

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

Departmental Management; Advisory Committee on Minority Farmers

AGENCY: USDA.

ACTION: Notice: Request for Nominations.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Agriculture (Secretary) establish the Advisory Committee on Minority Farmers (Committee) on December 2, 2009. The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Secretary on methods of outreach and assistance to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, methods of maximizing participation of minority farmers and ranchers in Department of Agriculture (USDA) programs and civil rights activities related to program participation. This notice invites nominations for persons to serve on the Committee.

DATES: Nominations for membership on the Committee must be received by May 24, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Send nominations to Elaine Huhn, Designated Federal Official (DFO) for the Advisory Committee on Minority Farmers, Office of Advocacy and Outreach, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Whitten Building, 240W, Washington, DC 20250-0522.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elaine Huhn at (202) 720-1229; Fax (202) 720-2191; E-mail: ElaineHaun@osec.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As required by Section 14008 of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-246), the Secretary established the Committee to provide advice on: (1) The implementation of section 2501 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 which directs the Secretary of Agriculture to provide outreach and assistance to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers (2) methods of maximizing the

participation of minority farmers and ranchers in USDA programs; and (3) civil rights activities within the USDA as such activities relate to participants in such programs.

The law requires that the Committee be composed of not more than 15 members including: (1) Not less than four socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers (as defined in section 2501 (e)(2) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279 (e)(2))); (2) not less than two representatives of nonprofit organizations with a history of working with minority farmers and ranchers; (3) not less than two civil rights professionals; (4) not less than two representatives of institutions of higher education with demonstrated experience working with minority farmers and ranchers; and (5) such other persons as the Secretary considers appropriate. The Secretary may appoint such employees of the USDA as the Secretary considers appropriate to serve as ex-officio members of the Committee.

The Secretary invites these individuals, organizations, and interest groups affiliated with the categories listed above to nominate individuals for membership on the committee. Nominations should describe and document the proposed members qualifications for membership on the Committee and may be in the form of a letter of nomination or a completed Advisory Committee Membership Background Information Questionnaire (Form AD-755).

Persons nominated for the Committee will be required to complete and submit an Advisory Committee Membership Background Information Questionnaire (Form AD-755). Form AD-755 is available on the Internet at http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/ad755.pdf. Questionnaires may be completed on-line. However, nominees must print their completed forms from the Adobe PDF file, sign, and mail or fax them to the above address or fax number. The form may also be requested by telephone, fax, or e-mail. All inquiries about the nomination process and submissions of the AD-755 should be made to Elaine Huhn at the address and numbers listed above.

Appointments to the Committee will be made by the Secretary of Agriculture. Equal opportunity practices, consistent with USDA policies, will be followed in

making all appointments to the Committee. To ensure that recommendations of the Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the Department, membership shall include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women and persons with disabilities.

Signed in Washington, DC, on this 7th day of March 2010.

Robin E. Heard,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Administration, United States Department of Agriculture.

[FR Doc. 2010-9253 Filed 4-21-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request—Evaluation of Reaching the Underserved Elderly and Working Poor in SNAP

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice invites the general public and other public agencies to comment on this proposed information collection. This is a new collection for the contract *Evaluation of Reaching the Underserved Elderly and Working Poor in SNAP*.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before June 21, 2010.

ADDRESSES: *Comments are invited on:* (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions that were 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 use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological

collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments may be sent to: Steven Carlson, Director, Office of Research and Analysis, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302. Comments may also be submitted via fax to the attention of Steven Carlson at 703-305-2576 or via e-mail to *Steve.Carlson@fns.usda.gov*. Comments will also be accepted through the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Go to *http://www.regulations.gov*, and follow the online instructions for submitting comments electronically.

All written comments will be open for public inspection at the office of the Food and Nutrition Service during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday) at 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 1014, Alexandria, Virginia 22302.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will be a matter of public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of this information collection should be directed to Steven Carlson at 703-305-2017.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Evaluation of Reaching the Underserved Elderly and Working Poor in SNAP: FY 2009 Pilots.

