

NISC

Updates, News & Notes¹

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A. Update on the implementation of past recommendations/action items²:

There were no Department of Homeland Security specific action items.

¹ Limit each section to one type written page. Links (URLs) to additional information are welcomed.

² Restate recommendation/action item and provide date of ISAC meeting.

B. *Departmental news of relevance to ISAC priorities*³:

Each day, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) helps to prevent the intentional and unintentional introduction of potentially harmful plant pests and foreign animal diseases from entering the United States at more than 300 ports-of-entry.

In 2003, 1,573 Plant Protection and Quarantine officers transitioned from the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to the CBP as Agriculture Specialists. CBP now deploys more than 2,400 Agriculture Specialists at 182 ports of entry.

Under authorities of Title 7 and Title 9 of the Animal and Plant Protection Acts, CBP Agriculture Specialists accomplished the following in Fiscal Year 2015:

- Conducted 23,431,683 passenger inspections
- Completed 713,064 cargo inspections
- Seized 427,000 Meat and Animal By-Products
- Seized 1,283,461 Prohibited Plant Materials
- Intercepted over 70,000 pests of quarantine concern
- Issued over 85,000 civil violations.

C. *Departmental notes of relevance to ISAC*⁴:

³ Focus on technical issues of substantial merit – release of reports, policy actions, etc.

⁴ Focus on organizational/logistical information relevant to ISAC – staff changes, upcoming meetings, etc.

Manny Atsedu and John Sagle both serve as policy liaisons for DHS. Both are employed by U.S Customs and Border Protection and work in the Agriculture Programs and Trade Liaison division of Field Operations.