

News Release

Nebraska Farm Service Agency

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USDA SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT ON CHANGES TO CRP MANAGED HAYING AND GRAZING

LINCOLN, NE, March 3, 2008 -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced that it will hold a public meeting on March 27, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. on proposed changes to managed haying and grazing on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) land.

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) will hold the meeting at the Lancaster Event Center in Lincoln, NE.

FSA is proposing rule changes to the frequency that managed haying and grazing is allowed on land that is enrolled in CRP. Public comments will be accepted at the meeting and the public may also comment on changes to primary nesting season dates, during which managed haying and grazing are not permitted.

FSA will consider public comments when it prepares state-specific environmental assessments that will evaluate the effects of the proposed changes. The environmental assessments will aid USDA decision-makers and the public with an analysis of the benefits and potential impacts of the proposed changes to managed haying and grazing on CRP land.

Public comments can be submitted both electronically and by regular mail. They must be received by the close of business on April 27, 2008. Direct comments to: MHG EAs, Geo-Marine Incorporated, 2713 Magruder Blvd., Suite D, Hampton, Va. 23666-1572 or send them to this Web site: <http://public.geo-marine.com>.

This meeting is one of 13 public meetings that will be held in 13 states where USDA is proposing rule changes to the managed haying and grazing program. More information on meeting dates and locations is available on the project Web site: <http://public.geo-marine.com>.

Here are specific details about the public meeting for Nebraska. The meeting will be held at the Lancaster Event Center, 4100 North 84th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, Phone 402-441-6545. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm. For further questions regarding the meeting location contact the Nebraska Farm Service Agency Office in Lincoln at 402-437-5277.