

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

Information Collection; Request for Comment; Objections to New Land Management Plans, Plan Amendments, and Plan Revisions

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Forest Service is seeking comments from all interested people and organizations on the extension of a currently approved information collection, objections to new land management plans, plan amendments, and plan revisions.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing on or before July 6, 2009 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 Forest Service, Assistant Director for Planning, Ecosystem Management Coordination, Mail Stop 1104, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1104.

Comments also may be submitted via facsimile to (202) 205-1012 or by e-mail to: rterney@fs.fed.us.

The public may inspect comments received at the Ecosystem Management Coordination Office, 201 14th St., SW., Washington, DC, during normal business hours. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to (202) 205-0895 to assist entry into the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Regis Terney, Ecosystem Management Coordination, at (202) 205-0895 or e-mail to: rterney@fs.fed.us. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339, 24 hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Objection to new land management plans, plan amendments, and plan revisions.

OMB Number: 0596-0158.

Expiration Date of Approval: January 31, 2010.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The information that would be required by Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, part 219—Planning, subpart A—National Forest System Land Management Planning (36 CFR part 219, subpart A), section 219.13 is the minimum information needed for a person to make clear the objection to a proposed land management plan, plan amendment, or plan revision. Under 36 CFR 219.13, a person must provide name, mailing address, and if possible, telephone number; and state the issues, the parts of the plan, amendment or revision that is the subject of the objection; and state how the person believes the plan, amendment, or revision is inconsistent with law, regulation, or policy or how the person disagrees with the decision and supply any recommendations for change. The reviewing officer must review the objection(s) and relevant information and then respond to the objector(s) in writing.

Estimate of Annual Burden: 10 hours to prepare the objection.

Type of Respondents: Interested and affected people, organizations, and governmental units who participate in the planning process: such as people who live in or near National Forest System (NFS) lands; local, State, and Tribal governments who have an interest in the plan; Federal agencies with an interest in the management of NFS lands and resources; not-for-profit organizations interested in NFS management, such as environmental groups, recreation groups, educational institutions; and commercial users of NFS land and resources.

Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 1,210 a year.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 12,100 hours.

Comment is invited on: (1) Whether the right information is being requested, including whether the information will have practical value; (2) whether the instructions in 36 CFR 219.13 are clear; (3) whether the Forest Service estimate

of the burden of the collection of information is accurate, (10 hours); (4) ways to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; (5) ways to make the objections available to people, (6) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on people, including the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

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

Dated: April 30, 2009.

Gloria Manning,

Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System.

[FR Doc. E9-10299 Filed 5-5-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

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 Monday, June 8, 2009 at the Stevenson Community Library, 120 NW Vancouver Ave., Stevenson, Washington. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until 4 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to make recommendations on approximately 45 proposals for Title II funding of projects under the Secure Rural Schools and County Self-Determination Act of 2000.

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 opportunity for the public to bring issues, concerns, and discussion topics to the Advisory Committee. The “open forum” is scheduled to occur at 9:10 a.m. on June 8. Interested speakers will need to register prior to the open forum period. The committee welcomes the

public's written comments on committee business at any time.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct questions regarding this meeting to Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, at (360) 891-5007, or write Forest Headquarters Office, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, 10600 NE. 51st Circle, Vancouver, WA 98682.

Dated: April 20, 2009.

Janine Clayton,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. E9-10466 Filed 5-5-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Announcement of Value-Added Producer Grant Application Deadlines

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of solicitation of applications.

SUMMARY: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS) announces the availability of approximately \$18 million in competitive grant funds for fiscal year (FY) 2009 to help independent agricultural producers enter into value-added activities.

Awards may be made for planning activities or for working capital expenses, but not for both. The maximum grant amount for a planning grant is \$100,000 and the maximum grant amount for a working capital grant is \$300,000.

Ten percent of available funds are reserved to fund applications submitted by Beginning Farmers or Ranchers and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers or Ranchers as defined at 7 U.S.C. 1991(a) and 2003(e). An additional ten percent of available funds are reserved to fund Mid-Tier Value Chain projects, as defined in section I of this notice (both collectively referred to as "reserved funds").

