effectiveness of the ORV programs, and participate in implementing contingency plans that may involve the reduction of a limited number of local target species populations through lethal means (i.e., the preferred alternative identified in the EA). The decision was based upon the final EA, which reflected our review and consideration of the comments received from the public in response to our March 2001 and May 2001 notices and information gathered during planning/scoping meetings with State health departments, other State and local agencies, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Since the August 2001 publication of our original decision/FONSI, we have determined there is a need to expand the ORV programs to include the States of Kentucky and Tennessee to effectively stop the westward spread of raccoon rabies. The purpose of the new decision/FONSI is to facilitate planning, interagency coordination, and program management and to provide the public with our analysis of potential individual and cumulative impacts of the expanded ORV programs.

The States where APHIS–WS involvement would be continued or expanded include Kentucky, Tennessee, New York, Ohio, Texas, Vermont, Florida, Virginia, and West Virginia. A small portion of northwestern New Hampshire and the western counties in Pennsylvania that border Ohio could also be included in these control efforts. In addition, APHIS–WS may cooperate in smaller-scale ORV projects in the States of Florida, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Jersey, and Alabama as part of the proposed action. As noted above, the primary goal of the ORV programs is to stop the spread of specific strains of the rabies virus, i.e.,

raccoon rabies in the eastern States and gray fox and coyote rabies in Texas. The EA analyzed the proposed action and several alternatives with respect to a number of environmental and other issues raised by involved cooperating agencies and the public. Analyses of the potential impacts of ORV programs in those specific geographic areas that were not examined in the EA are presented in the supplemental decision/FONSI and have been incorporated into the decisionmaking process.

The EA, the August 2001 FONSI, and the supplemental FONSI that is the subject of this notice have been prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), (2) regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1), and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

Done in Washington, DC, this 28th day of June, 2002.

Bobby R. Acord,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 02–16823 Filed 7–3–02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 98–090–3]

Classical Swine Fever: Availability of Risk Analysis Related to the Importation of Swine and Swine Products From the European Union

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of reopening and extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: We are reopening and extending the comment period for a revised analysis of the risk of introducing classical swine fever virus in swine and swine products imported from the European Union. This action will allow interested persons additional time to prepare and submit comments.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before July 17, 2002.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by postal mail/commercial delivery or by e-mail. If you use postal mail/commercial delivery, please send four copies of your comment (an original and

three copies) to: Docket No. 98–090–2, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3C71, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737–1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. 98–090–2. If you use e-mail, address your comment to regulations@aphis.usda.gov. Your comment must be contained in the body of your message; do not send attached files. Please include your name and address in your message and “Docket No. 98–090–2” on the subject line.

You may read the revised risk analysis and any comments that we receive on that document in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690–2817 before coming.

You may request a copy of “Risk Analysis for Importation of Classical Swine Fever in Swine and Swine Products from the European Union December 2000” by writing to the person listed below under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. The risk analysis is also available on the Internet.

Instructions for electronic access are included below under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Anne Goodman, Supervisory Staff Officer, Regionalization Evaluation Services Staff, National Center for Import and Export, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 38, Riverdale, MD 20737–1231; (301) 734–4356.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On May 3, 2002, we published in the **Federal Register** (67 FR 22388–22389, Docket No. 98–090–2) a notice of the availability of and request for comments on a revised risk analysis of the risk of introducing classical swine fever virus in swine and swine products imported from the European Union.

Comments on the revised risk analysis were required to be received on or before July 2, 2002. We are reopening and extending the comment period on the risk analysis for an additional 15 days ending July 17, 2002. This action

will allow interested persons additional time to prepare and submit comments.

Accessing the Revised Risk Analysis on the Internet

The Internet address for accessing the revised risk analysis is <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/reg-request.html>. At the bottom of that Web site page, click on "Information previously submitted by Regions requesting export approval and their supporting documentation." At the next screen, click on the triangle beside "European Union/Not Specified/Classical Swine Fever," then on the triangle beside "Response by APHIS." A link will then appear for "Risk Analysis for Importation of Classical Swine Fever Virus in Swine and Swine Products from the European Union December 2000." Following that link will allow you to view the revised risk analysis.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 450, 1622, 7711-7714, 7751, 7754, 8303, 8306, 8307, 8308, 8310, 8311, 8313, and 8315; 21 U.S.C. 136 and 136a; 31 U.S.C. 9701; 42 U.S.C. 4331 and 4332; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.4.

