

Supervisor and the Glacier District Ranger, Chugach National Forest:

Anchorage Daily News, published daily in Anchorage, Alaska.

Decisions by the Cordova District Ranger, Chugach National Forest:

Anchorage Daily News, published daily in Anchorage, Alaska.

Cordova Times, published weekly in Cordova, Alaska.

Decisions by the Seward District Ranger, Chugach National Forest:

Anchorage Daily News, published daily in Anchorage, Alaska.

Seward Phoenix Log, published weekly in Seward, Alaska.

Peninsula Clarion, published daily except Saturday, Sunday, and official holidays in Kenai, Alaska.

Decisions by the Tongass Forest Supervisor:

Juneau Empire, published daily except Saturday and official holidays in Juneau, Alaska, for decisions affecting National Forest System lands on the Chatham Area of the Tongass National Forest.

Ketchikan Daily News, published daily except Saturday and official holidays in Ketchikan, Alaska, for decisions affecting National Forest System lands on the Ketchikan Area of the Tongass National Forest.

Petersburg Pilot, published weekly in Petersburg, Alaska, for decisions affecting National Forest System lands on the Stikine Area of the Tongass National Forest.

Decisions by the Assistant Forest Supervisor for the Chatham Area, the Yakutat District Ranger, the Hoonah District Ranger, the Juneau District Ranger, and the Admiralty National Monument Ranger, Chatham Area of the Tongass National Forest:

Juneau Empire, published daily except Saturday and official holidays in Juneau, Alaska.

Decisions by the Sitka District Ranger, Chatham Area of the Tongass National Forest:

Daily Sitka Sentinel, published daily except Saturday and official holidays in Sitka, Alaska.

Decisions by all Deciding Officers of the Ketchikan Area of the Tongass National Forest:

Ketchikan Daily News, published daily except Sunday and official holidays in Ketchikan, Alaska.

Decisions by the Assistant Forest Supervisor for the Stikine Area and the Petersburg District Ranger, Stikine Area of the Tongass National Forest:

Petersburg Pilot, published weekly in Petersburg, Alaska.

Decisions by the Wrangell District Ranger, Stikine Area of the Tongass National Forest:

Wrangell Sentinel, published weekly in Wrangell, Alaska.

Dated: October 29, 1998.

James Gladen,

Acting Regional Forester.

[FR Doc. 98-30427 Filed 11-12-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Notice of Proposed Changes to Section IV of the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) of the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Oklahoma

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed changes in Section IV of the FOTG of the NRCS in Oklahoma for review and comment.

SUMMARY: It is the intention of NRCS in Oklahoma to issue a new and revised conservation practice standards Section IV of the FOTG. The new standard is Contour Buffer Strips (Code 332). The revised standard is Riparian Forest Buffer (Code 391A). These practices may be used in conservation systems that treat highly erodible land.

DATES: Comments will be received for a 30-day period commencing with this date of publication.

ADDRESSES: Address all requests and comments to Keith Vaughan, State Resource Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), 100 USDA, Suite 203, Stillwater, OK 74074-2655. Copies of these standards will be made available upon written request. You may submit electronic requests and comments to Keith.Vaughan@ok.usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Keith Vaughan, 405-742-1240.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 343 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 states that revisions made after enactment of the law, to NRCS state technical guides used to carry out highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the law, shall be made available for public review and comment. For the next 30 days, the NRCS in Oklahoma will receive comments relative to the proposed changes. Following that period, a determination will be made by the NRCS in Oklahoma regarding disposition of those comments and a

final determination of changes will be made.

Dated: October 21, 1998.

Ronnie L. Clark,

State Conservationist, Stillwater, Oklahoma.

[FR Doc. 98-30345 Filed 11-12-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Telephone Bank

Determination of the 1988 Fiscal Year Interest Rates on Rural Telephone Bank Loans

AGENCY: Rural Telephone Bank, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of 1998 fiscal year interest rates determination.

SUMMARY: In accordance with 7 CFR 1610.10, The Rural Telephone Bank (Bank) fiscal year 1998 cost of money rates have been established as follows: 5.96% and 5.71% for advances from the liquidating account and financing account, respectively (fiscal year is the period beginning October 1 and ending September 30).

Except for loans approved from October 1, 1987, through December 21, 1987, where borrowers elected to remain at interest rates set at loan approval, all loan advances made during fiscal year 1998 under Bank loans approved in fiscal years 1998 through 1991 shall bear interest at the rate of 5.96% (the liquidating account rate). All loan advances made during fiscal year 1998 under Bank loans approved during or after fiscal year 1992 shall bear interest at the rate of 5.71% (the financing account rate).

