

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

Rural Housing Service

Farm Service Agency

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service (RHS) and Farm Service Agency (FSA), USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Agencies' intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the Form RD 1940-59, "Settlement Statement."

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by January 20, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Betsy Fletcher, Loan Specialist, Single Family Housing Processing Division, RHS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 0783, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250, telephone (202) 720-1486.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Form RD 1940-59, "Settlement Statement."

OMB Number: 0575-0088.

Expiration Date of Approval: March 31, 1998.

Type of Request: Extension of currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The Agencies are requesting an extension of the OMB clearance for Form RD 1940-59, "Settlement Statement." The Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA), as amended, requires the disclosure of real estate settlement costs to home buyers and sellers. The Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) was instructed by the RESPA to

develop a standard form for the statement of settlement costs to be used for all federally related transactions. Form RD 1940-59 is similar to the HUD-1 Settlement Statement used by HUD, the Veterans Administration, and the private mortgage industry, with some minor adaptations acceptable under RESPA.

Form RD 1940-59 is completed by Settlement Agents, closing attorneys, and title insurance companies performing the closing of RHS loans and credit sales used to purchase or refinance Section 502 Housing, Rural Rental Housing and Farm Labor Housing. It is also completed by the same parties performing the closing FSA Farm Ownership loans and credit sales. The information is collected to provide the buyer and seller with a statement detailing the actual costs of the settlement services involved in certain Agency financed real estate transactions.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response.

Respondents: Settlement Agents, Closing Attorneys, and Title Insurance Companies performing the closing of Agency loans and credit sales.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 17,000.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 2.41.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 20,500 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Tracy Gillin, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, at (202) 690-1065.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agencies, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of Agencies' estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection

techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Tracy Gillin, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Ag Box 0743, Washington, DC 20250. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: November 12, 1997.

Jan Shadburn,

Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

Dated: November 19, 1997.

Keith Kelly,

Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. 97-30232 Filed 11-17-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Newspapers Used for Publication of Legal Notice of Appealable Decisions for the Northern Region; Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, and Portions of South Dakota and Eastern Washington

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice lists the newspapers that will be used by all Ranger Districts, Forests, and the Regional Office of the Northern Region to publish legal notice of all decisions subject to appeal under 36 CFR 215 and 217 and to publish notices for public comment and notice of decision subject to the provisions of 36 CFR 215. The intended effect of this action is to inform interested members of the public which newspapers will be used to publish legal notices for public comment or decisions; thereby allowing them to receive constructive notice of a decision, to provide clear evidence of timely notice, and to achieve consistency in administering the appeals process.

DATES: Publication of legal notices in the listed newspapers will begin with decisions subject to appeal that are made on or after November 15, 1997. The list of newspapers will remain in effect until another notice is published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kristine M. Lee; Regional Appeals and Litigation Coordinator, Northern Region; P.O. Box 7669; Missoula, Montana 59807. Phone: (406) 329-3647.

The newspapers to be used are as follows:

Northern Regional Office

Regional Forester decisions in Montana: The Missoulian, Great Falls Tribune, and The Billings Gazette.

Regional Forester decisions in Northern Idaho and Eastern Washington: The Spokesman Review.

Regional Forester decisions in North Dakota: Bismarck Tribune.

Regional Forester decisions in South Dakota: Rapid City Journal.

Beaverhead/Deerlodge—Montana Standard.

Bitterroot—Ravalli Republic.

Clearwater—Lewiston Morning Tribune.

Custer—Billings Gazette (Montana), Bismarck Tribune (North Dakota), Rapid City Journal (South Dakota).

Flathead—Daily Interlake.

Gallatin—Bozeman Chronicle.

Helena—Independent Record.

Idaho Panhandle—Spokesman Review.

Kootenai—Daily Interlake.

Lewis & Clark—Great Falls Tribune.

Lolo—Missoulian.

Nez Perce—Lewiston Morning Tribune.

Supplemental notices may be placed in any newspaper, but time frames/deadlines will be calculated based upon notices in newspapers of record listed above.

Dated: November 7, 1997.

Kathleen A. McAllister,

Deputy Regional Forester.

