Food and Nutrition Service

Title: Food Stamp Program
Identification Cards.
OMB Control Number: 0584–0124.
Summary of Collection: The Food Stamp Act of 1977 requires that photographic identification (ID) cards be used in issuance situations in which the Department believes that it would be useful to protect the integrity of the Food Stamp Program (FSP). These requirements are essential to ensure the integrity of the FSP. The ID is required by Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) regulation to be a controlled document, laminated with a serial number and a photograph.

Need and Use of the Information:
Photo ID are used by issuance agents to identify households for monthly issuance; by retailers to identify households when benefits are used; and by households to provide proof at recertification and when picking up monthly allotments. The use of the photo ID card and the requirement to show it to obtain benefits is crucial to the agency’s ability to protect the integrity of the Food Stamp Program.

Description of Respondents: State, Local, or Tribal Government; Individuals or households.
Number of Respondents: 329,293.
Frequency of Responses: Recordkeeping: Reporting: On occasion.
Total Burden Hours: 21,250.

Nancy B. Sternberg,
Departmental Clearance Officer.
[FR Doc. 00–23711 Filed 9–14–00; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service
[Docket No. 00–020N]
National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods; Renewal

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.
ACTION: Notice of Re-chartering of Committee.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the re-chartering of the National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods (NACMCF). The Committee is being renewed in cooperation with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The establishment of the Committee was recommended by a 1985 report of the National Academy of Sciences, Committee on Food Protection, Subcommittee on Microbiological Criteria, “An Evaluation of the Role of Microbiological Criteria for Foods.” The current charter for the NACMCF is available for viewing on the FSIS homepage at www.fsis.usda.gov under mission and activities.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Carol Maczka, Executive Secretariat, USDA, Food Safety and Inspection Service, 3rd Floor—Room 355 Aerospace Center, 901 D Street, SW., Washington, DC 20204. Background materials are available for inspection by contacting Dr. Maczka at (202) 690–6540.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Background

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is charged with the enforcement of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA), the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA), and the Egg Products Inspection Act (EPIA). Under these Acts, USDA is responsible for the wholesomeness and safety of meat, poultry, and egg products intended for human consumption. Similarly, the Secretary of HHS is charged with the enforcement of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA). Under this act, HHS is responsible for ensuring the wholesomeness and safety of human foods other than meat, poultry, and egg products, and of animal feeds.

In order to continue to meet the responsibilities of the FMIA, PPIA, EPIA, and FFDCA, the NACMCF is being reestablished. The Committee will be charged with advising and providing recommendations to the Secretaries on the development of microbiological criteria by which the safety and wholesomeness of food can be assessed, including criteria for microorganisms that indicate whether foods have been adequately and appropriately processed.

Reestablishment of this Committee is necessary and in the public interest because the development of a sound public policy in this area can best be accomplished by a free and open exchange of information and ideas among Federal, State, and local agencies, and other interested parties. The complexity of the issues to be addressed requires that more than one meeting per year will be necessary to accomplish the Committee’s tasks. Members will be appointed by the Secretary of USDA after consultation with the Secretary of HHS. Because of their interest in the matters to be addressed by this Committee, advice on membership appointments will be requested from the Department of Commerce’s National Marine Fisheries Service and the Department of Defense’s Veterinary Service Activity.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, in an effort to better ensure that minorities, women, and persons with disabilities are aware of this notice, FSIS will announce it and provide copies of this Federal Register publication in the FSIS Constituent Update. FSIS provides a weekly FSIS Constituent Update, which is communicated via fax to over 300 organizations and individuals. In addition, the update is available on-line through the FSIS web page located at http://www.fsis.usda.gov. The update is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, Federal Register notices, FSIS public meetings, recalls, and any other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents/stakeholders. The constituent fax list consists of industry, trade, and farm groups, consumer interest groups, allied health professionals, scientific professionals, and other individuals that have requested to be included. Through these various channels, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. For more information and to be added to the constituent fax list, fax your request to the Congressional and Public Affairs Office, at (202) 720–5704.


Paul W. Fiddick,
Assistant Secretary for Administration.
[FR Doc. 00–23771 Filed 9–14–00; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410–DM–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service
Shore Nut Timber Sale, Willamette National Forest, Linn and Marion Counties, Oregon

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.
ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The USDA Forest Service gives notice that it will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Shore Nut Timber Sale Project proposal. The project area is located approximately 50 miles east of Salem, Oregon on the western slopes of the Cascade Mountains, near Detroit Lake and the City of Detroit, Oregon on the Detroit Ranger District of the Willamette National Forest. The Shore
The proposed action also includes the following associated actions:

1. Construct approximately 2.0 miles of temporary roads to access thinning units, and after implementation of the thinning, obliterate the roads by ripping, hand piling and burning slash; and

2. Reconstruct approximately 6.0 miles of existing roads that are currently inaccessible due to slides, overgrown vegetation, water damage, and downed trees;

3. Construct, reconstruct, or modify landings for helicopters, skylines, and ground based yarding systems;

4. Treat slash created by the thinning activities in areas where there is a high risk of fire starts, such as campgrounds, summer homes and major roads, by hand piling and burning slash; and

5. Reforest the treated Phellinus weirii and other root rot pockets by planting species that are not susceptible to root rot such as native hardwoods.

The Detroit District Ranger will decide whether to implement the project as proposed, to implement a modified proposal, to implement an alternative to the proposal, or to take no action at this time.

DATES: Written comments concerning the scope and implementation of this proposal should be received on or before October 30, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments or suggestions concerning this project to Stephanie Phillips, District Ranger, Detroit Ranger District, HC73 Box 320, Mill City, Oregon 97360.
harvest equipment, log trucks and increased truck traffic could be disturbing to local residents and recreation users, potentially impacting local tourism and the related tourist economy during harvest operations, and (2) There is concern that noxious weeds could spread to areas where mineral soil has been exposed due to road and landing construction.

The comment period on the draft EIS will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of availability in the Federal Register. The draft environmental impact statement is scheduled for release in January, 2001. It is expected that the final environmental impact statement will be released in April, 2001.

Comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR parts 215 or 217. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27 (d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requester of the agency’s decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within a specified number of days.

The USDA Forest Service believes it is important to give reviewers notice at this early stage as a result of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of a draft EIS must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the review of the proposal so that it is available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR parts 215 or 217. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27 (d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requester of the agency’s decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within a specified number of days.

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