

*The Challis Messenger*, Challis, Idaho  
Lost River District Ranger decisions:  
*The Challis Messenger*, Challis, Idaho

#### **Sawtooth National Forest**

Sawtooth Forest Supervisor decisions:  
*The Times News*, Twin Falls, Idaho  
Burley District Ranger decisions:  
*Ogden Standard Examiner*, Ogden, Utah, for those decisions on the Burley District involving the Raft River Unit

*South Idaho Press*, Burley, Idaho, for decisions issued on the Idaho portions of the Burley District

Twin Falls District Ranger decisions:  
*The Times News*, Twin Falls, Idaho  
Ketchum District Ranger decisions:

*Wood River Journal*, Hailey, Idaho  
Sawtooth National Recreation Area:  
*Challis Messenger*, Challis, Idaho

Fairfield District Ranger decisions:  
*The Times News*, Twin Falls, Idaho

#### **Targhee National Forest**

Targhee Forest Supervisor decisions:  
*The Post Register*, Idaho Falls, Idaho  
Dubois District Ranger decisions:  
*The Post Register*, Idaho Falls, Idaho  
Island Park District Ranger decisions:  
*The Post Register*, Idaho Falls, Idaho  
Ashton District Ranger decisions:  
*The Post Register*, Idaho Falls, Idaho  
Palisades District Ranger decisions:  
*The Post Register*, Idaho Falls, Idaho  
Teton Basin District Ranger decisions:  
*The Post Register*, Idaho Falls, Idaho

#### **Uinta National Forest**

Uinta Forest Supervisor decisions:  
*The Daily Herald*, Provo, Utah  
Pleasant Grove District Ranger decisions:

*The Daily Herald*, Provo, Utah  
Heber District Ranger decisions:

*The Daily Herald*, Provo, Utah, and  
*Wasatch Wave*, Heber City, Utah

Spanish Fork Ranger decisions:  
*The Daily Herald*, Provo, Utah

#### **Wasatch-Cache National Forest**

Wasatch-Cache Forest Supervisor decisions:

*Salt Lake Tribune*, Salt Lake City, Utah  
Salt Lake District Ranger decisions:

*Salt Lake Tribune*, Salt Lake City, Utah  
Kamas District Ranger decisions:

*Salt Lake Tribune*, Salt Lake City, Utah  
Evanston District Ranger decisions:

*Uintah County Herald*, Evanston, Wyoming

Mountain View District Ranger decisions:

*Uintah County Herald*, Evanston, Wyoming

Ogden District Ranger decisions:  
*Ogden Standard Examiner*, Ogden, Utah

Logan District Ranger decisions:  
*Logan Herald Journal*, Logan, Utah

Dated: December 11, 1997.

**Jack G. Troyer,**

*Deputy Regional Forester.*

[FR Doc. 97-33594 Filed 12-23-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

## **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

### **Rural Housing Service**

#### **Housing Preservation Grants**

**AGENCY:** Rural Housing Service (RHS), USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Housing Service (RHS) announces that it is soliciting competitive applications under its Housing Preservation Grant (HPG) program. The HPG program is a grant program which provides qualified public agencies, private nonprofit organizations and other eligible entities grant funds to assist very low- and low-income homeowners repair and rehabilitate their homes in rural areas, and to assist rental property owners and cooperative housing complexes to repair and rehabilitate their units if they agree to make such units available to low- and very low-income persons. This action is taken to comply with Agency regulations found in 7 CFR part 1944, subpart N, which requires the Agency to announce the opening and closing dates for receipt of preapplications for HPG funds from eligible applicants. The intended effect of this Notice is to provide eligible organizations notice of these dates.

**DATES:** RHS hereby announces that it will begin receiving preapplications on December 24, 1997. The closing date for acceptance by RHS of preapplications is March 24, 1998. This period will be the only time during the current fiscal year that RHS accepts preapplications. Preapplications must be received by or postmarked on or before the closing date.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit preapplications to Rural Development servicing offices for the HPG program; applicants must contact their Rural Development State Office for this information. A listing of Rural Development State Offices, their addresses, and telephone numbers follows:

### **Rural Development State Offices**

Note: Telephone numbers listed are not toll-free.

