

Estimated Number of Respondents: 56,170.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 11,673 hours.

Comments

The Agencies are soliciting comments on the burden of all of the above subparts 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 practical 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. These comments should be sent to Phillip Elder, Senior Loan Officer, USDA, FSA, Farm Loan Programs, Loan Servicing Division, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., STOP 0523, Washington, DC 20250-0523.

Copies of the information collections may be obtained from Mr. Elder at the above address. Comments regarding paperwork burden will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval of the information collection. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Signed in Washington, DC, on January 20, 1998.

Bruce R. Weber,

Acting Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

Jan E. Shadburn,

Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

Dayton J. Watkins,

Administrator, Rural Business—Cooperative Service.

[FR Doc. 98-2054 Filed 1-27-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XV-U

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Committee of Scientists Meeting

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: A meeting of the Committee of Scientists is scheduled for February 12-13, 1998, in Seattle, Washington. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss planning issues concerning the National

Forests in the Pacific Northwest (Washington and Oregon) and Alaska Regions; to meet with representatives from federal, state, and tribal organizations, to share information and ideas about Committee members' assignments; to continue discussions on the scientific principles underlying land and resource management; and to conduct any other Committee business that may arise. The meeting is open to the public.

DATES: The meeting is scheduled for February 12-13 in Seattle, Washington.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the University Plaza Hotel, 400 NE 45th Street, Seattle, Washington.

Written comments on improving land and resource management planning may be sent to the Committee of Scientists, P.O. Box 2140, Corvallis, OR 97339. Also the Committee may be accessed via the Internet at www.cof.orst.edu/org/scicomm/.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bob Cunningham, Designated Federal Official to the Committee of Scientists, telephone: 202-205-2494.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On February 12, the Committee of Scientists meeting will begin at 8 a.m. and end at 7 p.m. On February 13, the meeting will begin at 8 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. Citizens may address the Committee, February 12, beginning at 4 p.m., to present ideas on how to improve National Forest System land and resource management planning. Citizens who wish to speak must register at the meeting before 4 p.m. Each speaker will be limited to a maximum of 5 minutes. Persons may also submit written suggestions to the Committee at the meeting or by mail at the addresses listed under the Addresses heading.

The Committee of Scientists is chartered to provide scientific and technical advice to the Secretary of Agriculture and the Chief of the Forest Service on improvements that can be made to the National Forest System land and resource management planning process (62 FR 43691; August 15, 1997). Notice of the names of the appointed Committee members was published December 16, 1997 (62 FR 65795). Agendas and locations for future meetings will be published as separate notices in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: January 22, 1998.

Robert C. Joslin,

Deputy Chief for National Forest System.

[FR Doc. 98-2044 Filed 1-27-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Willamette Provincial Interagency Executive Committee (PIEC), Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Willamette PAC Committee will meet on Thursday, February 19, 1998, at the Courtyard By Marriott, 3443 Hutton Street, Springfield, Oregon 97477; phone (541) 726-2121. The PAC Committee meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. to approximately 3:00 p.m. The tentative agenda includes: (1) Riparian Reserves, (2) Update on Province Late-Successional Reserve Assessment, (3) Update from Interagency Advisory Committee Staff, (4) Decision on response to 1997 Monitoring results, and (5) Public Forum.

The public forum is tentatively scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. Time allotted for individual presentations will be limited to 3 minutes. Written comments are encouraged. Written comments may be submitted prior to the meeting by sending them to Designated Federal Official Neal Forrester at the address given below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For more information regarding this meeting, contact Designated Federal Official Neal Forrester, Willamette National Forest, 211 East Seventh Avenue, Eugene, Oregon 97401; (541) 465-6924.

Dated: January 22, 1998.

Herbert L. Wick,

Natural Resources Staff Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-2001 Filed 1-27-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business—Cooperative Service

Maximum Portion of Guarantee Authority Available for Fiscal Year 1998

AGENCY: Rural Business—Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: As set forth in the final rule under 7 CFR part 4279, subpart B, each fiscal year the Agency shall establish a limit on the maximum portion of guarantee authority available for that fiscal year that may be used to guarantee loans with a guarantee fee of 1 percent or guaranteed loans with a guarantee percentage exceeding 80 percent.