

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 74, No. 41

Wednesday, March 4, 2009

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

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. No. AMS-LS-09-0008]

Soybean Promotion, Research, and Information Program: Opportunity To Request a Referendum

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) announces that soybean producers may request a referendum to determine if producers want a referendum on the Soybean Promotion and Research Order (Order), as authorized under the Soybean Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Act (Act). If at least 10 percent (not in excess of one-fifth of which may be producers in any one State) of the 589,182 eligible producers, as determined by the Department of Agriculture (USDA), participate in the Request for Referendum, a referendum will be held within 1 year from that determination. If results of the Request for Referendum indicate that a referendum is not supported, a referendum would not be conducted. The results of the Request for Referendum will be published in a Notice in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Soybean producers may request a referendum during a 4-week period beginning on May 4, 2009, and ending May 29, 2009. To be eligible to participate in the Request for Referendum, producers must certify that they or the producer entity they are authorized to represent paid an assessment at any time between January 1, 2007, and December 31, 2008.

Form LS-51-1, Soybean Promotion and Research Order Request for Referendum, may be obtained by mail, fax, or in person from the Farm Service Agency (FSA) county offices from May 4, 2009 to May 29, 2009. Form LS-51-

1 may also be obtained via the Internet at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsmarketingprograms> during the same time period. Completed forms and supporting documentation must be returned to the appropriate county FSA office by fax or in person no later than close of business May 29, 2009; or if returned by mail, must be postmarked by midnight May 29, 2009, and received in the county FSA office by close of business on June 5, 2009.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kenneth R. Payne, Chief, Marketing Programs Branch, Livestock and Seed Program, AMS, USDA, Room 2628-S, STOP 0251, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0251; Telephone 202/720-1115; Fax 202/720-1125; or e-mail to Kenneth.Payne@ams.usda.gov or Rick Pinkston, Field Operations Staff, FSA, USDA, at Telephone 202/720-1857, Fax 202/720-1096, or by e-mail at Rick.Pinkston@wdc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Act (7 U.S.C. 6301-6311), this Notice announces the dates when the Request for Referendum will be conducted and the place where soybean producers may request a referendum on the Order. The Act provides that the Secretary, 5 years after the conduct of the initial referendum and every 5 years thereafter, shall give soybean producers an opportunity to request a referendum on the Order. The initial referendum was held in February 1994 and the results were announced on April 1, 1994. During the initial referendum, 85,606 valid ballots were cast, with 46,060 (53.8 percent) in favor of continuing the Order and the remaining 39,546 votes (46.2 percent) were against continuing the Order. The Act required approval by a simple majority for the Order to continue.

The most recent opportunity for producers to request a referendum on the Order was in May 2004. During that period, 3,206 producers completed valid requests—short of the 66,388 required to trigger a referendum. On July 13, 2004, the USDA announced the results of the Request for Referendum and that the requisite number of producers had not requested that a referendum be conducted.

On March 23, 2004, USDA published in the **Federal Register** a final rule (69 FR 13458) that set forth procedures for conducting a Request for Referendum.

This rule amended the procedures for soybean producers to request a referendum on the Order, including definitions, provisions for supervising the process for requesting a referendum, eligibility, certification procedures for requesting the required form, where the Request for Referendum will be conducted, counting and reporting results, and disposition of the forms and records. These procedures will apply to this Request for Referendum period and can be found in the regulations, available at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsmarketingprograms> or by contacting our office at the address listed above. Since the Request for Referendum will be conducted at the county FSA offices, FSA employees will assist AMS by confirming eligibility, counting requests, and reporting results.

Individual producers and other producer entities will be provided the opportunity to request a referendum at the county FSA office where FSA maintains and processes the producer's administrative farm records. For the producer not participating in FSA programs, the opportunity to request a referendum will be provided at the county FSA officer serving the county where the producer owns or rents land.

