

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

Farm Service Agency

Commodity Credit Corporation Request for Reinstatement of an Approval for an Information Collection

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency and the Commodity Credit Corporation.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) to request a reinstatement for an information collection previously approved in support of the FSA and CCC Debt Settlement Policies and Procedures regulations. Provisions in the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 and in the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 have resulted in a decrease in burden hours for information collection under the FSA and CCC Debt Settlement Policies and Procedures program.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before September 9, 2002 to be assured consideration.

Additional Information: Thomas F. Harris II, Claims Specialist, Financial Management Division, Farm Service Agency, USDA, STOP 0581, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013-2415; telephone (703) 305-1439.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Debt Settlement Policies and Procedures.

OMB Control Number: 0560-0146.

Type of Request: Reinstatement of Approval for an Information Collection.

Abstract: The information collected under the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Number 0560-0146, as identified above, is needed to enable FSA and CCC to effectively administer the regulations at 7 CFR 792 (FSA) and 7 CFR 1403 (CCC) relating to debt

settlement policies and procedures and to the identification of and settlement of outstanding claims. Collection of outstanding debts owed to FSA or to CCC can be effected by installment payments if a debtor furnishes satisfactory evidence of inability to pay a claim in full, and if the debtor specifically requests for an installment agreement. Part of the requirement is that the debtor furnish this request in writing and with a financial statement or other information that would disclose a debtor's assets and liabilities. This information is required in order to evaluate any proposed plan. Such documentation requests furnished by the debtor are also used in the other collection tools employed by both FSA and CCC in managing debt settlement policies and procedures. If an installment agreement is approved, then a Promissory Note (CCC-279), or an approved alternative promissory note format, must be executed between the debtor and the FSA/CCC representative(s). The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 requires the head of an agency to take all appropriate steps to collect delinquent debts before discharging such debts. These steps require the employment of these information collection forms and formats which have been successfully used for the past several years and which have become familiar tools for both the agency employees and for the producer. Thus, forms and formats already exist and are in use. Having to develop and introduce new forms and formats into the market place would add additional burdens and costs to both the producer and to the agency in the handling of the claim settlement and collection processes and would create additional burdens not called for under the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this information collection is estimated to average 30 minutes per response.

Respondents: Producers participating in FSA and CCC programs.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 250.

Estimated Number of Responses Per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 125 hours.

Topics for comment include but are not limited to the following: (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; or (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. Comments should be sent to the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503, and to Thomas F. Harris II, Claims Specialist, Financial Management Division, Farm Service Agency, USDA, STOP 0581, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-0581; telephone (703) 305-1439. Copies of the information collection may be obtained from Thomas F. Harris II at the above address.

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

Signed at Washington, DC, on June 28, 2002.

James R. Little,

*Administrator, Farm Service Agency and
Executive Vice President, Commodity Credit
Corporation.*

[FR Doc. 02-17123 Filed 7-8-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

Information Collection; Tobacco Marketing Quota Referendum Ballot

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; request for public comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) is seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on the extension of a currently approved information collection associated with

Tobacco Marketing Quota Referendum Ballot. This information collection is necessary for tobacco farmers and other eligible persons to vote on favoring or opposing the marketing quotas for any kind of tobacco.

DATES: Comments about this notice must be received in writing on or before September 9, 2002 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Comments concerning this notice should be addressed to Tobacco and Peanuts Division, FSA, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 5750-S, STOP 0514, Washington, DC 20250-0514. Comments may be submitted via facsimile to (202) 720-0549 or by e-mail to: tob_comments@wdc.usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ann Wortham, Tobacco and Peanuts Division, (202) 720-2715 and ann_wortham@wdc.usda.gov. The public may inspect comments received and the copies of the forms at Tobacco and Peanuts Division, FSA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 5750-S, during normal business hours. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to (202) 720-7413 to facilitate entry to the building. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Description of Information Collection

Title: Tobacco Marketing Quota Referenda Ballot.

OMB Control Number: 0560-0182.

Form Number: MQ-5.

Type of Request: Extension with Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection.

Abstract: This information collection is used by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) in administering the national tobacco marketing quota program; specifically, the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (the 1938 Act) requires that national tobacco marketing quotas be established each year only if tobacco producers favor it for the next three years. FSA County offices collect information from the voters by mailing them a Ballot Form or polling them at certain places. The Ballot Form (MQ5) contains a question of favoring the marketing quotas for a certain kind of tobacco with "YES" or "NO" answer to the question. Eligible to vote are tobacco allotment and quota owners and growers who share in the risk of producing the kind of tobacco for which

a referendum is held. The FSA County Committee tabulates the votes and the final count is used to determine whether or not a national marketing quota will be established annually for the certain kinds of tobacco. If the information is not collected, the requirements of the 1938 Act will not be met and FSA would have no way to determine whether tobacco farmers want to continue the national marketing quotas and the price support program. FSA would lack the necessary information to administer the national tobacco marketing quotas.

Estimate of Annual Burden: 5 minutes.

Type of Respondents: Tobacco farmers who are eligible to vote in a referendum.

Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 155,000.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses Per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 13,000 hours.

Comment is invited on: (1) Whether this collection of information is necessary for the stated purposes and the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical or scientific utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the 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 respondents, including the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses when provided, will be a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized and included in the submission for Office of Management and Budget approval.

Signed at Washington, DC, on June 28, 2002.

James R. Little,

Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. 02-17122 Filed 7-8-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests Resource Advisory Committee will meet on Tuesday, July 30, 2002 at the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council building, main conference room, 2363 SW. Glacier Place, Redmond, Oregon. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until 5 p.m. Committee members will review projects proposed and make recommendations under Resource Advisory Committee consideration under Title II of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000. All Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests Resource Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are welcome to attend.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct questions regarding this meeting to Leslie Weldon, Designated Federal Official, USDA, Deschutes National Forest, 1645 Highway 20 East, Bend, Oregon 97701, 541-383-5512.

Dated: June 24, 2002.

Leslie A.C. Weldon,

Forest Supervisor, Deschutes National Forest.

[FR Doc. 02-17157 Filed 7-8-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

South Gifford Pinchot National Forest Resource Advisory Committee Meeting Notice

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The South Gifford Pinchot National Forest Resource Advisory Committee will meet on Thursday, July 18, 2002 at the Skamania County Public Works Department basement located in the Courthouse Annex, 170 NW. Vancouver Avenue, Stevenson, Washington. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until 5 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to:

(1) Review and recommend for funding Title II projects for fiscal year 2003.

(2) Provide for a Public Open Forum. All South Gifford Pinchot National Forest Resource Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public.

Interested citizens are encouraged to attend. The "open forum" provides an opportunity for the public to bring issues, concerns, and discussion topics to the Advisory Committee. The "open forum" is scheduled as part of agenda item (2) for this meeting. Interested