For Immediate Release Contact: Art Resnick (202)927-8962 February 16, 2006 FY-06-05

TTB ANNOUNCES ESTABLISHMENT OF TWO NEW VITICULTURAL AREAS

Washington, D. C. – The Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) published final rulings in the Federal Register on February 16, 2005 establishing new viticultural areas in California and Washington.

The 38,000-acre "Covelo" viticultural area is located in northern Mendocino County, California, about 150 miles north of San Francisco.

The Rattlesnake Hills viticultural area is located in Yakima County in south-central Washington State. The 68,500-acre area is entirely within the established Yakima Valley and Columbia Valley viticultural areas.

TTB designates viticultural areas to allow vintners to better describe the origin of their wines and to allow consumers to better identify wines they may purchase.

These final rules become effective March 20, 2006.

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