

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

[No. LS-04-03]

Lamb Promotion, Research, and Information: Certification of Organizations for Eligibility To Make Nominations to the Lamb Promotion, Research, and Information 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, regional, and national lamb producer, seedstock producer, feeder, and first handler organizations or associations that desire to be certified as eligible to nominate lamb producers, seedstock producers, lamb feeders, or first handlers of lamb or lamb products for appointment to the Lamb Promotion, Research, and Information Board (Board). Previously certified organizations do not need to reapply. To nominate a producer, seedstock producer, feeder, or first handler member to the Board, organizations must first be certified by USDA. Notice is also given that upcoming vacancies are anticipated and that during a period to be established by USDA, nominations will be accepted from eligible organizations.

DATES: Applications for certification must be received by close of business February 17, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Certification form LS-82 as well as information regarding the certification and nomination procedures may be requested from Kenneth R. Payne, Chief; Marketing Programs Branch, Room 2638-S; Livestock and Seed Program; AMS, USDA; STOP 0251; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW.; Washington, DC 20250-0251 or

obtained via the Internet at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsg/mpb/lamb/lambforms.htm>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth R. Payne, Chief, Marketing Programs Branch on (202) 720-1115, via facsimile on (202) 720-1125, or via e-mail at Kenneth.Payne@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commodity Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Act of 1996 (Act) (7 U.S.C. 7411 *et seq.*) authorizes the establishment and implementation of a lamb promotion, research, and information program. Pursuant to the Act, a proposed Lamb Promotion, Research, and Information Order (Order) was published in the **Federal Register** on September 21, 2001 (66 FR 48764). The final Order was published in the **Federal Register** on April 11, 2002 (67 FR 17848). The Order provides for the establishment of a 13-member Board that consists of 6 producers representing regions east and west of the Mississippi River, 3 feeders representing regions east and west of the Mississippi River, 1 seedstock producer, and 3 first handlers appointed by USDA. Of the six producers, two must be located east of the Mississippi River and represent the eastern region; two must be located west of the Mississippi River and represent the western region; while the remaining two can be selected without regard to the geographic location. The feeders cannot all be located in the same geographic region. The duties and responsibilities of the Board are provided under the Order.

The Order provides that USDA shall certify or otherwise determine the eligibility of any State, regional, or national lamb producer, seedstock producer, feeder, or first handler organizations or associations that meets the eligibility criteria established under the Order. Those organizations that meet the eligibility criteria specified under the Order will be certified as eligible to nominate members for appointment to the Board. Those organizations should ensure that the nominees represent the interests of producers, seedstock producers, feeders, and first handlers.

The Order provides that the members of the Board shall serve for terms of 3 years, except that appointments to the initially established Board shall be proportionately for 1-, 2-, and 3-year terms. No person may serve more than

two consecutive 3-year terms. USDA will announce when nominations will be due from eligible organizations and when any subsequent nominations are due when a vacancy does or will exist. The following unit/regions have vacancies in early 2005:

| Unit/Region | Members |
|---|---------|
| Producer Member: From either Region 1 or Region 2—Must own annually 100 or less head of lambs | 1 |
| Producer Member: From either Region 1 or Region 2—Must own annually more than 500 head of lambs | 1 |
| Feeder Member: From either Region 1 or Region 2—Either less than 5,000 lambs fed annually or 5,000 or more lambs fed annually | 1 |
| First Handler Member | 1 |

Any eligible producer, seedstock producer, feeder, or first handler organization that is not currently certified and is interested in being certified to nominate producers, seedstock producers, feeders, or first handlers for appointment to the Board, must complete and submit an official "Application for Certification of Organization," form. That form must be received by close of business February 17, 2004.

Only those organizations that meet the criteria for certification of eligibility specified under § 1280.206(b) under the Order are eligible for certification. In certifying an organization, the following will be considered:

- (1) The geographic territory covered by the active membership of the organization;
- (2) The nature and size of the active membership of the organization, including the number of active producers, seedstock producers, feeders, or first handlers represented by the organization;
- (3) Evidence of stability and permanency of the organization;
- (4) Sources from which the operating funds of the organizations are derived;
- (5) The functions of the organization; and
- (6) The ability and willingness of the organization to further the purpose and objectives of the Act.