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

Bobby R. Acord,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 02-16992 Filed 7-3-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) Inviting Applications for the Horse Breeder Loan Program

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This Notice announces the availability of funding to implement the Horse Breeder Loan Program as required by section 759 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002 (Act) (Pub. L. 107-76), which was enacted November 28, 2001. The Act directed the Secretary to implement a temporary low-interest loan program to assist horse breeders suffering economic loss as a result of mare reproductive loss syndrome (MRLS).

DATES: The Agency will begin accepting applications on July 1, 2002. The deadline for receipt of an application Form FSA 410-1 is September 30, 2002. The Agency will not consider any application received after the deadline. The application package must be

completed by June 30, 2003. Authority to make Horse Breeder loans terminates September 30, 2003. Comments on the information collection associated with this notice must be received on or before September 3, 2002, to be given full consideration.

ADDRESSES: General information and the application form FSA 410-1 may be obtained from the FSA Internet web site at: www.fsa.usda.gov or the USDA, Farm Service Agency listed in your local telephone directory.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cathy Quayle, Senior Loan Officer or Patrick Spalding, Senior Loan Officer, USDA/FSA/DAFLP/STOP 0522, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0522; telephone (202) 720-1472; facsimile (202) 720-6797; electronic mail: Cathy_Quayle@wdc.usda.gov or Patrick_Spalding@wdc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Executive Order 12372

This program is not subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires consultation with State and local officials.

During the 2001 horse breeding season, horse breeders suffered from an overwhelming number of early and late term fetal losses. Even with possible improvement in the coming breeding seasons, the economic impact on breeders will present financial difficulties over an extended period. The Agency is required by section 759(c) of the Act to make loans available to eligible horse breeders who have suffered a qualifying loss as a result of MRLS. Researchers have not pinpointed the exact cause of MRLS; however, as a result of extensive studies, common factors that are believed to have been the cause have been identified. The Agency is adopting the definition of MRLS developed by experts from the equine industry that is recognized and accepted by veterinarians.

These loans will mitigate the income loss and reduction in credit availability faced by horse breeders. Assistance is limited to only those horse breeders who have suffered losses as a result of MRLS, cannot obtain sufficient credit elsewhere and meet all other requirements established in this notice. To assure that the recipients of these loans are those most impacted by the effects of MRLS, eligibility requirements are restrictive. As required by the Act, the horse breeder must derive more than 70 percent of their income from breeding, boarding, raising, training, or selling horses. The losses must have resulted from MRLS, and at least 30

percent of the mares owned, or boarded on a farm owned, operated, or leased by the breeder must have failed to conceive, miscarried, aborted or otherwise failed to produce a live, healthy foal.

All persons approved for loan assistance must execute loan instruments and legal documents to secure the loan. For entity applicants, the loan instruments and legal documents must be executed in the name of the entity and all officers or partners and any board members. Horse Breeder loans are not made under the authority of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (CONACT), (7 U.S.C. 1961 *et seq.*); therefore, the Agency will service Horse Breeder loans in accordance with existing non-program Agency regulations in 7 CFR part 1951, subpart J, or its successor regulation. The Agency will not provide direct farm loan program loan servicing benefits to Horse Breeder Loan Program borrowers.

Environmental Compliance

The environmental impacts of the loan program to be implemented by this NOFA have been considered in accordance with the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, 42 U.S.C. 4321, *et seq.*) Based on the nature and scope of this notice, FSA has concluded that the notice will not have any significant impacts upon the human environment as documented through the completion of an environmental assessment. A copy of the environmental assessment is available for inspection and review upon request. Therefore, FSA has developed a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) pursuant to NEPA, the regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), and FSA's regulations for compliance with NEPA, 7 CFR part 1940, subpart G.

Paperwork Reduction Act

A request for emergency clearance of the information collections associated with this notice has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under 5 CFR 1320.13(a)(2)(iii).

In accordance with the Paperwork Burden Reduction Act of 1995, FSA will provide a regular submission of the information collection package to OMB at the end of the comment period for the following notice.

Title: Horse Breeder Loans.

OMB Control Number: 0560-NEW.

Type of request: Request for review and extension.

Abstract: The collection of the information required by this notice is