Form Number: [if applicable, insert number.]

OMB Number: [Not Yet Assigned.]

Expiration Date: [Not Yet Determined.]

Type of Request: New collection.

Abstract: Less than one-third of eligible elderly (age 60 and older) persons and less than three-fifths of persons in eligible households with someone working participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), according to the latest (2007) U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) estimates. These participation rates suggest that many people in these

two groups who may need nutrition assistance are not receiving SNAP benefits. Without SNAP, elderly individuals may not be able to meet their nutritional needs or may forgo medicine for food; working people may not be able to adequately feed their families, despite their work efforts.

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), responding to a Congressional request, has funded six State demonstration projects to increase SNAP access to eligible households with either persons over age 60 or with adult members who are working or looking for work. FNS is conducting an evaluation of the demonstration projects. By evaluating these demonstrations, FNS will be able to advise Federal policymakers and State administrators on the best approaches to increasing SNAP access for these two populations.

The evaluation of the demonstration projects has several objectives. The evaluation will describe each demonstration project and the implementation process; assess the impact on SNAP participation in the target groups, application barriers, client satisfaction, household benefits, administrative costs, and payment errors; and assess the sustainability and replicability of each demonstration project. To meet these objectives, FNS will collect information from the pilot and comparison sites before, during, and after the intervention. FNS will collect and analyze administrative data in each demonstration State and will conduct site visits to each demonstration project and conduct focus groups with SNAP applicants. This collection notice pertains only to the focus group with SNAP applicants.

FNS will conduct one focus group with SNAP applicants in each of the six demonstration States. Focus group participants will consist of individuals within the target population (either elderly or working poor) who have applied for SNAP sometime in the three months prior to the focus group

(regardless of the outcome of their application). Each of the six demonstration States will provide FNS with a list of 200 potential respondents from which FNS will recruit approximately 20 who agree to attend the focus group in each State (expecting that approximately 10 will actually participate on the day of the group). To assist in the recruitment effort, FNS will offer a small financial incentive for participation as well as funds for transportation and childcare, as needed.

Each focus group is expected to be approximately 90 minutes in length and will take place at a convenient location in the demonstration community. The focus groups will ask participants how they learned about SNAP, about their experiences completing the application process, and about their perceptions of the process.

Affected Public: 1,200 Individuals. Respondent groups identified include: (1) 600 elderly SNAP applicants in 3 demonstration States (200 per State) and (2) 600 working poor SNAP applicants in 3 other demonstration States (200 per State).

Estimated Number of Respondents: The total estimated number of respondents is 1,200.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.05.

Estimated Total Annual Responses: 1,200 for the screening questions and 60 for the focus groups, for a total of 1,260.

Estimated Time per Response: The estimated time per response varies from .0835 hours (5 minutes) to 1.667 hours (100 minutes), depending on whether or not the respondent is eligible for and participates in the focus group (see table below).

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 195.22 hours. This includes contacting and screening up to 200 respondents at each of the 6 sites, for a total of 10 focus group participants at each site. See the table below for estimated total annual burden for each type of respondent.

TABLE 1—REPORTING BURDEN BY RESPONDENT TYPE

Respondent*	Estimated number respondents	Responses annually per respondent	Total annual responses	Estimated avg. number of hours per response	Estimated total hours**
Focus Group Nonparticipants					
Working Poor SNAP Applicants	570	1	570	0.0835	47.60
Elderly SNAP Applicants	570	1	570	0.0835	47.60
Focus Group Participants					
Working Poor SNAP Applicants	30	2	60	1.667	50.01

TABLE 1—REPORTING BURDEN BY RESPONDENT TYPE—Continued

Respondent*	Estimated number respondents	Responses annually per respondent	Total annual responses	Estimated avg. number of hours per response	Estimated total hours**
Elderly SNAP Applicants	30	2	60	1.667	50.01
Total Reporting Burden	1,200		1,260		195.22

* Nonparticipants will participate in a brief screening call only. Participants will participate in the focus group.