The calculation of the Bank's cost of money rates for fiscal year 1998 for the liquidating account are provided in Tables 1 and 2. Since the calculated rates are greater than the minimum rate (5.00%) allowed under 7 U.S.C. 948(b)(3)(A), the cost of money rates for the liquidating account and financing account are set at 5.96% and 5.71%, respectively. The methodology required to calculate the cost of money rates is established in 7 CFR 1610.10(c).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jonathan P. Claffey, Acting Director, Advanced Telecommunications Services Staff, Rural Utilities Service, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., STOP 1701, Room 2919, South Building, Washington, DC 20250, telephone number (202) 720-0530.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 ("Credit Reform") (2 U.S.C. § 661a, et seq.) implemented a system to reform the budgetary accounting and

management of Federal credit programs. Bank loans approved on or after October 1, 1991, are accounted for in a different manner than Bank loans approved prior to fiscal year 1992. As a result, the Bank must calculate two cost of money rates: (1) The cost of money rate for advances made from the liquidating account (advances made during fiscal year 1998 on loans approved prior to fiscal year 1992) and (2) the cost of money rate for advances made during fiscal year 1998 on loans approved on or after October 1, 1991 (otherwise referred to as loans from the financing account).

The cost of money rate methodology is the same for both accounts. It develops a weighted average rate for the Bank's cost of money considering total fiscal year loan advances; the excess of fiscal year loan advances over amounts received in the fiscal year from the issuance of Class A, B, and C stocks, debentures and other obligations; and the costs to the Bank of obtaining funds from these sources.

During fiscal year 1998, the Bank was authorized to pay the following dividends: the dividend on Class A stock was 2.00% as established in amended section 406(c) of the Rural Electrification Act (RE Act); no dividends were payable on Class B stock as specified in 7 CFR 1610.10(c); and the dividend on Class C stock was established by the Bank at 7.25%.

Sources and Costs of Funds— Liquidating Account

In accordance with Section 406(a) of the RE Act, the Bank did not issue Class

A stock in fiscal year 1998. Advances for the purchase of Class B stock and cash purchases for Class B stock were (909,626. Rescissions of loan funds advanced for Class B stock amounted to \$140,174. Thus, the amount received by the Bank from the issuance of Class B stock, per 7 CFR 1610.10(c), was \$769,452 (\$909,626—\$140,174). The amount received by the Bank in fiscal year 1998 from the issuance of Class C stock was \$19,669.

The Bank did not issue debentures or any other obligations related to the liquidating account in fiscal year 1998. Consequently, no cost was incurred related to the issuance of debentures subject to 7 U.S.C. 948(b)(3)(D).

The excess of fiscal year 1998 loan advances from the liquidating account over amounts received from issuance of stocks, debentures, and other obligations amounted to \$19,884,667. The cost associated with this excess is the historical cost of money rate as defined in 7 U.S.C. 948(b)(3)(D)(v). The calculation of the Bank's historical cost of money rate for advances from the liquidating account is also provided in Table 1. The methodology required to perform this calculation is described in 7 CFR 1610.10(c). The cost for money rates for fiscal years 1974 through 1987 are defined in section 408(b) of the RE Act, as amended by Pub. L. 100-203, and are listed in 7 CFR 1610.10(c) and Table 1 herein.

Sources and Costs of Funds—Financing Account

In accordance with Section 406(a) of the RE Act, the Bank did not issue Class A stock in fiscal year 1998. Advances for the purchase of Class B stock and cash purchases for Class B stock were \$1,624,559. Since there were no rescissions of loan funds advanced for Class B stock, the amount received by the Bank from the issuance of Class B stock, per 7 CFR 1610.10(c), was \$1,624,559. The amount received by the Bank in fiscal year 1998 from the issuance of Class C stock was \$589.

During fiscal year 1998, issuance of debentures or any other obligations related to the financing account were \$32,360,482 at an interest rate of 5.98%.

The excess of fiscal year 1998 loan advances from the financing account over amounts received from issuance of stocks, debentures, and other obligations amounted to \$460,828. The cost associated with this excess is the historical cost of money rate as defined in 7 U.S.C. 948(b)(3)(D)(v). The calculation of the Bank's historical cost of money rate for advances from the financing account is also provided in Table 2. The methodology required to perform this calculation is described in 7 CFR 1610.10(c).

Dated: November 4, 1998.

Christopher A. McLean,
Deputy Governor, Rural Telephone Bank.

