

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

Notice of Availability of the Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment for Selected Hurricane Assistance Programs

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of the draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for selected 2005 Hurricane Assistance Programs of the Farm Service Agency (FSA). These programs include: (1) Hurricane Indemnity Program, (2) Feed Indemnity Program, (3) Livestock Indemnity Program, (4) Tree Indemnity Program, and (5) Aquaculture Grant Program. The draft PEA assesses the potential environmental impacts of alternatives to be considered in the administration of these hurricane programs. The draft PEA also provides a means for the public to voice any concerns they may have about the programs, and any ideas for improving them. This Notice of Availability informs the public of the availability of the applicable draft PEA and solicits public comment.

DATES: FSA invites comments on the draft PEA. Comments should be submitted by close of business on June 5, 2006, to ensure consideration. Comments submitted after this date will be considered to the extent possible.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on and requests for copies of the draft PEA should be directed to James P. Fortner, USDA/FSA/CEPD/Stop 0513, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-0513. The draft PEA is available on the FSA Worldwide Web site, in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format, at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/cepd/epb/assessments.htm>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James P. Fortner, USDA/FSA/CEPD/

Stop 0513, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-0513, (202) 720-5533, or e-mail at:

james.fortner@wdc.usda.gov. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audio tape, etc.) should contact the USDA Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Farm Service Agency announces the availability of the draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for certain 2005 Hurricane Assistance Programs. FSA, pursuant to section 32 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of August 24, 1935, is using these programs to restore purchasing power to farmers affected by the significant and widespread destruction caused by Hurricanes Dennis, Katrina, Ophelia, Rita, and Wilma during 2005 in applicable counties in Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, and Texas. These programs include: (1) Hurricane Indemnity Program, (2) Feed Indemnity Program, (3) Livestock Indemnity Program, (4) Tree Indemnity Program, and (5) Aquaculture Grant Program.

The draft PEA assesses the potential environmental impacts of alternatives to be considered in the administration of the 2005 Hurricane Assistance Programs. The draft PEA also provides a means for the public to voice any concerns they may have about the programs, and any ideas for improving them. This Notice of Availability informs the public of the availability of the applicable draft PEA and solicits public comment.

Signed in Washington, DC, on April 27, 2006.

Thomas B. Hofeller,

Acting Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. E6-6811 Filed 5-4-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

Notice of Availability of the Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment for the Emergency Forestry Conservation Reserve Program

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This Notice announces the availability of the draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for the Emergency Forestry Conservation Reserve Program (EFCRP) of the Commodity Credit Corporation. EFCRP will provide assistance for owners of forest land and timber related to losses from hurricanes during the 2005 calendar year. The draft PEA assesses the environmental impacts of this program and provides a means for the public to voice concerns about and ideas for improving the program. This Notice informs the public of the availability of the draft PEA and solicits public comment.

DATES: CCC invites comments on the draft PEA. Comments should be submitted by close of business on June 5, 2006, to ensure consideration. Comments submitted after this date will be considered to the extent possible.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on and requests for copies of the draft PEA should be directed to James P. Fortner, USDA/FSA/CEPD/Stop 0513, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-0513. Electronic comments may be submitted to EFCRP@wdc.usda.gov. The draft PEA is available on the FSA Worldwide Web site, in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format, at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/cepd/epb/assessments.htm>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James P. Fortner, USDA/FSA/CEPD/Stop 0513, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-0513, (202) 720-5533, or e-mail at: james.fortner@wdc.usda.gov. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audio tape, etc.) should contact the USDA Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 107 of the Department of Defense, Emergency Supplemental Appropriations to Address Hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico, and Pandemic Influenza Act, 2006, (Pub. L. 109-148, December 30, 2005), authorized the EFCRP for owners and operators of private non-industrial forest land who suffered losses due to hurricanes during the 2005 calendar year. EFCRP will provide for annual rental payments or a lump sum payment equal to the present value of 10 years of annual payments.