In addition, the primary consideration in determining the eligibility of an organization will be:

(1) The membership of the organization consists primarily of producers, seedstock producers, feeders, or first handlers who market or handle a substantial quantity of lamb or lamb products; and

(2) A primary purpose of the organization is in the production or marketing of lamb and lamb products.

All certified organizations will be notified in writing of the beginning and ending dates of the established nomination period and will be provided with required nomination forms.

The information collection requirements referenced in this notice has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C., Chapter 35) and have been assigned OMB No. 0581-0198, except Board nominees information form has been assigned OMB No. 0505-0001.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 7411-7425.

Dated: January 9 2004.

A. J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 04-845 Filed 1-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

The Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), today denied a petition for trade adjustment assistance (TAA) that was filed on December 4, 2003, by a group of crawfish producers in Louisiana.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Upon investigation, the Administrator determined that imports of crawfish did not increase during the January-December 2002 marketing year, a condition required for certifying a petition for TAA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jean-Louis Pajot, Coordinator, Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers, FAS, USDA, (202) 720-2916, email: trade.assistance@fas.usda.gov.

Dated: December 31, 2003.

A. Ellen Terpstra,

Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.

[FR Doc. 04-847 Filed 1-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

The Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), today denied a petition for trade adjustment assistance (TAA) that was filed on December 4, 2003, by the United Fisheries Co-op, Inc., Biloxi, Mississippi.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Upon investigation, the Administrator determined that domestic producer prices did not decline at least 20 percent during the January-December 2002 marketing year when compared with the previous 5-year average, a condition required for certifying a petition for TAA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Jean-Louis Pajot, Coordinator, Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers, FAS, USDA, (202) 720-2916, mail: trade.assistance@fas.usda.gov.

Dated: December 31, 2003.

A. Ellen Terpstra,

Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.

[FR Doc. 04-846 Filed 1-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Oregon Coast Provincial Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Oregon Coast Province Advisory Committee will meet in Corvallis, OR, January 22, 2004. The theme of the meeting is Introduction/Overview/Business Planning. The agenda includes: Payments to counties Update, Aquatic Conservation Strategy EIS, Corvallis to Coast Trails, Sand Camping Environmental Assessment, 2003 Monitoring Trip Update, 2004 Agenda Items/Theme, Public Comment and Round Robin.

DATES: The meeting will be held January 22, 2004, beginning at 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Siuslaw National Forest Supervisor's Office, 4077 SW Research Way, Corvallis, Oregon.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joni Quarnstrom, Public Affairs Specialist,

Siuslaw National Forest, 541-750-7075, or write to Siuslaw National Forest Supervisor, P.O. Box 1148, Corvallis, OR 97339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. Council Discussion is limited to Forest Service/BLM staff and Council Members. Lunch will be on your own. A public input session will be at 3 p.m. for fifteen minutes. The meeting is expected to adjourn around 3:30 p.m.

Dated: January 8, 2004.

Jane L. Cottrell,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 04-864 Filed 1-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Del Norte County Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Del Norte County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet on March 3, 2004 in Crescent City, California. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the selection of Title II projects under Public Law 106-393, H.R. 2389, the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, also called the "Payments to States" Act.

DATES: The meeting will be held on March 3, 2004 from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Crescent Fire Protection District, 255 West Washington Boulevard, Crescent City, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Laura Chapman, Committee Coordinator, USDA, Six Rivers National Forest, 1330 Bayshore Way, Eureka, CA 95501. Phone: (707) 441-3549. E-mail: 1chapman@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Agenda items include a report on the Regional RAC meeting held in Sacramento in November 2003, and a presentation on the unique aspects of the Siskiyou Klamath Bioregion. The meeting is open to the public. Public input opportunity will be provided and individuals will have the opportunity to address the committee at that time.

Dated: January 9, 2004.

Jean M. Hawthorne,

Acting Deputy Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 04-887 Filed 1-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M