

of the category of assistance needed; and, (c) the estimated project costs for each eligible applicant; and, (2) a report of prior year accomplishments.

Basis for Distribution of the FY 1999 HIP Appropriation

Area Offices will distribute FY 1999 HIP funds to the tribes within their respective areas who: (1) Have eligible applicants as defined under the revised rule in 25 CFR 256, effective April 1, 1998; (2) have submitted their FY 1997 inventory of housing needs; (3) have viable work plans; (4) are in compliance with the intent of the program; (5) have an approved service area; and, (6) provide a report of prior year accomplishments.

A viable work plan means that planned work projects fall within the scope and framework of the HIP and that the tribe has eligible HIP applicants. Funds will be distributed only to tribes with eligible HIP applicants.

The HIP funds identified for the Office of Self-Governance (OSG) tribes with an annual funding agreement are provided under the same general guidance as for other tribes. HIP funding should only be made available to tribes with eligible HIP applicants and in accordance with the payment provision, Pub. L. 103-413, Sec. 403(g)(3), which requires the Secretary to “* * * provide funds to the tribe under an agreement under this title for programs, services, functions, and activities, or portions thereof, in an amount equal to the amount that the tribe would have been eligible to receive under contracts and grants under the Act.”

Area Offices are to ensure that distributed amounts are sufficient to fund at least one complete project. Therefore, Area Offices must devise or follow a previously established plan to rotate funds between tribes with projects requiring two or more years funding. (The intention is to fund as many HIP projects as possible, while curtailing the amount of unexpended funds, to enable the Bureau to attain performance goals as outlined in the FY 1998 strategic plan). Accordingly, Area Offices are authorized to redistribute funds from those tribes unable to expend some or all of their FY 1998 funding, to other tribes capable of expending the funds. Area Offices must notify Central Office of such actions. In addition, the areas and the OSG will be required to submit a report to Central Office in May 1999, identifying the funds obligated/expended and the funds available to be withdrawn for reallocation to other locations because of the lack of HIP eligible applicants.

Reprogramming of HIP funds to other Tribal Priority Allocation (TPA) programs is prohibited; however, tribes may supplement their HIP funds from other funding within their TPA.

This Notice of Fund Availability and the Distribution Process for the FY 1999 Housing Improvement Program Appropriation does not include FY 1998 TPA funds that were prioritized by tribes to be used for HIP.

Dated: February 18, 1999.

Kevin Gover,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-010-1430-00; GP9-0119]

Call for Nominations for the Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council

AGENCY: Lakeview District, Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management Oregon State Office is calling for nominations to fill two unexpired terms in the Group I category on the Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council. The Southeast Oregon Council currently provides advice and recommendations to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Forest Service (FS). The nomination period will close on Monday, April 26, 1999.

The purpose of Resource Advisory Councils is to enable State residents and local citizens to have a meaningful say in how federal lands are managed. The Councils, which were established in August, 1995, provide advice on the broad array of resource issues that face federal land managers.

The Southeast Oregon RAC advises federal officials on the management of federal lands in Southeast Oregon. The area covers most of Malheur, Harney, and Lake Counties and small portions of Klamath, Deschutes, Crook, Grant, and Baker Counties.

The Southeast Oregon RAC operates on principles of collaboration and consensus. Council members are sought who are committed to working with other interests for the long term benefit of public lands and national forests.

The Southeast Oregon RAC worked with the BLM on the development of draft standards for rangeland health and guidelines for grazing management and has been providing the BLM with

recommendations on the development of a Southeastern Oregon Resource Management Plan.

Council members serve without monetary compensation, but are reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses. Prospective members are advised that membership on a Council calls for a substantial commitment of time and energy.

Individuals may nominate themselves or others. Council members may be renominated upon the expiration of their terms. The Southeast Oregon RAC is composed of 15 members who serve 3-year terms with one-third of the terms expiring each year. This provides an experienced panel of members at any given time. Nominees must be residents of the State of Oregon.

Nominees are being sought to fill the vacant Transportation/Right-of-Way representative and the Energy/Minerals representative positions, for terms which expire in August 2000 and September 1999, respectively. Nominees will be evaluated based on their experience working with the interest area they choose to represent, and their knowledge of the geographic area covered by the Council. Nominees must also have demonstrated a commitment to collaborative resource decision making. All nominations must be accompanied by letters of reference from represented interests or organizations, a completed background information nomination form, as well as any other information that speaks to the nominee's qualification. To obtain a nomination form or additional information, please contact Public Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Oregon State Office, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208 (503) 952-6027, or your local BLM District Office.

Completed nomination forms and letters of reference should be sent to Elaine Zielinski, State Director, Bureau of Land Management, Oregon State Office, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208. The BLM State Director, the Forest Service Regional Forester, and the Governor's Office will forward these nominations to the Secretary of Interior, who will make the appointments to the Council.

Dated: February 26, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Sonya Hickman, Bureau of Land Management, Lakeview District Office, HC 10 Box 337, Lakeview, OR 97630 (Telephone: 541/947-2177).

Joe Tague,

Acting Designated Federal Official.

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