

area and diversity of operations including the following:

(1) A detailed system map is required only if significant changes have occurred since the filing of the last FERC Form No. 2.

(2) A complete rate history showing filing and rate levels since the beginning of the company with a brief description of each filing. Such rate history need be filed every three years and any general rate filing made in the interim reflect only those changes since the last complete rate history filing.

(3) A detailed history of each major expansion (new service), and major abandonment certificate issued to the company by FERC filing for the last three years of the company, along with a brief description of each certificate. Such 3 year certificate history need be filed every 3 years and any general rate filing made in the interim reflect only those changes since the last 3 year rate history filing.

(4) A detailed description of how the company designs and operates its systems, including design temperature or temperatures and the effect of conjunctive billing on design considerations.

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[PR Doc. 83-23123 Filed 8-23-83; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

#### 27 CFR Part 9

[Notice No. 483]

#### Establishment of Columbia Valley Viticultural Area

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms is considering the establishment of an American viticultural area in Washington and Oregon known as "Columbia Valley." This proposal is the result of a petition filed by Walter Clore of Prosser, Washington, and of a petition filed by William Blosser of the Sokol Blosser Winery, Dundee, Oregon. The establishment of the Columbia Valley viticultural area and the use of the viticultural area name in wine labeling and advertising will allow wineries to designate the specific grape-growing area where their wines originate, and will help consumers to identify the wines they purchase.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received by October 11, 1983.

**ADDRESS:** Send written comments to: Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, P.O. Box 385, Washington,

DC 20044-0385, Attention: Notice No. 483.

Copies of the petitions, the proposed regulations, the appropriate maps, and written comments will be available for public inspection during normal business hours at: ATF Reading Room, Office of Public Affairs and Disclosure, Room 4405, Federal Building, 12th and Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Charles N. Bacon, FAA, Wine and Beer Branch, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Washington, DC 20226, Telephone: 202-566-7626.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

Title 27, CFR, Part 4, provides for the establishment of definite viticultural areas. These regulations also provide for the name of an approved viticultural area to be used as an appellation of origin on wine labels and in wine advertisements. American viticultural areas are listed in 27 CFR Part 9.

Sections 9.11 and 4.25a(e)(1), of Title 27, CFR define an American viticultural area as a delimited grape-growing region distinguishable by geographical features. Section 4.25a(e)(2) outlines the procedure for proposing an American viticultural area. Any interested person may petition ATF to establish a grape-growing region as a viticultural area. The petition should include:

(a) Evidence that the name of the proposed viticultural area is locally and/or nationally known as referring to the area specified in the petition;

(b) Historical or current evidence that the boundaries of the viticultural area are as specified in the petition;

(c) Evidence relating to the geographical characteristics (climate, soil, elevation, physical features, etc.), which distinguish the viticultural features of the proposed area from surrounding areas;

(d) A description of the specific boundaries of the viticultural area, based on features which are found on United States Geological Survey (U.S.G.S.) maps of the largest applicable scale; and

(e) A copy of the appropriate U.S.G.S. maps with the boundaries prominently marked.

##### Petitions

ATF has been petitioned by Mr. Walter J. Clore, a wine consultant in Prosser, Washington, to establish a viticultural area in Washington known as "Columbia Valley."

ATF has received a separate petition from Mr. William Blosser of the Sokol

Blosser Winery in Dundee, Oregon, to include an adjacent portion of Oregon within the Columbia Valley viticultural area. The geographic criteria used by both petitioners to define the boundaries is the same, and the proposed Columbia Valley viticultural area includes portions of both Washington and Oregon.

##### Name

The name "Columbia Valley" is well established. In 1804-1806, the Lewis and Clark Pacific Expedition explored and mapped the area, and their maps show both the Columbia River and the Columbia Valley. Later, other explorers and pioneers referred to the treeless basin in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho as the Columbia Valley, Columbia Plain, Great Columbia Plain, Columbia Plateau, Columbia Basin and Inland Empire. The term Columbia Valley is in widespread usage today as referring to the proposed area, and appears in literature, magazines, newspapers, and maps of the area.

