

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 65, No. 103

Friday, May 26, 2000

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

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

May 22, 2000.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have partical 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; (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 should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Washington, D.C. 20503 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, D.C. 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-6746.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it

displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Farm Service Agency

Title: 7 CFR 1910-A Receiving and Processing Applications.

OMB Control Number: 0560-0178.

Summary of Collection: Section 302 (7 U.S.C. 1922) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (CONACT) provides that "the Secretary is authorized to make and insure loans under this title to farmers and ranchers * * * Section 339 (7 U.S.C. 1989) of the CONACT further provides "the Secretary is authorized to make such rules and regulations, prescribe the terms and conditions for making and insuring loans, security instruments and agreements, except as otherwise specified herein, and make such delegations of authority as he deems necessary to carry out this title." The Farm Service Agency (FSA) has issued regulations through the Federal Register process to implement the making and servicing of direct loans in chapter 18 of the Code of Federal Regulations. These regulations establish the information collections necessary for FSA to make and service direct loans. These loans include Operating, Farm Ownership, Soil and Water, Softwood Timber Production, Emergency, Economic Emergency, Economic Opportunity, Recreation, and Rural Housing loans for Farm Service Buildings. FSA will collect information using loan applications.

Need and Use of the Information: FSA will collect information to determine eligibility and financial feasibility on respondent's requests for loans. The information is required to insure that FSA provides assistance to applicants who have reasonable prospects of repaying the government and meet statutory eligibility requirements.

Description of Respondents: Farm; individuals or households; business or other-for-profit; Federal Government.

Number of Respondents: 34,970.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Other (Eligibility).

Total Burden Hours: 119,412.

Forest Service

Title: Application for Permit Non-Federal Commercial Use of Roads by Order.

OMB Control Number: 0596-0016.

Summary of Collection: The forest Service (FS) transportation system includes approximately 380,000 miles

of roads. These roads are grouped into five maintenance levels. Level one includes roads, which are closed and maintained only to protect the environment. Level of maintenance increase to level five, which is maintained for safe passenger car use. The roads usually provide the only access to commercial products including timber and minerals found on both Federal and private lands within and adjacent to National Forests. Annual maintenance not performed becomes a backlog that creates a financial burden for the FS. To remedy the backlog and pay for needed maintenance the FS requires commercial users to apply and pay for a permit to use the FS Road System. Maintenance resulting from commercial use is accomplished through collection of funds or requiring the commercial users to perform the maintenance. The vehicle for this is the Road Use Permit. The authority for the Road Use Permit process comes from 36 CFR 212.5, 36 CFR 212.9 and 36 CFR 261.54 Section 212.9 authorizes the FS to develop a road system with private in holders that is mutually beneficial to both parties. FS will collect information using form FS 7700-40.

Need and Use of the Information: FS will collect the name; address; and telephone number; description of mileage of roads; purpose of use; use schedule; and plans for future use. The information is used by the FS to identify the road maintenance that is the direct result of the applicant's traffic, to calculate any applicable collections for recovery of past Federal investments in roads. Without the Road Use Permit the backlog of maintenance would increase and the FS would have great difficulty providing the transportation system necessary to meet our mission.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; individuals or households; State, Local or Tribal Government; not-for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents: 2000.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 500.

Farm Service Agency

Title: Lamb Meat Adjustment Assistance Program (LMAAP).

OMB Control Number: 0560-NEW.

Summary of Collection: The Lamb Meat Adjustment Assistance Program (LMAAP) is administered and implemented under the general

direction of and supervision of the Farm Service Agency (FSA) through its State and County Committees. The LMAAP is authorized by the Act of August 24, 1935, clause (3) of section 32, and are implemented by regulations at 7 CFR Part 748, which provide for the reestablishment of farmers' purchasing power by making payments in connection with the normal production of any agricultural commodity for domestic consumption. Recently the surge of low-priced, imported lamb-meat causes the threat of injury to U.S. producers in the sheep and lamb industry. The objective of the program is to make direct payments to producers of sheep and lamb operations to help them weather the current economic crisis, as well as, help improve their production efficiencies and the marketability of lamb meat during the 3 year period from July 21, 1999, through July 31, 2002. FSA will collect information using forms FSA-382 and 383.

Need and Use of the Information: FSA will collect the following information: (1) Sheep and lamb operation name; (2) each related producer's name; (3) ID number and shares; (4) the number of rams purchased for the intended purpose of breeding; (5) the number of eligible sheep enrolled in and eligible sheep improvement program; and/or (6) the type and cost of the facility improvement. The information is needed to verify commodity and producer eligibility and calculate payment amounts. Without the information from the producers, FSA would be unable to administer the program to provide direct payments to the sheep and lamb operations.

Description of Respondents: Farm; Individuals or households; Business or other-for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 60,000.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 25,000.

Agency is requesting and emergency approval by May 20, 2000.

William McAndrew,

Departmental Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-13236 Filed 5-25-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[TB-00-09]

Flue-Cured Tobacco Advisory Committee—Notice of Committee Renewal

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of committee renewal.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Secretary of Agriculture has renewed the Flue-Cured Tobacco Advisory Committee for an additional period of 2 years.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John P. Duncan III, Deputy Administrator, Tobacco Programs, AMS, USDA, 300 12th Street, S.W., Stop 0280, Room 502 Annex Building, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456, (202) 205-0567.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Committee, which reports to the Secretary through the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, recommends opening dates and selling schedules for the flue-cured marketing area which aid the Secretary in making an equitable apportionment and assignment of tobacco inspectors. The Committee consists of 39 members; 21 producer representatives, 10 warehouse representatives, and 8 buyer representatives, representing all segments of the flue-cured tobacco industry and meets at the call of the Secretary. The Secretary has determined that renewal of this Committee is in the public interest.

To ensure that recommendations of the Committee take into account the needs of diverse groups served by the Department, membership should include, to the extent practicable, persons with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

This notice is given in compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

Dated: May 22, 2000.

Paul W. Fiddick,

Assistant Secretary for Administration.

[FR Doc. 00-13239 Filed 5-25-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Plantation Lakes Project; Ottawa National Forest, Houghton County, Michigan

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The USDA-Forest Service will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Plantation Lakes Project to disclose the effects of timber harvest, site preparation for natural and artificial regeneration, planting, road management including: road construction, reconstruction, temporary road construction, obliteration, and motorized vehicle closure; dispersed parking area installation and improvement, trail construction, maintenance of permanent openings for wildlife habitat, and classification of old growth, in the Frost Opportunity Area on the Ontonagon Ranger District, and the Connors, Kenton, Plantation Lakes, and Richard Lake Opportunity Areas on the Kenton Ranger District, located approximately 7 air miles northeast of Kenton, Michigan. The purpose and need for action is to: (1) Promote and maintain processes which would enhance natural species diversity, manage to reduce insect and disease potential below epidemic levels, and decrease fire hazard in the long term while providing a supply of wood products for regional and local needs to help support a stable economic base within the dependent geographical area. (2) Maintain and enhance habitat capable of sustaining long-term populations of a variety of wildlife species. (3) Maintain a road system that allows for management of National Forest lands and provides for public access while meeting other resource needs, and (4) Provide dispersed recreation opportunities to meet public needs.

The DEIS is expected to be filed with the EPA and available for public review by September, 2000.

DATES: Written comments and suggestions should be received on or before June 26, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and suggestions concerning the scope of the analysis should be sent to Leanne Marten, District Ranger, Ontonagon District, 1209 Rockland Road, Ontonagon, MI 49953.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Allen Nicholson, Interdisciplinary Team Leader, Iron