

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

Forest Service

Notice of New Recreation Fee Site; Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, (Title VIII, Pub. L. 108-447)

AGENCY: Homochitto National Forest, USDA Forest Service.

ACTION: Notice of new recreation fee site.

SUMMARY: Okhissa Lake is a recreational complex currently under development on the Homochitto National Forest, located near Bude, Mississippi. The lake will open for use by the public for boating and fishing between July and November 2007. The exact opening date will depend on completing work on infrastructure needed to support fishing (restrooms, boat launch, parking lots, etc.). Other recreational day-use activities (swimming, picnicking) will be available later as amenities to accommodate them are added. The Forest Service proposes to charge \$5 per vehicle for access to all day-use activities (boat launching, swimming, and picnicking). Fees will not be charged until infrastructure needed to support an activity is available for use by the public. A \$50 annual pass will also be available for purchase by the public. The annual pass would allow 12-month access to all day-use activities (boat launching, swimming, and picnicking). Opportunities for developed and primitive camping will be available in the future as work needed to accommodate these activities is complete. When available, the Forest Service will charge \$13 for developed camping and \$7 for primitive camping. Funds received from these fees will be used for continued operation and maintenance of the recreational complex and allow additional amenities to be added in the future. Funds will

also be used to enhance or restore fisheries habitat of the lake.

DATES: Recreational boating and fishing opportunities at Okhissa Lake will be available to the public between July and November 2007. Other recreational activities described above will be available as infrastructure to support them is added.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeff Gainey, Recreation Program Manager, 601-965-1617, National Forests in Mississippi, 100 West Capitol Street, Suite 1141, Jackson, MS 39269.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Recreation Lands Enhancement Act (Title VII, P.L. 108-447) directed the Secretary of Agriculture to publish advance notice in the **Federal Register** whenever new recreation fee areas are established. The Homochitto National Forest currently manages only one other developed recreation site that provides camping, fishing and other day-use activities. Comparable recreational use fees are currently charged at this site. Development of Okhissa Lake and associated facilities are aimed at creating new recreational opportunities in an area that is economically depressed.

Dated: November 7, 2006.

Antoine L. Dixon,
Forest Supervisor, National Forest in Mississippi.

[FR Doc. 06-9260 Filed 11-17-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Inviting Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program Applications for Feasibility Studies or Feasibility and Marketing Studies

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS), an Agency within the Rural Development mission area, announces the availability of grants up to \$50,000 per application from the Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) Program for fiscal year (FY) 2007 for feasibility studies or feasibility and marketing studies, to be competitively awarded. The amount

available for these competitive grants is \$250,000. Funding under this announcement is targeted to the Rural Economic Area Partnerships (REAP) Zones. A list of current REAP Zones is available at <http://www.ezec.gov/communit/reap.html>. This notice is being issued prior to passage of a final appropriations bill to allow applicants sufficient time to leverage financing, submit applications, and give the Agency time to process applications.

DATES: The deadline for receipt of applications in the Rural Development State Office is December 8, 2006. Applications received at a Rural Development State Office after that date will not be considered for FY 2007 funding.

ADDRESSES: For further information, entities located in REAP Zones wishing to apply for assistance should contact a Rural Development State Office to receive further information and copies of the application package. REAP Zones are located in the states of New York, North Dakota, and Vermont. Contact information for the Rural Development State Offices in those states is as follows:

New York, USDA Rural Development State Office, The Galleries of Syracuse, 441 South Salina Street, Suite 357, Syracuse, NY 13202-2541, (315) 477-6400/TDD (315) 477-6447.
North Dakota, USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Room 208, 220 East Rosser, P.O. Box 1737, Bismarck, ND 58502-1737, (701) 530-2037/TDD (701) 530-2113.

Vermont/New Hampshire, USDA Rural Development State Office, City Center, 3rd Floor, 89 Main Street, Montpelier, VT 05602, (802) 828-6000/TDD (802) 223-6365.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Overview

Federal Agency: Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS).

Funding Opportunity Title: Rural Business Enterprise Grants.

Announcement Type: Initial announcement.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 10.769.

Dates: Application Deadline: Completed applications must be received in the Rural Development State Office no later than December 8, 2006, to be eligible for FY 2007 grant funding.

Applications received after this date will not be eligible for FY 2007 grant funding.