##### Climate

Climate is one feature which differentiates the Columbia Valley from surrounding areas. In general, the climate may be characterized by the length of the growing season, total degree days, and rainfall.

*Growing season.* Total frost free days (32 degrees F.) within the Columbia Valley average 150 or more per year. The growing season ranges from a high of 204 days at The Dalles to 201 days at Chelan, Wash.; 194 days at the Grand Coulee Dam and at Milton-Freewater, Oreg.; 186 days at Ephrata, Wash.; 184 days at Kennewick and Yakima; 175 days at Brewster, Wash.; 171 days at Walla Walla; 164 days at Wasco, Oreg.; 157 days at Clarkston Heights, Wash.; and 152 days at Moro and Heppner, Oreg. Areas outside the Columbia Valley experience a growing season of less than 150 days with seasons averaging 128 days at Goldendale, Wash.; 132 days at Cle Elum, Wash.; 87 days at Plain, Wash.; 124 days at Colville, Wash.; 121 days at Colfax, Wash.; and 137 days at Dufur, Oreg.

Although the petitioner included all of that part of Washington within the proposed Columbia Valley viticultural area which is known by that name, ATF finds that the climatic evidence indicates the portion of the valley lying between the Snake River and Banks Lake experience a shorter growing season similar to areas outside the Columbia Valley (Colfax 121 days, Ritzville 137 days, Moses Lake 143 days, Odessa 124 days, Hatton 135 days,

Wilson Creek 130 days). Therefore, ATF has concluded this area should be excluded from the proposed Columbia Valley viticultural area. Accordingly, the proposed boundaries exclude the area east of Washington Highway 25; south of the township line between T. 26 N. and T. 27 N.; east of Eanks Lake, Coulee City, and Soap Lake; east of a line between Soap Lake, Moses Lake, and Connell; and north of Washington Highway 260, 26, and 127 between Connell, Washtucna, La Crosse, and Colfax.

**Degree days.** Total degree days as measured by the scale developed by Winkler and Amerine of the University of California generally range between 2000 and 3000 for areas within the Columbia Valley although some locations experience readings well in excess of 3000 degree days. Typical readings are 2636 degree days at Kennewick, Wash.; 2666 at Sunnyside, Wash.; 2274 at Yakima; 2818 at Wenatchee, Wash.; 2512 at Grand Coulee Dam, Wash.; 2605 at Clarkston Heights, Wash.; 2881 at Walla Walla (FAA); 3230 at Richland, Wash.; 3014 at The Dalles; 2073 at Moro, Oreg.; 2040 at Heppner, Oreg.; 3006 at Milton-Freewater, Oreg.; and 2711 degree days at Pendleton. Surrounding areas experience less than 2000 degree days with 1820 at Goldendale, Wash.; 1678 at Cle Elum, Wash.; and 1901 degree days at Colville, Wash.

**Rainfall.** The third climatic condition, rainfall, is substantially less within the Columbia Valley than in surrounding areas. Within the Columbia Valley rainfall is less than 15 inches annually, ranging from a low of 6 to 9.9 inches throughout Benton County, Wash., to 10 inches in Wenatchee, Wash.; 15 inches in Walla Walla; 13 inches in Clarkston Heights, Wash.; 14 inches at The Dalles; 12 inches at Moro, Oreg.; 13½ inches at Milton-Freewater, Oreg.; and 12 inches at Pendleton. Rainfall in surrounding areas is higher, with an annual average of 17 inches at Goldendale, Wash.; 22 inches at Cle Elum, Wash.; 17 inches at Colville, Wash.; and 39 inches at Mill Creek, Wash.

Overall, the Columbia Valley may be characterized as experiencing a growing season of over 150 days, a total degree day average of over 2000, and annual rainfall of 15 inches or less.

