

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by May 13, 2002, to be assured of consideration.

Additional Information or Comments: Comments may be mailed to Jimmy A. Beard; Assistant to the Chief; Livestock and Grain Market News Branch, Livestock and Seed Program, AMS, USDA; STOP 0252; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW.; Washington, DC 20250-0252; Phone (202) 720-8054; Fax (202) 690-3732; or e-mail to John.VanDyke@usda.gov. All comments received will be available for public inspection at this address during the hours of 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, and on the Internet at www.ams.usda.gov/lsg/mnncs.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Plan for Estimating Daily Livestock Slaughter Under Federal Inspection.

OMB Number: 0581-0050.

Expiration Date of Approval: 07-31-2002.

Type of Request: Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621, *et seq*) directs and authorizes the collection and dissemination of marketing information including adequate outlook information, on a market area basis, for the purpose of anticipating and meeting consumer requirements aiding in the maintenance of farm income and to bring about a balance between production and utilization.

Under this market news program, USDA issues a market news report estimating daily livestock slaughter under Federal inspection. This report is compiled on a voluntary basis in cooperation with the livestock and meat industry. The information provided by respondents facilitates market news reporting, which must be timely, accurate, unbiased, and continuous if it is to be useful to the industry. The daily livestock slaughter estimates are provided at the request of industry and are used to make production and marketing decisions.

The Daily Estimated Livestock Slaughter Under Federal Inspection Report is used by a wide range of industry contacts, including packers, processors, producers, brokers, and retailers of meat and meat products. The livestock and meat industry requested that USDA issue slaughter estimates (daily and weekly), by species, for cattle, calves, hogs, and sheep in order

to assist them in making immediate production and marketing decisions and as a guide to the volume of meat in the marketing channel. The information requested from respondents includes their estimation of the current day's slaughter at their plant(s) and the actual slaughter for the previous day. Also, the Government is a large purchaser of meat and related products and this report assists other Government agencies in providing timely information on the quantity of meat entering the processing channels.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .02 hours per response.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities, individuals or households, farms, and the Federal Government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 72.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 260.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 374 hours.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) 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; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) 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.

Dated: March 7, 2002.

A.J. Yates,
Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 02-5937 Filed 3-12-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket No. LS-02-03]

Beef Promotion and Research: Certification and Nomination for the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is accepting applications from State cattle producer organizations or associations and general farm organizations, as well as cattle or beef importer organizations, who desire to be certified to nominate producers or importers for appointment to vacant positions on the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board (Board). Organizations which have not previously been certified that are interested in submitting nominations must complete and submit an official application form to AMS. Previously certified organizations do not need to reapply. Notice is also given that vacancies will occur on the Board and that during a period to be established, nominations will be accepted from eligible organizations and individual importers.

DATES: Applications for certification must be received by close of business April 12, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Certification forms as well as copies of the certification and nomination procedures may be requested from Marlene M. Betts, Acting Chief; Marketing Programs Branch, LS, AMS, USDA; STOP 0251; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW.; Washington, DC 20250-0251.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marlene M. Betts, Acting Chief, Marketing Programs Branch on 202/720-1115.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Beef Promotion and Research Act of 1985 (Act) (7 U.S.C. 2901 *et seq.*), enacted December 23, 1985, authorizes the implementation of a Beef Promotion and Research Order (Order). The Order, as published in the July 18, 1986, **Federal Register** (51 FR 26132), provides for the establishment of a Board. The current Board consists of 100 cattle producers and 8 importers appointed by USDA. The duties and responsibilities of the Board are specified in the Order.

The Act and the Order provide that USDA shall either certify or otherwise determine the eligibility of State cattle producer organizations or associations and general farm organizations, as well as any importer organizations or associations to nominate members to the Board to ensure that nominees represent the interests of cattle producers and importers. Nominations for importer representatives may also be made by individuals who import cattle, beef, or beef products. Persons who are individual importers do not need to be certified as eligible to submit nominations. When individual importers submit nominations, they

must establish to the satisfaction of USDA that they are in fact importers of cattle, beef, or beef products, pursuant to § 1260.143(b)(2) of the Order (7 CFR 1260.143(b)(2)). Individual importers are encouraged to contact AMS at the above address to obtain further information concerning the nomination process, including the beginning and ending dates of the established nomination period and required nomination forms and background information sheets. Certification and nomination procedures were promulgated in the final rule, published in the April 4, 1986, **Federal Register** (51 FR 11557) and currently appear at 7 CFR 1260.500 through 1260.640. Organizations which have previously been certified to nominate members to the Board do not need to reapply for certification to nominate producers and importers for the upcoming vacancies.