I. Funding Opportunity Description

The RBEG program is authorized by section 310B(c) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (CONACT) (7 U.S.C. 1932(c)). Regulations are contained in 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G. The primary objective of the program is to improve the economic conditions of rural areas. The program is administered on behalf of RBS at the State level by the Rural Development State Offices. Assistance provided to rural areas under this program may include feasibility studies or feasibility and marketing studies for business development and economic development planning. The maximum grant available under this NOFA is \$50,000. Awards are made on a competitive basis using specific selection criteria contained in 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G. Information required to be in the application package include an SF-424, "Application for Federal Assistance," RD 1940-20, "Request for Environmental Information," Scope of Work Narrative, Income Statement, Balance Sheet or Audit for previous three years, AD-1047, "Debarment/Suspension Certification," AD-1048, "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion," AD-1049, "Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements," Restrictions on Lobbying, RD 400-1, "Equal Opportunity Agreement," RD 400-4, "Assurance Agreement," Letter stating Board authorization to obtain assistance, Letter certifying citizenship, as referenced in 7 CFR 1942.307(b), and Evidence of Insurance and Bonding equal to the amount of Federal funds with the Agency listed as the loss payee. Applications will be tentatively scored by the State Offices and submitted to the National Office for review. To ensure that only high quality projects are funded, States may submit only those projects to the National Office that score one-hundred (100) or more of the points available at the State level. After submission to the National Office, applications will be ranked based on merit. The Agency Administrator may then assign up to 50 discretionary points to ensure geographic distribution of funds. After the assignment of discretionary points, final selections will be made.

Definitions

The definitions are published at 7 CFR 1942.304.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Grant.

Fiscal Year Funds: FY 2007.

Total Funding: \$250,000.

Approximate Number of Awards: 5.

Average Award: \$50,000.

Anticipated Award Date: February 15, 2007.

III. Eligibility Information

A. Eligible Applicants

Grants may be made to public bodies and private nonprofit corporations serving rural areas. Public bodies include States, counties, cities, townships, and incorporated town and villages, boroughs, authorities, districts, and Indian tribes on Federal and State reservations and other Federally recognized Indian Tribal groups in rural areas.

B. Cost Sharing or Matching

Matching funds are not required.

C. Other Eligibility Requirements

Applications will only be accepted from Rural Economic Area Partnerships (REAP) Zones for feasibility studies or feasibility and marketing studies.

D. Completeness Eligibility

Applications will not be considered for funding if they do not provide sufficient information to determine eligibility or missing required elements.

IV. Fiscal Year 2007 Application and Submission Information

A. Address To Request Application Package

For further information, entities wishing to apply for assistance should contact the Rural Development State Office identified in this NOFA to obtain copies of the application package.

B. Content and Form of Submission

An application must contain all of the required elements. Each application received in a Rural Development State Office will be reviewed to determine if it is consistent with the eligible purposes contained in section 310B(c) of the CONACT. Each selection priority criterion outlined in 7 CFR 1942.305 (b)(3), must be addressed in the application. Failure to address any of the criteria will result in a zero-point score for that criterion and will impact the overall evaluation of the application. Copies of 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G, will be provided to any interested applicant making a request to a Rural Development State Office listed in this notice.

C. Submission Dates and Times

Application Deadline Date: December 8, 2006.

Explanation of Deadlines:

Applications must be in the Rural Development State Office by the deadline date. All eligible applications, along with tentative scoring sheets and the Rural Development State Director's recommendation, will be referred to the National Office no later than December 29, 2006, for final scoring and selection for an award.

V. Application Review Information

The National Office will score applications based on the grant selection criteria and weights contained in 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G and will select a grantee subject to the grantee's satisfactory submission of a formal application and related materials in the manner established by RBS in accordance with 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G.

VI. Award Administration Information

A. Award Notices

Successful applicants will receive notification for funding from the Rural Development State Office. Applicants must comply with all applicable statutes and regulations before the grant award will be approved. Unsuccessful applications will receive notification by mail.

B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Additional requirements that apply to grantees selected for this program can be found in the 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G and 7 CFR chapter XXX.

VII. Agency Contacts

For general questions about this announcement, please contact your USDA Rural Development State Office identified in this NOFA.

Nondiscrimination Statement

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact

USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender."

Dated: November 14, 2006.

Jackie J. Gleason,

Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

[FR Doc. E6-19499 Filed 11-17-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XY-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Inviting Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program Preapplications for Technical Assistance for Rural Transportation Systems

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS), an Agency within the Rural Development mission area, announces the availability of two individual grants: One single \$495,000 grant from the passenger transportation funds appropriated for the Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) program and another single \$250,000 grant for Federally Recognized Native American Tribes' (FRNAT) from funds appropriated for the RBEG program. RBS will administer these awards under the RBEG program and 7 U.S.C. 1932(c)(2) for fiscal year (FY) 2007. Historically, Congress has allotted earmark funding for these specific programs. This notice is being issued prior to passage of a final appropriations bill, which may or may not provide an appropriation for these programs, to allow applicants sufficient time to leverage financing, submit applications, and give the Agency time to process applications within the current fiscal year. Each grant is to be competitively awarded to a qualified national organization. These grants are to provide technical assistance for rural transportation and rural transportation to FRNAT's. This notice will be amended should funding in excess of projected levels be received.