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TABLE 1**Rural Telephone Bank Cost of Money Rate - Liquidating Account:**

FY 1998 Source of Bank Funds	(a) Amount	(b) Cost	(c) (a) x (b)	(c) / Advances
Issuance of Class A Stock	\$ -	2.00%	\$ -	0.0000%
Issuance of Class B Stock	\$ 769,452	0.00%	\$ -	0.0000%
Issuance of Class C Stock	\$ 19,669	7.25%	\$ 1,426	0.0069%
Issuance of Debentures and Other Obligations	\$ -		\$ -	0.0000%
Excess of Total Advances Over Issuances	\$ 19,884,677	6.19%	\$ 1,230,862	5.9537%
Total FY 1998 Advances	\$ 20,673,798	CALCULATED COST OF MONEY RATE =		5.96%
MINIMUM RATE ALLOWABLE =				5.00%

Rural Telephone Bank Historical Cost of Money Rate - Liquidating Account:

Fiscal Year	(a) Cost of Money	(b) Advances	(c) (a) X (b)	(c) / Total Advances
FY 1974	5.01%	\$ 111,022,574	\$ 5,562,231	0.237%
FY 1975	5.85%	\$ 130,663,197	\$ 7,643,797	0.326%
FY 1976	5.33%	\$ 99,915,066	\$ 5,325,473	0.227%
FY 1977	5.00%	\$ 80,907,425	\$ 4,045,371	0.172%
FY 1978	5.87%	\$ 142,297,190	\$ 8,352,845	0.356%
FY 1979	5.93%	\$ 130,540,067	\$ 7,741,026	0.330%
FY 1980	8.10%	\$ 199,944,235	\$ 16,195,483	0.690%
FY 1981	9.46%	\$ 148,599,372	\$ 14,057,501	0.599%
FY 1982	8.39%	\$ 112,232,127	\$ 9,416,275	0.401%
FY 1983	6.99%	\$ 93,402,836	\$ 6,528,858	0.278%
FY 1984	6.55%	\$ 90,450,549	\$ 5,924,511	0.252%
FY 1985	5.00%	\$ 72,583,394	\$ 3,629,170	0.155%
FY 1986	5.00%	\$ 71,582,383	\$ 3,579,119	0.152%
FY 1987	5.00%	\$ 51,974,938	\$ 2,598,747	0.111%
FY 1988	5.00%	\$ 119,488,367	\$ 5,974,418	0.255%
FY 1989	5.00%	\$ 97,046,947	\$ 4,852,347	0.207%
FY 1990	5.00%	\$ 107,694,991	\$ 5,384,750	0.229%
FY 1991	5.43%	\$ 163,143,075	\$ 8,858,669	0.377%
FY 1992	6.14%	\$ 84,940,822	\$ 5,215,366	0.222%
FY 1993	6.05%	\$ 84,605,366	\$ 5,118,625	0.218%
FY 1994	6.15%	\$ 54,530,897	\$ 3,353,650	0.143%
FY 1995	6.04%	\$ 35,967,133	\$ 2,172,415	0.093%
FY 1996	6.05%	\$ 30,965,187	\$ 1,873,394	0.080%
FY 1997	5.98%	\$ 32,602,587	\$ 1,949,635	0.083%
TOTAL ADVANCES		\$ 2,347,100,725	COST OF MONEY	6.19%

TABLE 2**Rural Telephone Bank Cost of Money Rate - Financing Account:**

FY 1998 Source of Bank Funds	(a) Amount	(b) Cost	(c) (a) x (b)	(c) / Advances
Issuance of Class A Stock	\$ -	2.00%	\$ -	0.0000%
Issuance of Class B Stock	\$ 1,624,559	0.00%	\$ -	0.0000%
Issuance of Class C Stock	\$ 589	7.25%	\$ 43	0.0001%
Issuance of Debentures and Other Obligations	\$ 32,360,482	5.98%	\$ 1,935,157	5.6179%
Excess of Total Advances Over Issuances	\$ 460,828	6.53%	\$ 30,092	0.0874%
Total FY 1998 Advances	\$ 34,446,458	CALCULATED COST OF MONEY RATE =		5.71%
MINIMUM RATE ALLOWABLE =				5.00%

Rural Telephone Bank Historical Cost of Money Rate - Financing Account:

Fiscal Year	(a) Cost of Money	(b) Advances	(c) (a) X (b)	(c) / Total Advances
FY 1992	7.38%	\$ 4,056,250	\$ 299,351	0.149%
FY 1993	6.35%	\$ 23,839,200	\$ 1,513,789	0.754%
FY 1994	6.40%	\$ 56,838,902	\$ 3,637,690	1.812%
FY 1995	6.88%	\$ 37,161,517	\$ 2,556,712	1.273%
FY 1996	6.42%	\$ 44,536,621	\$ 2,859,251	1.424%
FY 1997	6.54%	\$ 34,368,726	\$ 2,247,715	1.119%
TOTAL ADVANCES		\$ 200,801,216	COST OF MONEY	6.53%