The Act and the Order provide that the members of the Board shall serve for terms of 3 years. The Order also requires USDA to announce when a Board vacancy does or will exist. The following States have one or more members whose terms will expire in early 2003:

State or unit	Number of vacancies
Arkansas	1
California	1
Colorado	1
Florida	1
Idaho	1
Kansas	3
Kentucky	1
Minnesota	1
Missouri	1
Montana	2
Nebraska	3
New Mexico	1
North Dakota	1
Oklahoma	2
Pennsylvania	1
South Dakota	1
Texas	5
Virginia	1
Wyoming	1
Importers	5

Since there are no anticipated vacancies on the Board for the remaining States' positions, or for the positions of the Northeast, Northwest, mid-Atlantic, and Southeast units, nominations will not be solicited from certified organizations or associations in those States or units.

Uncertified eligible producer organizations and general farm organizations in all States that are interested in being certified as eligible to nominate cattle producers for appointment to the listed producer positions, must complete and submit an

official "Application for Certification of Organization or Association," which must be received by close of business April 12, 2002. Uncertified eligible importer organizations that are interested in being certified as eligible to nominate importers for appointment to the listed importer positions must apply by the same date. Importers should not use the application form but should provide the requested information by letter as provided for in 7 CFR 1260.540(b). Applications from States or units without vacant positions on the Board and other applications not received within the 30-day period after publication of this Notice in the **Federal Register** will be considered for eligibility to nominate producers or importers for subsequent vacancies on the Board.

Only those organizations or associations which meet the criteria for certification of eligibility promulgated at 7 CFR § 1260.530 are eligible for certification. Those criteria are:

- (a) For State organizations or associations:
 - (1) Total paid membership must be comprised of at least a majority of cattle producers or represent at least a majority of cattle producers in a State or unit,
 - (2) Membership must represent a substantial number of producers who produce a substantial number of cattle in such State or unit,
 - (3) There must be a history of stability and permanency, and
 - (4) There must be a primary or overriding purpose of promoting the economic welfare of cattle producers.
- (b) For organizations or associations representing importers, the determination by USDA as to the eligibility of importer organizations or associations to nominate members to the Board shall be based on applications containing the following information:
 - (1) The number and type of members represented (i.e., beef or cattle importers, etc.),
 - (2) Annual import volume in pounds of beef and beef products and/or the number of head of cattle,
 - (3) The stability and permanency of the importer organization or association,
 - (4) The number of years in existence, and
 - (5) The names of the countries of origin for cattle, beef, or beef products imported.

All certified organizations and associations, including those that were previously certified in the States or units having vacant positions on the Board, will be notified simultaneously in writing of the beginning and ending dates of the established nomination

period and will be provided with required nomination forms and background information sheets.

The names of qualified nominees received by the established due date will be submitted to USDA for consideration as appointees to the Board.

The information collection requirements referenced in this notice have been previously approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the provisions of 44 U.S.C., Chapter 35 and have been assigned OMB No. 0581-0093, except Board member nominee information sheets are assigned OMB No. 0505-0001.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 2901 *et seq.*

Dated: March 7, 2002.

A.J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 02-5936 Filed 3-12-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Hood/Willamette Resource Advisory Committee (RAC)

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Hood/Willamette Resource Advisory Committee (RCA) will meet on Thursday, April 4, 2002. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. and will conclude at approximately 4 p.m. The meeting will be held at the South Salem Phoenix Inn; 4370 Commercial St. SE; Salem, Oregon; (503) 588-9220. The tentative agenda includes: (1) Complete review and Recommendation of Projects; (2) Process for Making Recommendations on 2003 Projects; (3) Public Forum.

The Public Forum is tentatively scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. Time allotted for individual presentations will be limited to 3-4 minutes. Written comments are encouraged, particularly if the material cannot be presented within the time limits for the Public Forum. Written comments may be submitted prior to the April 4 meeting by sending them to Designated Federal Official Donna Short at the address given below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For more information regarding this meeting, contact Designated Federal Official Donna Short; Sweet Home Ranger District; 3225 Highway 20; Sweet Home, Oregon 97386; (541) 367-9220.