Alabama State Office, Sterling Center Office Building, 4121 Carmichael Road, Suite 601, Montgomery, AL 36106-3683, (334) 279-3455

Alaska State Office, 800 West Evergreen, Suite 201, Palmer, AK 99645, (907) 745-2176

Arizona State Office, Phoenix Corporate Center, 3003 N. Central Ave., Suite 900, Phoenix, AZ 85012-2906, (602) 280-8755

Arkansas State Office, 700 W. Capitol Ave., Rm. 5411, Little Rock, AR 72201-3225, (501) 324-6701

California State Office, 194 West Main Street, Suite F, Woodland, CA 95695-2915, (916) 668-2090

Colorado State Office, 655 Parfet Street, Room E100, Lakewood, CO 80215, (303) 236-2801 (ext. 122)

Connecticut (Served by Massachusetts State Office)

Delaware/Maryland State Office, 5201 South Dupont Highway, PO Box 400, Camden, DE 19934-9998, (302) 697-4314

Florida State Office, 4440 N.W. 25th Place, PO Box 147010, Gainesville, FL 32614-7010, (352) 338-3465

Georgia State Office, Stephens Federal Building, 355 E. Hancock Avenue, Athens, GA 30601-2768, (706) 546-2164

Guam (Served by Hawaii State Office)  
Hawaii State Office, Room 311, Federal Building 154, Waianuenue Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720, (808) 933-3005

Idaho State Office, 3232 Elder Street, Boise, ID 83705, (208) 378-5627

Illinois State Office, Illini Plaza, Suite 103, 1817 South Neil Street, Champaign, IL 61820, (217) 398-5412 (ext. 256)

Indiana State Office, 5975 Lakeside Boulevard, Indianapolis, IN 46278, (317) 290-3115

Iowa State Office, 873 Federal Building, 210 Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50309, (515) 284-4493

Kansas State Office, 1200 SW Executive Drive, PO Box 4653, Topeka, KS 66604, (913) 271-2720

Kentucky State Office, 771 Corporate Drive, Suite 200, Lexington, KY 40503, (606) 224-7325

Louisiana State Office, 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, LA 71302, (318) 473-7950

Maine State Office, 444 Stillwater Ave., Suite 2, PO Box 405, Bangor, ME 04402-0405, (207) 990-9110

Maryland (Served by Delaware State Office)

Massachusetts State Office, 451 West Street, Amherst, MA 01002, (413) 253-4327

Michigan State Office, 3001 Coolidge Road, Suite 200, East Lansing, MI 48823, (515) 337-6635 (ext. 1608)

Minnesota State Office, 410 AgriBank Building, 375 Jackson Street, St. Paul, MN 55101-1853, (612) 290-3912

Mississippi State Office, Federal Building, Suite 831, 100 W. Capitol Street, Jackson, MS 39269, (601) 965-4325

Missouri State Office, 601 Business Loop, 70 West, Parkade Center, Suite 235, Columbia, MO 65203, (573) 876-0990

Montana State Office, Unit 1, Suite B, 900 Technology Blvd., Bozeman, MT, 59715, (406) 585-2515

Nebraska State Office, Federal Building, room 308, 100 Centennial Mall N, Lincoln, NE 68508, (402) 437-5557.

Nevada State Office, 1390 South Curry Street, Carson City, NV 89703-5405, (702) 887-1222.

New Hampshire (Served by Vermont State Office)

New Jersey State Office, Tarnsfield Plaza, Suite 22, 790 Woodland Road, Mt. Holly, NJ 08060, (609) 265-3630.

New Mexico State Office, 6200 Jefferson St., NE, Room 255, Albuquerque, NM 87109, (505) 761-4944.

New York State Office, The Galleries of Syracuse, 441 S. Salina Street, Suite 357, Syracuse, NY 13202, (315) 477-6419.

North Carolina State Office, 4405 Bland Road, Suite 260, Raleigh, NC 27609, (919) 873-2062.

North Dakota State Office, Federal Building, Room 208, 220 East Rosser, PO Box 1737, Bismarck, ND 58502, (701) 250-4771.

Ohio State Office, Federal Building, Room 507, 200 North High Street, Columbus, OH 43215-2477, (614) 469-5165.

Oklahoma State Office, 100 USDA, Suite 108, Stillwater, OK 74074-2654, (405) 742-1070.

Oregon State Office 101 SW Main, Suite 1410, Portland, OR 97204-2333, (503) 414-3350.

Pennsylvania State Office, One Credit Union Place, Suite 330, Harrisburg, PA 17110-2996, (717) 782-4574.