DATES: Applications for grants must be submitted on paper or electronically according to the following deadlines:

Paper applications for unreserved funds must be postmarked and mailed, shipped, or sent overnight no later than July 6, 2009, to be eligible for FY 2009 grant funding. Paper applications for reserved funds must be postmarked and mailed, shipped, or sent overnight no later than June 22, 2009 to be eligible for FY 2009 grant funding. Late applications are not eligible for FY 2009 grant funding.

Electronic applications for unreserved funds must be received by July 6, 2009,

to be eligible for FY 2009 grant funding. Electronic applications for reserved funds must be received no later than June 22, 2009, to be eligible for FY 2009 grant funding. Late applications are not eligible for FY 2009 grant funding.

ADDRESSES: An application guide and other materials may be obtained at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/vadg.htm> or by contacting the applicant's USDA Rural Development State Office. The State Office can be reached by calling 800-670-6553 and pressing "1."

Paper applications must be submitted to the Rural Development State Office for the State in which the Project will primarily take place. Addresses may be found at: http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/recd_map.html.

Electronic applications must be submitted through the Grants.gov Web site at: <http://www.grants.gov>, following the instructions found on this Web site.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Applicants should visit the program Web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/vadg.htm>, which contains application guidance, Frequently Asked Questions and an Application Guide with templates. Or applicants may contact their USDA Rural Development State Office. The State Office can be reached by calling 800-670-6553 and pressing "1," or by selecting the Contact Information link at the above Web site.

Applicants are encouraged to contact their State Offices well in advance of the deadline to discuss their projects and ask any questions about the application process. Also, applicants may submit drafts of their applications to their State Offices for a preliminary review anytime prior to June 5, 2009. The preliminary review will only assess the eligibility of the application and its completeness. The results of the preliminary review are not binding on the Agency.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Overview

Federal Agency: USDA Rural Development.

Funding Opportunity Title: Value-Added Producer Grants.

Announcement Type: Initial announcement.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 10.352.

Dates: Application Deadline: Applications for grants must be submitted on paper or electronically according to the following deadlines:

Paper applications for unreserved funds must be postmarked and mailed, shipped, or sent overnight no later than July 6, 2009 to be eligible for FY 2009 grant funding. Paper applications for

reserved funds must be postmarked and mailed, shipped, or sent overnight no later than June 22, 2009 to be eligible for FY 2009 grant funding. Late applications are not eligible for FY 2009 grant funding.

Electronic applications for unreserved funds must be received by July 6, 2009 to be eligible for FY 2009 grant funding. Electronic applications for reserved funds must be received by June 22, 2009. Late applications are not eligible for FY 2009 grant funding.

I. Funding Opportunity Description

This solicitation is issued pursuant to section 231 of the Agriculture Risk Protection Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106-224) as amended by section 6202 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246) (see 7 U.S.C. 1621 note)) authorizing the establishment of the Value-Added Agricultural Product Market Development grants, also known as Value-Added Producer Grants. The Secretary of Agriculture has delegated the program's administration to USDA Rural Development Cooperative Programs.

The primary objective of this grant program is to help Independent Producers of Agricultural Commodities, Agriculture Producer Groups, Farmer and Rancher Cooperatives, and Majority-Controlled Producer-Based Business Ventures develop strategies to create marketing opportunities and to help develop Business Plans for viable marketing opportunities regarding production of bio-based products from agricultural commodities. Cooperative Programs will competitively award funds for Planning Grants and Working Capital Grants. In order to provide program benefits to as many eligible applicants as possible, applicants must apply only for a Planning Grant or for a Working Capital Grant, but not both. Grants will only be awarded if Projects are determined to be economically viable and sustainable.

USDA Rural Development is encouraging projects that highlight innovative uses of agricultural products. This may include using existing agricultural products in non-traditional ways and/or merging agricultural products with technology in creative ways. As with all value-added efforts, generating new products, creating expanded marketing opportunities and increasing producer income are the end goal. Applications proposing to develop innovative, sustainable products, businesses, or marketing opportunities that accelerate creation of new economic opportunities and commercialization in the agri-food, agri-science, or agriculture products