[FR Doc. 97-30199 Filed 11-17-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Newspapers To Be Used for Publication of Legal Notice of Appealable Decisions Under 36 CFR Part 217 and Corrections Under 36 CFR Part 215 for the Southern Region; Alabama, Kentucky, Georgia, Tennessee, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Virginia, West Virginia, Arkansas, Oklahoma, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, and Puerto Rico

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and correction.

SUMMARY: Deciding Officers in the Southern Region will publish notice of decisions subject to administrative appeal under 36 CFR part 217 in the

legal notice section of the newspapers listed in the Supplementary Information section of this notice. As provided in 36 CFR part 217.5(d), the public shall be advised through **Federal Register** notice, of the principal newspaper to be utilized for publishing legal notices of decisions. Newspaper publication of notices of decisions is in addition to direct notice of decisions to those known to be interested in or affected by a specific decision. The Responsible Official under 36 CFR part 215 gave annual notice in the **Federal Register** published on April 29, 1997, of principal newspapers to be utilized for publishing notices of proposed actions and of decisions subject to appeal under 36 CFR part 215. The list of newspapers to be used for part 215 notice and decision is corrected.

DATES: Use of these newspapers for purposes of publishing legal notices of decisions subject to appeal under 36 CFR part 217 and the use of the corrected newspaper listed under 36 CFR part 215 shall begin on or after the date of this publication.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jean Paul Kruglewicz, Regional Appeals Coordinator, Southern Region, Planning, 1720 Peachtree Road, NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30367-9102, Phone: 404-347-4867.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Deciding Officers in the Southern Region will give legal notice of decisions subject to appeal under 36 CFR part 217 in the following newspapers which are listed by Forest Service Administrative unit. Where more than one newspaper is listed for any unit, the first newspaper listed is the principal newspaper that will be utilized for publishing the legal notices of decisions. Additional newspapers listed for a particular unit are those newspapers the Deciding Officer expects to use for purposes of providing additional notice. The timeframe for appeal shall be based on the date of publication of the legal notice of the decision in the principal newspaper. The following newspapers will be used to provide notice.

Southern Region

Regional Forester Decisions

Affecting National Forest System lands in more than one state of the 13 states of the Southern Region and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Atlanta Journal, published daily in Atlanta, GA.

Southern Region

Regional Forester Decisions

Affecting National Forest System lands in only one state of the 13 states of the Southern Region and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or only one Ranger District will appear in the principal newspaper elected by the National Forest of that state or Ranger District.

National Forests in Alabama, Alabama

Forest Supervisor Decisions

Montgomery Advertiser, published daily in Montgomery, AL

District Ranger Decisions

Bankhead Ranger District: *Northwest Alabamian*, published weekly (Monday & Thursday) in Haleyville, AL

Conecuh Ranger District: *The Andalusia Star*, published daily (Tuesday through Saturday) in Andalusia, AL

Oakmulgee Ranger District: *The Tuscaloosa News*, published daily in Tuscaloosa, AL

Shoal Creek Ranger District: *The Anniston Star*, published daily in Anniston, AL

Talladega Ranger District: *The Daily Home*, published daily in Talladega, AL

Tuskegee Ranger District: *Tuskegee News*, published weekly (Thursday) in Tuskegee, AL

Caribbean National Forest, Puerto Rico

Forest Supervisor Decisions

El Nuevo Dia, published daily in Spanish in San Juan, PR
San Juan Star, published daily in English in San Juan, PR

Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest, Georgia

Forest Supervisor Decisions

The Times, published daily in Gainesville, GA

District Ranger Decisions

Armuchee Ranger District: *Walker Country Messenger*, published bi-weekly (Wednesday & Friday) in Lafayette, GA

Toccoa Ranger District: *The News Observer* published weekly (Wednesday) in Bule Ridge, GA

Brasstown Ranger District: *North Georgia News*, published weekly (Wednesday) in Blairsville, GA

Tallulah Ranger District: *Clayton Tribune*, published weekly (Thursday) in Clayton, GA

Chattooga Ranger District: *Northeast Georgian*, published weekly (Tuesday) in Cornelia, GA