

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

Public Meetings of Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is issuing this notice to advise the public that meetings of the Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers (Committee) will be held to discuss ways to increase opportunities for these producers.

DATES: The public meetings will be held August 31–September 2, 1999. The first meeting on August 31, 1999, will start at 1:00 p.m. and end at 5:00 p.m.; on September 1, 1999, the meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 5:00 p.m.; the September 2, 1999, meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 12:00 noon. All meetings will be held at the Westin Hotel, 2350 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. All times noted are Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).

Attendance is open to all interested persons but limited to space available. Anyone wishing to make an oral statement should submit their request in writing (letter, fax, or e-mail) to Mark Falcone at the address listed below. Statements should be received no later than 12:00 noon EDT on Thursday, August 26, 1999. Requests should include the name and affiliation of the individual who will make the presentation and an outline of the issues to be addressed. The floor will be open to oral presentations beginning at 1:00 p.m. on September 1, 1999. Comments will be limited to 5 minutes, and presenters will be approved on a first-come, first-served basis.

ADDRESSES: Statements or comments should be sent to Mark Falcone, Designated Federal Official for the Advisory Committee on Beginning

Farmers and Ranchers, Farm Service Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 5438–S, STOP 0522, Washington, DC 20250–0522; telephone (202) 720–1632; FAX (202) 690–1117; e-mail mfalcone@wdc.fsa.usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark Falcone at (202) 720–1632.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 5 of the Agricultural Credit Improvement Act of 1992 (Pub. L. 102–554) required the Secretary of Agriculture to establish the Committee for the purpose of advising the Secretary on: (1) The development of a program of coordinated financial assistance to qualified beginning farmers and ranchers required by Section 309 (i) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (this program consists of Federal and State beginning farmer programs that provide joint financing to beginning farmers and ranchers); (2) methods of maximizing the number of new farming and ranching opportunities created through the program; (3) methods of encouraging States to participate in the program; (4) the administration of the program; and (5) other methods of creating new farming or ranching opportunities.

Departmental Regulation 1042–119 dated November 25, 1998, formally established the Committee and designated the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to provide support. The Committee is comprised of 18 members appointed by the Secretary. Members represent the following groups: (1) FSA; (2) State beginning farmer programs; (3) commercial lenders; (4) private nonprofit organizations with active beginning farmer programs; (5) the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service; (6) educational institutions with demonstrated experience in training beginning farmers or ranchers; (7) other entities providing lending or technical assistance for qualified beginning farmers or ranchers; and (8) farmers and ranchers. The Committee will meet at least once a year and all meetings will be open to the public. The duration of the Committee is indefinite.

If special accommodations are required, please contact Mr. Falcone at the address specified above, by COB August 26, 1999.

Signed in Washington, DC on August 5, 1999.

James C. Kearney,

Acting Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. 99–20782 Filed 8–10–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–05–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Upper Pipe Creek Timber Sale and Associated Activities; Kootenia National Forest, Lincoln County, Montana

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Withdrawal of notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: On December 28, 1998, a Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for the Upper Pipe Creek Timber Sale and Associated Activities appeared in the **Federal Register** (FR, December 28, 1998, Volume 63, Number 248, Pages 71442–71444). The Upper Pipe Creek Timber Sale will be incorporated into the Pipe Creek Timber Sale; therefore, the Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for the Upper Pipe Creek Timber Sale and Associated Activities is being withdrawn.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kirsten Kaiser, Project Coordinator, Libby Ranger District. Phone: (406) 293–7773.

Dated: August 2, 1999.

Bob Castaneda,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 99–20715 Filed 8–10–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–11–M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

California Coast Provincial Advisory Committee (PAC)

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The California Coast Provincial Advisory Committee (PAC) will meet on August 25 and 26, 1999, at the City Hall in Fort Bragg, California. The meeting will be held from 9:00 a.m.

to 2:00 p.m. on August 25. A field trip to the Jackson State Forest will be held from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on August 25. The business meeting will continue on August 26 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The City Hall is located at 363 No. Main Street in Fort Bragg. Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Panel presentation on anadromous fish stocks at risk in the California Coast Province; (2) Regional Ecosystem Office (REO)/ IAC Update (to include IAC/PAC Summit, new developments in Late Successional Reserves; and Survey and Manage requirements update); (3) Status of FERC/Potter Valley Project; (4) Presentation on a US Fish and Wildlife Service study on northern spotted owl demographics; (5) Presentation on cumulative watershed effects in the California Coast Province; (6) PAC direction to the Public/Private/Tribal Partnership Opportunities Subcommittee; (7) Report from the Work on the Ground Subcommittee; (8) Agency/PAC updates; and (9) Open public comment. All California Coast Provincial Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct questions regarding this meeting to Daniel Chisholm, USDA, Forest Supervisor, Mendocino National Forest, 825 N. Humboldt Avenue, Willows, CA, 95988, (530) 934-3316 or Phebe Brown, Province Coordinator, USDA, Mendocino National Forest, 825 N. Humboldt Avenue, Willows, CA, 95988, (530) 934-3316.

Dated: August 4, 1999.

Thomas Kennedy,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 99-20723 Filed 8-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Housing Service's (RHS) intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of Housing Application Packaging Grants.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by October 12, 1999 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Gloria L. Denson, Loan Specialist, Single Family Housing Direct Loan Division, RHS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 0783, South Building, Washington, DC 20250, Telephone 202-720-1474. (This is not a toll free number.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Housing Application Packaging Grants.

OMB Number: 0575-0157.

Expiration Date of Approval: September 30, 1999.

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

Abstract: The Rural Housing Service (RHS) under section 509 of the Housing Act of 1949, 42 U.S.C. 1479, provides grants to public and private nonprofit organizations and state and local governments to package housing applications for loans under sections 502, 504, 514, 515, and 524 grants under section 533 of the Housing Act of 1949 in colonias and designated underserved counties. RHS reimburses eligible organizations for part or all of the costs of conducting, administering and coordinating an effective housing application packaging program in colonias and designated underserved counties. Eligible organizations assist very low and low-income families that are without adequate housing to buy, build, or repair housing for their own use. Also, the organizations package applications for loans to buy, build or repair rental units for lower income families.

RHS will be collecting information from grantees to assure the organizations participating in this program are eligible entities and have participated in RHS training in application packaging. The respondents are nonprofit organizations, States, State agencies, and units of general local government. The information required for approval of housing application packaging grants is used by RHS personnel to verify program eligibility requirements. The information is collected at the RHS field office responsible for the processing of the application being submitted. The information is also used to ensure the program is administered in a manner consistent with legislative and administrative requirements. If not collected, RHS would be unable to determine if a grantee would qualify for grant assistance.

The grantees facilitate the application process by helping applicants submit complete applications to RHS. This saves RHS time by prescreening

applicants, making preliminary determinations of eligibility, ensuring that the application is complete, and helping the applicant understand the program.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.12 hours per response.

Respondents: Private and public nonprofit organizations and State and local governments.

Estimate Number of Respondents: 200.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 900 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Jean Mosley, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, at (202) 692-0041.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of RHS, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of RHS's estimates 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 the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Jean Mosley, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Stop 0742, 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: August 3, 1999.

Eileen M. Fitzgerald,

Acting Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

[FR Doc. 99-20781 Filed 8-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XV-P