#### **Topography and Geographical Features**

The Columbia Valley is a large, treeless basin surrounding the Yakima, Snake and Columbia Rivers in Washington and Oregon. The area is distinguished by its broadly undulating or rolling surface, cut by rivers and broken by long sloping basaltic uplifts

extending generally in an east-west direction. The area is dominated by its major rivers.

The Cascade Mountain Range forms the western boundary of the Columbia Valley. These mountains intercept moist Pacific air, and contribute significantly to the semi-arid climate of the valley. To the north, the Okanogan Highlands form the boundary while on the east, the Greater Spokane area and the eastern portion of the high rolling Palouse Prairie constitute the boundary of the valley. The southern boundary is defined by the Blue Mountains, the 2000' contour line and the foothills of the Cascade Mountains southwest of the Columbia River. The Columbia Valley is treeless while all surrounding areas are forested. Elevation in surrounding areas exceeds 2000' while the elevation in the Columbia Valley generally does not exceed 2000'. These factors differentiate the Columbia Valley from surrounding areas.

#### **Proposed Boundaries**

The Columbia Valley contains approximately 23,000 square miles, has a maximum length of 185 miles from east to west, and 200 miles from north to south. ATF is proposing the entire Columbia Valley as a viticultural area except for the portion between Banks Lake and the Snake River. This deletion leaves approximately 18,000 square miles in the proposed viticultural area. Proposed boundaries are set out in the regulatory text of § 9.69.

The proposed area includes the Yakima Valley viticultural area, recognized in T.D. ATF-128, April 4, 1983 [48 FR 14374]. Furthermore, the area around Walla Walla has been proposed as an American viticultural area in Notice No. 471, June 27, 1983 [48 FR 29541].

ATF recognizes that the proposed Columbia Valley viticultural area is large. We therefore, request comments on whether any geographic or climatic factors exist which would enable the viticultural area to be reduced in size.

#### **Evidence of Viticulture**

Grapes are not indigenous to the area, but both *Vinifera* and *Labrusca* vines are grown throughout the area. The oldest planted *Vinifera* vines still in existence were planted by German immigrants in the Tampico vicinity, west of Union Gap, in 1871. Others were planted in the Kennewick area in 1895, and in the Walla Walla area by 1899.

Planting of premium *Vinifera* grapes began in the Columbia Valley in the mid 1960's. By 1981 there were over 6,610 acres of *Vinifera* grapes including 2,700 acres of bearing vineyards. Large

vineyards exist near Granger and Grandview in the Yakima Valley, north of Pasco, and along the Columbia River near Paterson. Other *Vinifera* vineyards exist farther west along the Columbia River, on the Wahluke Slope, in Quincy near Ellensburg, in the Walla Walla area and on the south bank of the Columbia River. Predominant varieties include White Riesling, Chenin Blanc, Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon, Gewurztraminer, Merlot, Semillon, Sauvignon Blanc, Muscat, Pinot Noir, and Grenache. Nearly 20,000 acres of Concord grapes also grow within the proposed viticultural area, but they are not used in wine production.

Nine wineries are present within the Columbia Valley, with others expected to be bonded in the near future.

#### **Public Participation**

ATF requests comments from all interested persons concerning the proposed viticultural area. ATF is especially seeking comments regarding the boundaries of the area as proposed.

All comments received before the closing date will be carefully considered. Comments received after the closing date and too late for consideration will be treated as possible suggestions for future ATF action.

ATF will not recognize any material and comments as confidential. Comments may be disclosed to the public. Any material which the respondent considers to be confidential or inappropriate for disclosure to the public should not be included in the comment. The name of any person submitting comments is not exempt from disclosure.

Any interested person who desires an opportunity to comment orally at a public hearing on this proposed viticultural area should submit his or her request, in writing, to the Director within the 45 day comment period. The request should include reasons why the respondent feels that a public hearing is necessary. The Director reserves the right to determine whether a public hearing will be held.

