

**Decker, Denise - Washington, DC**

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**From:** buzznfly@earthlink.net  
**Sent:** Friday, March 13, 2009 5:12 PM  
**To:** RA.dcwashing2.frpp  
**Subject:** Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP) Interim Final Rule

Re: Docket Number NRCS-IFR-08006.

I believe the USDA must address the following five issues to improve the program's flexibility for state and local partners:

\* Make it clear that the federal government is not purchasing a federal property interest, but rather the right to enforce the terms of an easement when and if necessary;

\* USDA should establish a meaningful certification process to reduce cumbersome and unneeded program requirements for experienced entities;

\* While well-intentioned, the new forest management plan requirement is burdensome and should be eliminated or significantly revised;

\* The rule should follow Congressional intent and give program partners the flexibility to design and implement their own impervious surfaces standards; and,

\* The new national ranking criteria do not adequately recognize state and local farmland protection goals; entities that become certified should be allowed to use their own criteria for ranking farmland protection projects.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
J. Smith

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