DATES: The deadline for receipt of preapplications in the Rural Development State Office is January 31, 2007. Applications received at a Rural Development State Office after that date

will not be considered for FY 2007 funding.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cindy Mason, Loan Specialist, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA, STOP 3225, Room 6866, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3225. Telephone: (202) 690-1433, FAX: (202) 720-2213.

ADDRESSES: For additional information, entities wishing to apply for assistance should contact a Rural Development State Office to obtain copies of the application package. A list of Rural Development State Offices follows:

District of Columbia

Rural Development Business Programs, USDA, Specialty Lenders Division, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., STOP 3225, Room 6867, Washington, DC 20250-3225, (202) 720-1400

Alabama

USDA Rural Development State Office, Sterling Centre, Suite 601, 4121 Carmichael Road, Montgomery, AL 36106-3683, (334) 279-3400/TDD (334) 279-3495

Alaska

USDA Rural Development State Office, 800 West Evergreen, Suite 201, Palmer, AK 99645-6539, (907) 761-7705/TDD (907) 761-8905

Arizona

USDA Rural Development State Office, 230 N. 1st Ave., Suite 206, Phoenix, AZ 85003, (602) 280-8701/TDD (602) 280-8705

Arkansas

USDA Rural Development State Office, 700 West Capitol Avenue, Room 3416, Little Rock, AR 72201-3225, (501) 301-3200/TDD (501) 301-3279

California

USDA Rural Development State Office, 430 G Street, # 4169, Davis, CA 95616-4169, (530) 792-5800/TDD (530) 792-5848

Colorado

USDA Rural Development State Office, 655 Parfet Street, Room E100, Lakewood, CO 80215, (720) 544-2903/TDD (720) 544-2976

Delaware-Maryland

USDA Rural Development State Office, 1221 College Park Drive, Suite 200, Dover, DE 19904, (302) 857-3580/TDD (302) 857-3585

Florida/Virgin Islands

USDA Rural Development State Office, 4440 NW 25th Place, P.O. Box 147010, Gainesville, FL 32614-7010, (352) 338-3400/TDD (352) 338-3499

Georgia

USDA Rural Development State Office, Stephens Federal Building, 355 E. Hancock Avenue, Athens, GA 30601-2768, (706) 546-2162/TDD (706) 546-2034

Hawaii

USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Room 311, 154 Waiuanue Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720, (808) 933-8380/TDD (808) 933-8321

Idaho

USDA Rural Development State Office, 9173 West Barnes Dr., Suite A1, Boise, ID 83709, (208) 378-5600/TDD (208) 378-5644

Illinois

USDA Rural Development State Office, 2118 W. Park Court, Suite A, Champaign, IL 61821, (217) 403-6200/TDD (217) 403-6240

Indiana

USDA Rural Development State Office, 5975 Lakeside Boulevard, Indianapolis, IN 46278, (317) 290-3100/TDD (317) 290-3343

Iowa

USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Room 873, 210 Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50309, (515) 284-4663/TDD (515) 284-4858

Kansas

USDA Rural Development State Office, 1303 S.W., First American Place, Suite 100, Topeka, KS 66604-4040, (785) 271-2700/TDD (785) 271-2767

Kentucky

USDA Rural Development State Office, 771 Corporate Drive, Suite 200, Lexington, KY 40503, (859) 224-7300/TDD (859) 224-7422

Louisiana

USDA Rural Development State Office, 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, LA 71302, (318) 473-7921/TDD (318) 473-7655

Maine

USDA Rural Development State Office, 967 Illinois Avenue, Suite 4, P.O. Box 405, Bangor, ME 04402-0405, (207) 990-9160/TDD (207) 942-7331

Massachusetts/Rhode Island/Connecticut

USDA Rural Development State Office, 451 West Street, Suite 2, Amherst, MA 01002-2999, (413) 253-4300/TDD (413) 253-4590

Michigan

USDA Rural Development State Office, 3001 Coolidge Road, Suite 200, East Lansing, MI 48823, (517) 324-5190/TDD (517) 324-5169

Minnesota

USDA Rural Development State Office, 375 Jackson Street, Suite 410, St. Paul, MN 55101-1853, (651) 602-7800/TDD (651) 602-3799

Mississippi

USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Suite 831, 100 W. Capitol Street, Jackson, MS 39269, (601) 965-4316/TDD (601) 965-5850

Missouri

USDA Rural Development State Office, 601 Business Loop 70 West, Parkade Center,