#### **Regulatory Flexibility Act**

The provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act relating to an initial and final regulatory flexibility analysis (5 U.S.C. 603, 604) are not applicable to this proposal because this proposed rule, if issued as a final rule, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. This rule, if adopted will allow the petitioners and other persons to use the appellation of origin "Columbia Valley" on wine labels and in wine advertising.

This proposal is not expected to have significant secondary or incidental effects on a substantial number of small entities, or impose, or otherwise cause a significant increase in the reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance burdens on a substantial number of small entities.

Accordingly, it is hereby certified under the provisions of section 3 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 605(b)), that this proposed rule if issued as a final rule, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

#### Compliance With Executive Order 12291

It has been determined that this proposed rule is not a "major rule" within the meaning of Executive Order 12291 of February 17, 1981, because it will not have an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more; it will not result in a major increase in costs or prices for consumers, individual industries, Federal, State, or local government agencies, or geographical regions; and it will not have significant adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or on the ability of United States-based enterprises to compete with foreign-based enterprises in domestic or export markets.

#### List of Subjects in 27 CFR Part 9

Administrative practice and procedure, Consumer protection, Viticultural areas, Wine.

#### Paperwork Reduction Act

The provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. 96-511, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, and its implementing regulations, 5 CFR Part 1320, do not apply to this notice because no requirement to collect information is proposed.

#### Drafting Information

The principal author of this document is Charles N. Bacon, FAA, Wine and Beer Branch, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

#### Authority and Issuance

Accordingly, under the authority contained in 27 U.S.C. 205, the Director proposes the amendment of 27 CFR Part 9 as follows:

### PART 9—AMERICAN VITICULTURAL AREAS

Paragraph 1.—The table of sections in 27 CFR Part 9 is amended by adding § 9.74.

#### Subpart C—Approved American Viticultural Areas

##### § 9.74 Columbia Valley.

Par. 2. Subpart C is amended by adding § 9.74 which reads as follows:

##### § 9.74 Columbia Valley.

(a) *Name.* The name of the viticultural area described in this section is "Columbia Valley."

(b) *Approved maps.* The approved maps for determining the boundary of the Columbia Valley viticultural area are nine 1:250,000 scale U.S.G.S. maps. They are entitled:

- (1) "Concrete, Washington, U.S.; British Columbia, Canada," edition of 1955, limited revision 1962;
- (2) "Okanogan, Washington," Edition of 1954, limited revision 1963;
- (3) "Pendleton, Oregon, Washington," edition of 1953, revised 1973;
- (4) "Pullman, Washington, Idaho," edition of 1955, revised 1974;
- (5) "Ritzville, Washington," edition of 1953, limited revision 1965;
- (6) "The Dalles, Oregon, Washington," edition of 1953, revised 1971;
- (7) "Walla Walla, Washington, Oregon," edition of 1953, limited revision 1963;
- (8) "Wenatchee, Washington," edition of 1957, revised 1971; and
- (9) "Yakima, Washington," edition of 1958, revised 1971.

(c) *Boundaries.* The Columbia Valley viticultural area is located in Adams, Benton, Chelan, Columbia, Douglas, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Kittitas, Klickitat, Lincoln, Okanogan, Stevens, Walla Walla, Whitman, and Yakima Counties, Washington, and in Gillman, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, and Wasco Counties, Oregon. The beginning point is found on "The Dalles" U.S.G.S. map at the confluence of the Klickitat and Columbia Rivers.

