

# 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

### Food and Consumer Service

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Form FCS-209, Status of Claims Against Households

**AGENCY:** Food and Consumer Service, 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 proposed information collections. Requirements in sections 5, 11, and 13 of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (the Act) are the basis for the information collected on Form FCS-209, Status of Claims Against Households. The Act requires that State agencies submit reports and other information which the Secretary deems necessary to determine compliance with the Act and its implementing regulations. The Act provides that when coupons are overissued to households due to Inadvertent Household Error (IHE), Intentional Program Violation (IPV) or Administrative Error, State agencies are required to determine the amount of overissuances and establish claims against the households to collect the overissued amounts. The Act authorizes the Secretary to settle and adjust established claims by compromise or denial of all or part of any such claim arising under the Act or regulations issued pursuant to the Act.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before December 10, 1996.

**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 has 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 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 the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to: James I. Porter, Assistant Branch Chief, State Administration Branch, Food Stamp Program, Food and Consumer Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302.

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.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection form and instructions should be directed to James Porter, (703) 305-2385.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Status of Claims Against Households.

*OMB Number:* 0584-0069.

*Form Number:* FCS-209.

*Expiration Date:* 9/30/96.

*Type of Request:* Reinstatement, without change, of this previously approved collection of information.

*Abstract:* 7 CFR 273.18(i) of the Food Stamp Program regulations requires that State agencies submit quarterly Form FCS-209, Status of Claims Against Households, reports. The required information provided on this report must be obtained from an accountable system of established claims, repayment demand letters, satisfied and compromised claim amounts, and outstanding claims. The regulations make a distinction between nonfraud claims caused by State agency miscalculation or error and those caused by inadvertent household error. The fraud category of Form FCS-209 includes those cases in which the household committed intentional misrepresentation in order to obtain benefits. States may retain a percentage of fraud and intentional misrepresentation collections as an incentive to pursue action on those cases. In addition, States may also retain a percentage of collections in regard to

inadvertent household error. The FCS-209 accommodates the reporting of amounts collected, calculation of amounts to be retained by the State and calculation of amounts due the Federal Government through an offset against the State's administrative funds as a method of payment.

*Affected Public:* State governments.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 53.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 3.5 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden:* 742 hours.

Dated: October 4, 1996.

William E. Ludwig,

Administrator, Food and Consumer Service.

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Oregon Coast Provincial Advisory Committee Meeting

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Oregon Coast Provincial Advisory Committee (PAC) will meet on October 24, 1996, in Florence, Oregon, at the Driftwood Shores Resort and Conference Center (Pacific Room), 88416 First Avenue, Florence, OR. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue until 3:30 p.m. Agenda items to be covered include: (1) updates on current events, (2) Adaptive Management Area social assessment, (3) Jobs-in-the-woods program, (4) watershed councils and other partnerships, and (5) open public forums. All Oregon Coast Provincial Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public. Two "open forums" are scheduled; one at 10:30 a.m. and another near the conclusion of the meeting. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend. The committee welcomes the public's written comments on committee business at any time.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Direct questions regarding this meeting to Cynthia Leonard, Public Affairs, at (541) 750-7013, or write to Forest Supervisor, Siuslaw National Forest, P.O. Box 1148, Corvallis, Oregon 97339.