

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

Commodity Credit Corporation

Notice of Request for Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Commodity Credit Corporation's (CCC) intention to request an extension for and revision to a currently approved information collection in support of the Cooperative Marketing Associations (CMA's) program.

DATE: Comments on this notice must be received on or before June 8, 1998 to be assured consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James Goff, Agricultural Program Specialist, Price Support Division, USDA, FSA, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., STOP 0512, Washington, DC 20250-0512, telephone (202) 720-5396; e-mail James_Goff@wdc.fsa.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

This notice announces CCC's intention to request an extension for and revision to the currently approved information collection in support of the CMA program. Changes are being proposed to the CMA regulations which will substantially reduce the reporting burden of cooperatives in obtaining and maintaining CMA approval status. In conjunction with the regulation, changes two existing forms are being deleted and two others are being revised to reflect the new reporting requirements.

Title: 7 CFR Part 1425, Cooperative Marketing Associations.

OMB Control Number: 0560-0040.

Expiration Date: February 28, 2000.

Type of Request: Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: This information is needed to administer the CMA program. The information will be gathered from applicant cooperatives to determine whether they may be approved to participate in the CMA program and from existing CMA's to determine whether their approval status may be continued. Cooperatives are required to meet certain requirements to ensure the integrity of the program so that:

- (1) only cooperatives are approved to participate in the CMA program; and
- (2) CCC is assured commodity loan proceeds and loan deficiency payments will be paid to eligible producer members of the cooperatives.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2.757 hours per response.

Respondents: Agricultural marketing cooperatives.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 36.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 41.61.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 4,130 hours.

Proposed topics for comments are: (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; or (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 should be sent to the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C. 20503 and to James Goff, Agricultural Program Specialist, USDA-Farm Service Agency-Price Support Division, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., STOP 0512, Washington, D.C. 20250-0512; telephone (202) 720-5396; e-mail James_Goff@wdc.fsa.usda.gov. Copies of the information collection

may be obtained from James Goff at the above address.

OMB is required to make a decision concerning the collection contained in these proposed regulations between 30 and 60 days after publication of this document in the **Federal Register**. Therefore, a comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication.

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.

Signed at Washington, DC, on March 27, 1998.

Keith Kelly,

Executive Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. 98-9016 Filed 4-6-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

Notice of Request for Reinstatement of a Previously Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Commodity Credit Corporation's (CCC) intention to request a reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved information collection. Since the previous information collection package has expired, an emergency information collection package clearance is being sought by the Department. This information collection is used in support of conservation programs which offer flexible assistance for threats to soil, water, grazing lands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat, involve the purchase of conservation easements on farms with prime, unique, or other productive soil for the purpose of protecting topsoil by limiting nonagricultural uses of the land, and address other natural resource concerns, such as nonpoint source pollution, water quality protection or improvement, and wetland restoration, protection, and creation, as authorized

by the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (the 1996 Act).

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before June 8, 1998 to be assured consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Contact Ilka Gray, Agricultural Program Specialist, USDA, FSA, CEPD, STOP 0513, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-0513; telephone (202) 690-0794; e-mail Ilka Gray @ wdc.fsa.usda.gov; or facsimile (202) 720-4619.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: CCC Conservation Contract.
OMB Control Number: 0560-0174.

Type of Request: Reinstatement of a previously approved information collection.

Abstract: The 1996 Act authorized the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, the Farmland Protection Program, and the Conservation Farm Option Program to assist farmers and ranchers in solving natural resource related problems on agricultural land. The information is necessary to ensure the integrity of the programs and to ensure that only eligible producers are authorized contracts.

Producers requesting cost-share or incentive payments from the Commodity Credit Corporation must provide specific data related to the conservation payment request. Forms included in this information collection package require farm and tract numbers, conservation practice or benefits requested, major resource concerns, and similar information, in order to determine eligibility. Producers must also agree to the terms and conditions contained in the conservation contract. Without the collection of this information, CCC cannot ensure the integrity of CCC conservation programs.

Estimate of Respondent Burden:

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .25 hours per response.

Respondents: Individuals producers, partnerships, corporations, tribal members, or other eligible agricultural producers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 88,500.

Estimated Number of Annual Responses per Respondent: 7.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 5.88.

Proposed topics for comment include: (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and

assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collected; or (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of the 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 must be sent to the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C., 20503, and to Ilka K. Gray, Agricultural Program Specialist, USDA-FSA-CEPD, STOP 0513, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-0513; telephone (202) 690-0794; e-mail Ilka.Gray@wdc.fsa.usda.gov; or facsimile (202) 720-4619. Copies of the information collection may be obtained from Ilka Gray at the above address.

OMB is required to make a decision concerning the collection of information contained in these proposed regulations between 30 and 60 days after publication of this document in the **Federal Register**. Therefore, a comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication.

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.

Signed at Washington, D.C., on March 27, 1998.

Keith Kelly,

Executive Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. 98-9018 Filed 4-6-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Southwest Oregon Provincial Interagency Executive Committee (PIEC), Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Southwest Oregon PIEC Advisory Committee will meet on April 21 at the Coos Bay Bureau of Land Management Office at 1300 Airport Way in North Bend, Oregon.

The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue until 5:00 p.m. Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Coordinated watershed restoration between federal and non-federal land managers; (2) Province monitoring priorities; (3) Forest health issues; (4)

Report from local BLM and Forest Service on local issues; (5) Identification of new issues for Committee work; (6) Review of Committee operating guides and (7) Public comment. All Province Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct questions regarding this meeting to Chuck Anderson, Province Advisory Committee staff, USDA, Forest Service, Rogue River National Forest, 333 W. 8th Street, Medford, Oregon 97501, phone 541-858-2322.

Dated: March 30, 1998.

James T. Gladen,

Forest Supervisor, Designated Federal Official.

[FR Doc. 98-9086 Filed 4-6-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Designation of Schaal (IA) to provide Class X or Class Y Weighing Services

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA), USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: GIPSA announces the designation of D. R. Schaal Agency, Inc. (Schaal), to provide Class X or Class Y weighing services under the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act), in the Schaal geographic area.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 1, 1998.

ADDRESSES: USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-3604.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Janet M. Hart, telephone 202-720-8525.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

In the November 2, 1995, **Federal Register** (60 FR 55697), GIPSA announced the designation of Schaal to provide official inspection services under the Act, effective January 1, 1995, and ending November 30, 1998. Subsequently, Schaal asked GIPSA to amend their designation to include official weighing services. Section 7A(c)(2) of the Act authorizes GIPSA's Administrator to designate authority to