- (1) Then north and east following the Klickitat and Little Klickitat Rivers to U.S. Highway 97 northeast of Goldendale;
- (2) Then north following U.S. Highway 97 to the 1000' contour line southwest of Hembre Mountain;
- (3) Then west following the Toppenish Ridge, across unnamed mountain of 2172' and 2363' elevation, to the peak of Toppenish Mountain, elevation 3609';
- (4) Then northwest in a straight line for approximately 11.3 miles to the intersection of Agency Creek with the township line between R. 15 E. and R. 16 E;
- (5) Then north following the township

line between R. 15 E. and R. 16 E. to the Tieton River;

(6) Then northeast following the Tieton River to the confluence with the Naches River;

(7) Then east in a straight line for approximately 15.3 miles to the intersection of the 46° 45' latitude line with the Yakima River;

(8) Then north following the Yakima River to the confluence with the North Branch Canal approximately one mile northwest of Throp;

(9) Then north, east, and southeast following the North Branch Canal to its intersection with U.S. Interstate 90 in Johnson Canyon;

(10) Then east following U.S. Interstate 90 to the Columbia River;

(11) Then north following the Columbia River to the township line between T. 21 N. and T. 22 N. immediately north of the Rock Island Dam;

(12) Then west following the township line between T. 21 N. and T. 22 N. for approximately 7.1 miles (from the west shore of the Columbia River) to 2000' contour line immediately west of Squilchuck Creek;

(13) Then north and west following the 2000' contour line to the township line between R. 18 E. and R. 19 E. west of the landing area at Cashmere-Dryden;

(14) Then north following the township line between R. 18 E. and R. 19 E. for approximately 4.4 miles to the 2000' contour line in Ollala Canyon;

(15) Then east, north, and northwest following the 2000' contour line to the township line between R. 19 E. and R. 20 E. immediately west of Ardenvoir;

(16) Then north following the township line between R. 19 E. and R. 20 E. for approximately 2.8 miles to the 2000' contour line immediately north of a secondary road;

(17) Then southwest and north following the 2000' contour line to the township line between T. 28 N. and T. 29 N.;

(18) Then east following the township line between T. 28 N. and T. 29 N. for approximately 2.1 miles to the 2000' contour line immediately east of Lake Chelan;

(19) Then southeast and north following the 2000' contour line (beginning in the "Wenatchee" U.S.G.S. map, passing through the "Ritzvill" and "Okanogan" maps, and ending in the "Concrete" map) to the point where the 2000' contour line intersects the township line between T. 30 N. and T. 31 N. immediately west of Methow;

(20) Then east following the township

between T. 30 N. and T. 31 N. for approximately 20.2 miles to the 2000' contour line east of Monse;

(21) Then south and east following the 2000' contour line to the township line between T. 30 N. and T. 31 N. west of Alkali Lake;

(22) Then northeast in a straight line for approximately 10.7 miles to the point of intersection of the 2000' contour line with Coyote Creek;

(23) Then east, north, south, east, and north following the 2000' contour line to the township line between T. 29 N. and T. 30 N. immediately west of the Sanpoil River;

(24) Then east following the township line between T. 29 N. and T. 30 N. for approximately 2.3 miles to the 2000' contour line immediately east of the Sanpoil River;

(25) Then south, east, and north following the 2000' contour line to the township line between T. 29 N. and T. 30 N. at Ninemile Flat;

(26) Then east following the township line between T. 29 N. and T. 30 N. for approximately 10.7 miles to the township line between R. 36 E. and R. 37 E.;

(27) Then south following the township line between R. 36 N. and R. 37 E. to the township line between T. 26 N. and T. 27 N.;

(28) Then west following the township line between T. 26 N. and T. 27 N. to Banks Lake;

(29) Then south following Banks Lake to Dry Falls Dam;

(30) Then west and south following U.S. Highway 2 and Washington Highway 17 to the intersection with Washington Highway 28 in Soap Lake;

(31) Then southeast in a straight line for approximately 4.7 miles to the source of Rocky Ford Creek near a fish hatchery;

(32) Then south following Rocky Ford Creek and Moses Lake to U.S. Interstate 90 southwest of the town of Moses Lake;

(33) Then east following U.S. Interstate 90 to the Burlington Northern (Northern Pacific) Railroad right-of-way at Raugust Station;

(34) Then south following the Burlington Northern (Northern Pacific) Railroad right-of-way to Washington Highway 260 in Connell;

(35) Then east following Washington Highway 260 through Kahlotus to the intersection with Washington Highway 26 in Washtucna;