EFCRP will also provide cost-share assistance certain owners or operators of non-industrial forest land and state school trust land who experienced a loss of 35 percent or more of merchantable timber directly related to hurricanes during the 2005 calendar year.

The draft PEA assesses the potential environmental impacts of alternatives to be considered in the administration of this hurricane assistance program. The draft PEA also provides a means for the public to voice any concerns they may have about the program, and any ideas for improving it. This Notice informs the public of the availability of the applicable draft PEA and solicits public comment.

Signed in Washington, DC, on April 25, 2006.

Teresa C. Lasseter,

Executive Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. E6-6816 Filed 5-4-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Information Collection; Request for Comment; Ride-Along Program

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Forest Service is seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on a renewed information collection associated with the Ride-Along Program application, a program which allows any private citizen to apply to ride along with Forest Service law enforcement officers.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing on or before July 5, 2006 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Comments concerning this notice should be addressed to the Director of Law Enforcement and Investigation, Forest Service, USDA, Mail Stop 1140, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-1140.

Comments also may be submitted via facsimile to (703) 605-5112 or by e-mail to: usfslei@fs.fed.us.

The public may inspect comments received at 1621 N. Kent Street, Room 1015 Rosslyn Plaza East, Arlington, VA during normal business hours. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to (703) 605-4690 to facilitate entry to the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ann Melle, Law Enforcement and Investigations Staff, at (703) 605-4527, or send an e-mail to: amelle@fs.fed.us. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 twenty-four hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Ride-Along Program.

OMB Number: 0596-0170.

Expiration Date of Approval: September 30, 2006.

Type of Request: Extension with Revision.

Abstract: This information collection is necessary to gather information to assist Forest Service Law Enforcement and Investigation (LEI) officers in determining whether to approve the applications of riders requesting to participate in the Ride-Along Program. The information collected provides additional protection for the law enforcement program and for LEI officers who allow authorized riders to accompany them in boats, cars, trucks or other vehicles by confirming the identity and criminal status of citizens wishing to participate in the program. The program provides an opportunity for citizens to learn about and observe Forest Service Law Enforcement and Investigation (LEI) tasks and activities. The program is intended to enhance Forest Service law enforcement community relationships and cooperation, improve the quality of Forest Service customer service, and provide LEI personnel a recruitment tool. A rider must complete two forms in order to participate. If the information is not collected, riders will not be able to ride along with Forest Service law enforcement officers.

Form FS-5300-33 is used by law enforcement officers to conduct a minimum background check before authorizing a person to ride along. Form FS-5300-34 is signed by riders and exempts law enforcement officers and the Forest Service from damage, loss, or injury liability incurred during the rider's participation in the program.

Estimate of Annual Burden: 10 minutes (5 minutes each for FS-5300-33 and FS-5300-34).

Type of Respondents: Citizens.

Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 500.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 84 hours per year.

Comment Is Invited

Comment is invited on: (1) Whether this collection of information is necessary for the stated purposes and the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical or scientific utility; (2) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses when provided, will be a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized and included in the information collection submission for Office of Management and Budget approval.

Dated: May 1, 2006.

Dale N. Bosworth,

Chief.

[FR Doc. E6-6865 Filed 5-4-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Northeast Oregon Forests Resource Advisory Committee (RAC)

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the authorities in the Federal Advisory Committees Act (Pub. L. 93-463), the Northeast Oregon Forests Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet on June 1-2, 2006 in John Day, Oregon. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the selection of Title II projects under Public Law 106-393, H.4. 2389, the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, also called the "Payment to States" Act.

DATES: The meeting will be held on June 1, 2006 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and if needed June 2, 2006 from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The June 1, 2006 meeting will be held at the Malheur National Forest Supervisor's Office, Cedar Grove conference room, located at 431 Patterson Bridge Road, John Day, Oregon. The June 2, 2006 portion of the