** The total burden for the focus group participants includes an initial screening call for participants and nonparticipants, as well as a reminder call and letter and focus group time for the participants.

Dated: April 15, 2010.

Julia Paradis,

Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.

[FR Doc. 2010-9310 Filed 4-21-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Six Rivers National Forest, Mad River Ranger District, Ruth, CA, Beaverslide Timber Sale and Fuel Treatment Project

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a supplemental environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service is proposing the Beaverslide Timber Sale and Fuel Treatment Project to provide timber products to local economies and to reduce hazardous fuels in strategically located high-risk areas around communities in the vicinity of Ruth, California. The Beaverslide planning area encompasses approximately 13,236 acres; 11,757 acres are National Forest System (NFS) lands and 1,479 acres are in private ownership. The project would treat approximately 5,500 acres of NFS lands by harvesting timber through thinning on approximately 2,800 acres, and reducing fuels on an additional 2,700 acres.

The proposed project would take place within the Upper Mad River watershed on NFS lands administered by the Mad River Ranger District in Trinity County, California. The legal location includes portions of the following townships: Township 2 South, Range 7 East; Township 2 South, Range 8 East; and Township 3 South, Range 7 East; Township 3 South, Range 8 East, Humboldt Baseline and Meridian, and Township 26 North, Range 12 West; Township 27 North, Range 12 West, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian.

DATES: The draft supplemental environmental impact statement is expected to be issued by May 2010 and the final supplemental environmental impact statement is expected to be issued in August 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim C. Gumm; Mad River Ranger District; 741 State Highway 36; Bridgeville, CA 95526 or by telephone at (707)-574-6233.

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Beaverslide Timber Sale and Fuel Treatment Project is designed to contribute timber commodity outputs in support of the Six Rivers Forest National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP). One of the goals of the LRMP is to provide a stable supply of outputs and services that contribute to local, regional, and national social and economic needs. The Six Rivers National Forest seeks to provide a sustainable, predictable, long-term timber supply for local economies (LRMP p. II-2).

The project area also occurs within the wildland-urban interface (WUI) for communities in the vicinity of Ruth, California. In 2005, the Trinity County Fire Safe Council completed a Community Wildfire Protection Plan to address the fire risk surrounding these communities. There are several homes and businesses in the area that are within the WUI. Fuel hazards are moderate but fire risk relative to human safety and property is high due to the number of people in the area. The project is designed to reduce fire hazard and risk to the community.

Purpose and Need for Action

Given Forest goals and environmental conditions within the planning area, the Purpose and Need for the proposed action is to:

- Provide timber commodities that contribute towards the Forest's goal to

provide a sustainable, predictable, long-term timber supply for local economies; and

- Reduce fuel loading in strategic locations to improve fire protection and human safety around communities in the vicinity of Ruth, California.

Within the context of meeting the purpose and need, there would be opportunities for fuelwood or biomass utilization associated with proposed activities.

Proposed Action

The proposed action is designed to meet the project's purpose and need while meeting the standards and guidelines of the LRMP. The Beaverslide Timber Sale and Fuel Treatment Project would treat vegetation to provide commodities and reduce hazardous fuel conditions.

1. Approximately 20-30 million board feet (MMBF) of timber would be harvested from approximately 2,800 acres within 95 treatment units. Harvesting would be accomplished by utilizing ground-based, skyline, and helicopter logging systems. Actions connected with commercial timber harvest include:

- a. Treating harvest activity generated fuel;
- b. Constructing approximately 5.4 miles of new temporary road, and re-opening/re-utilizing approximately 2.9 miles of existing non-system roads;
- c. Constructing new landings and reutilization of existing landings;
- d. Hauling of commercial timber products on County Road 504 and Forest Service System roads within the planning area;
- e. Felling and removal, where appropriate, of hazard trees along haul routes; and
- f. Decommissioning, maintaining, and reconstructing roads as needed.

2. Fuel loading would be reduced on approximately 2,700 acres within 20 fuel treatment units and 7 strategic fuel treatment corridors.