

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

Agricultural Marketing Service

[TM-98-00-200]

Notice of Program Continuation

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice inviting applications for fiscal year 1999 grant funds under the Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program (FSMIP) was allocated \$1,200,000 in the Federal budget for fiscal year 1999. Funds remain available for this program. States interested in obtaining funds under the program are invited to submit proposals. While only State Departments of Agriculture or other appropriate State Agencies are eligible to apply for funds, State Agencies are encouraged to involve industry organizations in the development of proposals and the conduct of projects.

DATES: Applications will be accepted through June 14, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Proposals may be sent to: FSMIP Staff, Transportation and Marketing, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 4006 South Building, P. O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Larry V. Summers, (202) 720-2704.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: FSMIP is authorized under Section 204(b) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621 *et seq.*). The program is a matching fund program designed to assist State Departments of Agriculture or other appropriate State agencies in conducting studies or developing innovative approaches related to the marketing of agricultural products.

Other organizations interested in participating in this program should contact their State Department of Agriculture's Marketing Division to discuss their proposal.

Mutually acceptable proposals are submitted by the State Agency and must be accompanied by a completed Standard Form (SF)-424 with SF-424A and SF-424B attached. FSMIP funds may not be used for advertising or, with limited exceptions, for the purchase of equipment or facilities. Guidelines may be obtained from your State Department of Agriculture or the above AMS contact.

Funds can be requested for a wide range of marketing research and marketing service activities, including projects aimed at:

- (1) Developing and testing new or more efficient methods of processing, packaging, handling, storing, transporting, and distributing food and other agricultural products;
- (2) Assessing customer response to new or alternative agricultural products or marketing services and evaluating potential opportunities for U.S. producers, processors and other agribusinesses, in both domestic and international markets; and,
- (3) Identifying problems and impediments in existing channels of trade between producers and consumers of agricultural products and devising improved marketing practices, facilities, or systems to address such problems.

While all proposals which fall within the FSMIP guidelines will be considered, States are encouraged to submit proposals which address the "marketing" issues and concerns identified in the report of the National Commission on Small Farms, including projects aimed at " * * * developing direct marketing strategies and initiatives that primarily benefit small farms." and projects in which the State agencies " * * * partner with community-based organizations interested in pursuing local or regional food system strategies." Copies of the FSMIP guidelines and the report of the National Commission on Small Farms may be obtained by contacting the person listed as the contact for further information.

FSMIP is listed in the "Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance" under number 10.156 and subject agencies

must adhere to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which bars discrimination in all Federally assisted programs.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1621-1627.

Dated: December 9, 1998.

Gary E. Scavongelli,

Acting Deputy Administrator, Transportation and Marketing.

[FR Doc. 98-33292 Filed 12-11-98; 2:11 pm]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Olympic Provincial Interagency Executive Committee (PIEC), Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Olympic PIEC Advisory Committee will meet on January 15, 1999 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Olympic National Forest Headquarters at 1835 Black Lake Blvd. S.W., Olympia, Washington. Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Review and approve 1999 Watershed Restoration Program and 1998 Implementation Monitoring Report; (2) Discussion of several items from the Adaptive Management Area Guide; (3) Carbon Sequestration study presentation; (4) 1999 Recreation Program Budget Impacts; (5) Review meeting attendance policy; (6) Update on Effectiveness Monitoring Pilot Proposal. All Olympic Province Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct questions regarding this meeting to Kathy Snow, Province Liaison, USDA, Quilcene Ranger District, P.O. Box 280, Quilcene, WA 98376, (360) 765-2211 or Claire Lavendel, Acting Forest Supervisor, at (360) 956-2301.

Dated: December 7, 1998.

Claire Lavendel,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 98-33245 Filed 12-15-98; 8:45 am]

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