

(a) A meeting of producers and handlers shall be held by the Committee not later than May 1 of each year to designate nominees for members and alternates to the Committee; or the Committee may conduct nominations by mail in a manner recommended by the Committee and approved by the Secretary; and, in arranging for such meetings, the Committee may, if it deems desirable, utilize the services and facilities of other existing organizations;

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Proposal No. 6

In § 946.22, designate the current text as paragraph (a) and adding a new paragraph (b) to read as follows:

#### § 946.22 Establishment and membership.

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) The Secretary, upon recommendation of the committee, may reestablish districts, may reapportion members among districts, may change the number of members and alternates, and may change the composition by changing the ratio of members, including their alternates. In recommending any such changes, the following shall be considered:

- (1) Shifts in acreage within districts and within the production area during recent years;
- (2) The importance of new production in its relation to existing districts;
- (3) The equitable relationship between membership and districts;
- (4) Economies to result for growers in promoting efficient administration due to redistricting or reapportionment of members within districts and;
- (5) Other relevant factors.

#### Proposal No. 7

In § 946.23, designate the current text as paragraph (a) and add a new paragraph (b) to read as follows:

#### § 946.23 Alternate members.

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) In the event both a member and his or her alternate are unable to attend a committee meeting, the committee members present may designate another alternate of the same classification (handler or producer) to serve in such member's place and stead.

USDA proposes the following:

#### Proposal No. 8

Amend § 946.27 by revising paragraph (a) to read as follows:

#### § 946.27 Term of office.

(a) The term of office of each member and alternate member of the committee shall be for three years beginning July 1 and continuing until their successors

are selected and have qualified: *Provided, however,* That the terms of office of the initial committee under the amended order shall be determined by the Secretary so that the terms of office of one-third of the initial members and alternates shall be for 1 year, one-third for two years, and one-third for 3 years. Committee members shall not serve more than two consecutive terms. Members who have served for two consecutive terms must leave the committee for at least one year before becoming eligible to serve again.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Proposal No. 9

In § 946.63, redesignate paragraph (d) as paragraph (e) and add a new paragraph (d) to read as follows:

#### § 946.63 Termination.

\* \* \* \* \*

(d) The Secretary shall conduct a referendum six years after the effective date of this paragraph and every sixth year thereafter to ascertain whether continuance of this part is favored by growers.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Proposal No. 10

Make such changes as may be necessary to the order to conform with any amendment thereto that may result from the hearing.

Dated: October 6, 2003.

A.J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

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## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Coast Guard

#### 33 CFR Part 100

[CGD05-03-132]

RIN 1625-AA08

#### Special Local Regulations for Marine Events; Spa Creek, Annapolis, MD

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard proposes to establish temporary special local regulations during the "International Tug-of-War", a marine event to be held over the waters of Spa Creek between Eastport and Annapolis, Maryland. These special local regulations are necessary to provide for the safety of life on navigable waters during the event.

This action is intended to restrict vessel traffic in portions of Spa Creek during the event.

**DATES:** Comments and related material must reach the Coast Guard on or before November 10, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** You may mail comments and related material to Commander (oax), Fifth Coast Guard District, 431 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, Virginia 23704-5004, hand-deliver them to Room 119 at the same address between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays, or fax them to (757) 398-6203. The Auxiliary and Recreational Boating Safety Branch, Fifth Coast Guard District, maintains the public docket for this rulemaking. Comments and material received from the public, as well as documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket, will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at the above address between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** S.L. Phillips, Project Manager, Auxiliary and Recreational Boating Safety Branch, at (757) 398-6204.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Request for Comments

We encourage you to participate in this rulemaking by submitting comments and related material. If you do so, please include your name and address, identify the docket number for this rulemaking (CGD05-03-132), indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and give the reason for each comment. Please submit all comments and related material in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying. If you would like to know they reached us, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. We will consider all comments and material received during the comment period. We may change this proposed rule in view of them.

In order to provide notice and an opportunity to comment before issuing an effective rule, we are providing a shorter than normal comment period. A 20-day comment period is sufficient to allow those who might be affected by this rulemaking to submit their comments because the regulations have a narrow, local application, and there will be local notifications in addition to the **Federal Register** publication such as press releases, marine information broadcasts, and the Local Notice to Mariners. We also expect to make the final rule effective less than 30 days