Eligibility

To be eligible to participate, producers must certify that they or the entity they are authorized to represent paid an assessment at some time between January 1, 2007, and December 31, 2008. They must complete form LS 51-1, Soybean Promotion and Research Order Request for Referendum, in person, by mail, or by facsimile from May 4, 2009, through May 29, 2009. Individual producers and other producer entities would request a referendum at the county FSA office where FSA maintains and processes the producer's, corporation's, or other entity's administrative farm records. For the producer, corporation, or other entity not participating in FSA programs, the opportunity to request a referendum would be provided at the county FSA office serving the county where the producer, corporation, or other entity owns or rents land. Form LS 51-1 may also be obtained via the Internet at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsmarketingprograms>. If obtained by the Internet, Form LS 51-1 must be completed and returned with the

supporting documentation to the county FSA office where FSA maintains and processes the producer's, corporation's, or other entity's administrative farm records. For the producer, corporation, or other entity not participating in FSA programs, the opportunity to request a referendum would be provided at the county FSA office serving the county where the producer, corporation, or other entity owns or rents land.

Form LS 51-1 and accompanying documentation may be returned in person, by mail, or facsimile to the appropriate county FSA office. Forms returned in person or by facsimile must be received in the appropriate county office prior to the close of business on May 29, 2009. If returned by mail, Form LS 51-1 and accompanying documentation must be postmarked no later than midnight of May 29, 2009, and received in the county FSA office by close of business on June 5, 2009.

The purpose of the Request for Referendum is to determine whether eligible producers favor the conduct of a referendum on the Order. Participation in the Request for Referendum is not mandatory. Producers should participate only if they wish to request a referendum on the program.

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 [44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*], the information collection requirements made in connection with the Request for Referendum have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and assigned OMB control number 0581-0093.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 6301-6311.

Dated: February 26, 2009.

Robert C. Keeney,
Acting Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. E9-4592 Filed 3-3-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Information Collection: Recreation Fee Permit Envelope

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Forest Service is seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on the extension, with revision, of a currently approved information collection, 0596-0106 Recreation Fee Permit Envelope.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing on or before May 4, 2009 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Comments concerning this notice should be addressed to Katie Donahue, Recreation, Heritage, and Volunteer Resources Staff, Mail Stop 1125, USDA Forest Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250.

Comments also may be submitted via facsimile to Katie Donahue at 202-205-1145 or by e-mail to: recreation2300@fs.fed.us.

The public may inspect comments received at the Office of the Director, Recreation, Heritage and Volunteer Resources Staff, 4th Floor South, Sidney R. Yates Federal Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20024 on business days between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to (202) 205-1169 to facilitate entry to the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Katie Donahue, Recreation, Heritage, and Volunteer Resources Staff, at 202-205-1169 or recreation2300@fs.fed.us. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 twenty-four hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Recreation Fee Permit Envelope.

OMB Number: 0596-0106.

Expiration Date of Approval:

September 1, 2009.

Type of Request: Extension with Revision.

Abstract: The Federal Lands Recreation and Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6801-6814) authorizes the Forest Service to collect recreation fees for use of government facilities and services.

The FS-2300-26, Recreation Fee Envelope, is a form used to document when visitors pay a required recreation fee. Currently, information collected for FS-2300-26 includes the amount enclosed in the envelope, number of days paid, time and date of purchase, visitor's vehicle license number and registered state, visitor's home ZIP-code, number in party, other charges (if applicable), visitor's Golden Passport or Interagency Pass Number (if applicable) and planned departure date, if applicable. The Forest Service is not proposing to change this information.

Also collected for FS-2300-26 is selected camp unit number (if applicable). The Forest Service proposes changing this collection to specify the

type of camp unit in addition to the number (single campsite selected, or group campsite selected, and number in group campsite.)

The Forest Service proposes adding optional site- and activity-specific information to this collection, including a selection of the visitor's activity (site name, general recreation use, swim site, off highway vehicle, river use, trailhead, concessionaire-operated site, other).

This information is used to ensure that visitors have paid a required recreation fee. The information will be collected by federal employees and agents who are authorized to collect the recreation fees or rent government facilities. A national forest may use ZIP codes to help determine where the national forest's visitor base originates. Activity information may be used to improve services. Personal information such as names, addresses, and vehicle registration will not be maintained. Collecting this information is important to ensure that the national forests are able to evaluate whether a visitor has paid a required recreation fee.

If unable to collect this information, national forests would not be able to verify who has paid a recreation fee. National forests would not be able to schedule and rent government-owned facilities to the public successfully.

Estimate of Annual Burden: 3 minutes.

Type of Respondents: Individuals.

Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 2 million.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 1,666 hours.

Comment is invited on: (1) Whether this collection of information is necessary for the stated purposes and the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical or scientific utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses when provided, will be a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized and included in the