Puerto Rico State Office, New San Juan Office Bldg., Room 501, 159 Carlos E. Chardon Street, Hato Rey, PR 00918-5481, (809) 766-5095 Ext. 256.

Rhode Island (Served by Massachusetts State Office)

South Carolina State Office, Strom Thurmond Federal Building, 1835 Assembly Street, Room 1007, Columbia, SC 29201, (803) 765-5690.

South Dakota State Office, Federal Building, Room 308, 200 Fourth Street, SW, Huron, SD 57350, (605) 352-1132.

Tennessee State Office, Suite 300, 3322 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203-1071, (615) 783-1375.

Texas State Office, Federal Building, Suite 102, 101 South Main, Temple, TX 76501, (817) 774-1305.

Utah State Office, Wallace F. Bennett Federal Building, 125 S. State Street, Room 5438, Salt Lake City, UT 84138, (801) 524-3242.

Vermont State Office, City Center, 3rd Floor, 89 Main Street, Montpelier, VT 05602, (802) 828-6020.

Virgin Islands (Served by Vermont State Office)

Virginia State Office, Culpeper Building, Suite 238, 1606 Santa Rosa Road, Richmond, VA 23229, (804) 287-1582.

Washington State Office, 1835 Black Lake Blvd. SW., Suite B, Olympia, WA 98512-5717, (360) 704-7707.

Western Pacific Territories (Served by Hawaii State Office)

West Virginia State Office, Federal Building, 75 High Street, Room 320, Morgantown, WV 26505-7500, (304) 291-4793.

Wisconsin State Office, 4949 Kirschling Court, Stevens Point, WI 54481, (715) 345-7620.

Wyoming State Office, 100 East B, Federal Building, Room 1005, PO Box 820, Casper, WY 82602, (307) 261-6315.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sue M. Harris-Green, Senior Loan Officer, Multi-Family Housing Processing Division, RHS, USDA, Stop 0781, Room 5337, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250, telephone (202) 720-1606. (This is not a toll free number.)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** 7 CFR part 1944, subpart N provides details on what information must be contained in the preapplication packages. Entities wishing to apply for assistance should contact the Rural Development State Office to receive further information and copies of the preapplication package. Eligible entities for these competitively awarded grants include State and local governments, nonprofit corporations, Federally recognized Indian Tribes, and consortia of eligible entities.

This program is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.433, Rural Housing Preservation Grants. This program is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372 which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials (7 CFR part 3015, subpart V). Applicants are referred to 7 CFR §§ 1944.674 and 1944.676 (d) and (e) for specific guidance on these requirements relative to the HPG program.

The funding instrument for the HPG program will be a grant agreement. The term of the grant can vary from 1 to 2 years, depending on available funds and demand. No maximum or minimum grant levels have been established; although, based on fiscal year (FY) 1998 funding availability, the Agency anticipates that the average grant will be \$75,000 for a 1-year proposal. For FY 98, \$10,820,000 is available and has been distributed under a formula allocation to States pursuant to 7 CFR part 1940, subpart L, "Methodology and Formulas for Allocation of Loan and Grant Program Funds." Decisions on funding will be based on the preapplications, and notices of action on the preapplications should be made no earlier than 66 days prior to the closing date.

December 15, 1997.

**Jan E. Shadburn,**

*Administrator, Rural Housing Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-33501 Filed 12-23-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XV-U

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Utilities Service

#### Interest Rate for FY 1998 RUS Cost-of-Money Loans and Maximum Amount of an RUS Cost-of-Money or Rural Telephone Bank Loan for FY 1998

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) announces that interest rates on cost-of-money loans approved during fiscal year (FY) 1998 may exceed the 7 percent per year statutory limit, and also announces the maximum loan amount that may be made available to a single borrower in FY 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ken B. Chandler, Acting Assistant Administrator-Telecommunications Program, Rural Utilities Service, STOP 1590, Room 4056, South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1590. Telephone (202) 720-9554, Facsimile (202) 720-0810.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that under Title III of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1998 (Appropriations Act of 1998) (Pub. L. 105-86, November 18, 1997), the interest rate for RUS cost-of-money loans approved during FY 1998 may exceed the 7 percent per year ceiling established by Pub. L. 103-129 (see 7 CFR 1735.31(c)(1)). The Appropriations