(36) Then east following Washington Highway 26 and 127 through La Crosse and Dusty to the intersection with U.S. Highway 195 at Colfax;

(37) Then south following U.S. Highway 195 to the Washington—Idaho State boundary;

(38) Then south following the Washington—Idaho State boundary to the Snake River and continuing along the Snake River to the confluence with Asotin Creek;

(39) Then west following Asotin Creek and Charley Creek to the township line between R. 42 E. and R. 43 E.;

(40) Then north following the township line between R. 42 E. and R. 43 E. to Washington Highway 128 in Peola;

(41) Then north following Washington Highway 128 to the intersection with U.S. Highway 12 in Pomeroy;

(42) Then west following U.S. Highway 12 for approximately 5 miles to the intersection with Washington Highway 126 [in Zumwalt];

(43) Then southwest following Washington Highway 128, and U.S. Highway 12 (indicated as U.S. Highway 410 on the "Walla Walla" U.S.G.S. map) through Marengo, Dayton, and Waitsburg to Dry Creek in Dixie;

(44) Then south in a straight line for approximately 1.5 miles to the 2000' contour line marking the watershed between Dry Creek and Spring Creek;

(45) Then south and southwest following the 2000' contour line to the place where it crosses Oregon Highway 74 in Windmill, Oregon;

(46) The west following Oregon Highway 74 to Highway 207 in Heppner;

(47) Then southwest following Oregon Highway 207 to Highway 206 in Ruggs;

(48) Then northwest following Oregon Highway 206 to the intersection with the township line between T. 1 S. and T. 2 S.;

(49) Then west following the township line between T. 1 S. and T. 2 S. to the Deschutes River;

(50) Then north following the Deschutes River to the Willamette Base Line;

(51) Then west following the Willamette Base Line to the township line between R. 12 E. and R. 13 E.;

(52) Then north following the township line between R. 12 E. and R. 13 E. to the Columbia River;

(53) Then west following the Columbia River to the confluence with the Klickitat River and the point of beginning.

Signed: August 3, 1983.

Stephen E. Higgins,  
Director.

Approved: August 8, 1983.

David Q. Bates,  
Deputy Assistant Secretary (Operations).

[FR Doc. 83-23262 Filed 8-23-83; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-31-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Minerals Management Service

#### 30 CFR Parts 250 and 252

#### Definition of "Area Adjacent to a State"

**AGENCY:** Minerals Management Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** This proposed rule would amend the definition of "area adjacent to a State" to that portion of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) included within a planning area if such planning area is bordered by that State. The Department of the Interior (DOI) contends that this change will facilitate the proper inspection of privileged information by an affected State concerning any activity on the OCS adjacent to such State.

**DATE:** Comments must be delivered or postmarked no later than September 23, 1983.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments must be mailed or hand delivered to: Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service, 12203 Sunrise Valley Drive, Mail Stop 646, Reston, Virginia 22091, Attention: David A. Schuenke.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David A. Schuenke, telephone: (703) 860-7916, (FTS) 928-7916.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 26 of the OCS Lands Act, 43 U.S.C. 1352, Permits the Governor of any affected State pursuant to an agreement with the Secretary to designate an official to inspect any privileged information received by DOI regarding any activity on the OCS adjacent to such State. As the act does not specifically define the phrase "Area adjacent to a State," for these purposes the regulations must provide a definition in order to determine what information a State is permitted to inspect. The current regulations define "area adjacent to a State" as "that portion of the OCS which would be within the area of a State if the State's boundaries were extended seaward to the outer margin of the OCS." For purposes of identifying the extended boundaries, DOI employed the use of boundaries established by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for purposes of the Coastal Energy Impact Program (CEIP). In the alternative, States were invited to adopt their own mutually-acceptable boundaries. Some States have objected to the use of CEIP boundaries and have suggested the use of Minerals Management Service (MMS) planning areas in determining areas adjacent to a State. Recognizing that a State has a