

Notice 27  
Comment 1

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Timberrockwine@aol.com [mailto:Timberrockwine@aol.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 08, 2005 7:26 PM

**To:** Rulemaking, TTB

**Subject:** Horse Heaven AVA

I wish to comment in favor of the proposed Horse Heaven AVA in Washington State. I believe this area deserves AVA status due to it's unique geology (the subject of much research and several graduate degree thesis topics regarding the great flood of Glacial lake Missoula that deposited its soils. Two very distinguished vineyards and many new ones are found in the area. The most notable is Champoux Vineyard. This vineyard was named by wine enthusiast as one of the most important Cabernet vineyards in the world. I personally am planting a vineyard in the proposed area and would be delighted to be able to distinguish it from the vast Columbia Valley.

Regards,

Kevin Rogers  
TimberRock Winery  
Post Falls Idaho

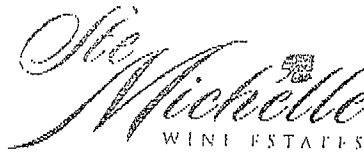
Notice # 27  
Comment 2

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Bill Hanson [mailto: [REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2005 7:17 PM  
**To:** Rulemaking, TTB  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Hills

Hello from Oregon: As a wine consumer and distributor I am in favor of the Horse Heaven Hills appellation. I believe that it has proven to be a distinctive wine grape growing district within the extremely large Columbia Valley appellation. I believe that more specialized "sub-appellations" in America and particularly Washington and Oregon will contribute to our recognition and success among the world's fine wines.

Thank you, Bill Hanson



TED BASELER  
PRESIDENT & CEO

February 28, 2005

Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division  
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau  
VIA FACSIMILE

Re: Proposed Horse Heaven Hills American Viticultural Area (Notice No.27)

To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to support the proposed Horse Heaven AVA that has recently been published in the federal register. This area of Washington State is one of the most significant grape growing regions in the state. It has been called the Horse Heaven Hills for over 100 years. It is a unique area with conditions different than other vineyard regions.

Not only is it home to the largest winery in the state but some of the finest vineyards. It has had more "90" rated bottles of wine produced from there than in any other region of the state. The boundaries are valid and appropriate.

While this already is known as a top vineyard area, an AVA will set it apart.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box redacting the signature of Ted Baseler.

Ted Baseler



DOUGLAS N. GORE  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT  
WINEMAKING AND VINEYARD OPERATIONS

February 28, 2005

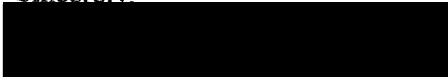
Re: Recommendation of Horse Heaven Hills American Viticulture Area,  
Washington State

With the comment period upon us, I wanted to take the opportunity to write in support of the proposed Horse Heaven Hills AVA. As history and common usage supports, the proposed Horse Heaven Hills AVA is a well defined and described region like no other, differentiated by its unique climate, soils, and elevation. The region has been commonly referred to as the "Horse Heaven Hills" since the 1800's with maps, businesses, community halls, etc. all bearing this name. The boundaries, as drawn in the petition, are precise and valid.

I have had the pleasure of making both red and white wines produced from grapes grown in this region for over 22 years. These wines have unique sensory characteristics specific to the Horse Heaven Hills (HHH) region.

Our Chateau Ste Michelle winery has been making a HHH vineyard designated Sauvignon Blanc wine for many years. It has become a much sought after wine with national and international distribution. Consumers and critics alike seek this wine. The wine consumer would be well served by the approval of the Horse Heaven Hills AVA.

Sincerely

  
Douglas N Gore  
Sr. Vice President Winemaking & Vineyard Operations  
Ste Michelle Wine Estates

Notice # 27

Comment 5

-----Original Message-----

From: The Gray Family [mailto: [REDACTED]]  
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2005 4:48 PM  
To: Rulemaking, TTB  
Subject: 'TTB Notice No. 27'

name=Mathew Gray  
name=Coyote Canyon Vineyard  
Address1=61 Mckinley Springs Rd  
Address2=  
City=Prosser  
State=WA  
Zip Code=99350  
Comments=To whom it may concern;

I am writing to give my support for the Horse Heaven Hills appellation. It has consistently produced wine grapes with a distinct quality and character. The area has been referenced to as the Horse Heaven Hills for over a century. As someone who has grown up living on a farm in the Horse Heaven Hills I am aware of the differences this area offers and would be proud to have the distinct recognition it deserves.

Sincerely,

Mathew Gray  
Coyote Canyon Vineyard

Notice # 27  
Comment 6

-----Original Message-----

From: Dawn Andrews [mailto: [REDACTED]]  
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2005 12:51 AM  
To: Rulemaking, TTB  
Subject: 'TTB Notice No. 27'

name=Michael L. Andrews  
name=Coyote Canyon Vineyard  
Address1=80 Mckinley Springs Rd.  
Address2=  
City=Prosser  
State=WA  
Zip Code=99350

Comments= I am excited about the Horse Heaven Hills being recognized as its own American Viticulture Area. Our family has been farming on the Horse Heaven Hills since about 1941. I am the third generation and my son and nephews are 4th generation farmers here.

This area got its name because of the tall bunch grass and the wild horses that grazed the hills. It was a horses dream and since the late 1800's people started calling it the Horse Heaven Hills. As it was a dream for the wild horses, it is today just as much a match for wine grapes. This area has quickly become recognized for its high quality grapes and award winning wines. The long growing season, the plateaus gentle south slope to the Columbia River, hot windy days and cool nights, and unique soils all help to make this one of the greatest areas to grow grapes in the world.