

sections of the full text notice remain unchanged.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Applicants and other interested parties are encouraged to contact: Lydia M. Astorga, USDA-RMA-RME, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 0808, (South Building, Room 6625), Washington, DC 20250-0808, *phone:* 202-260-4728, *fax:* 202-690-3605, *e-mail:* [RMA.Risk-Ed@rma.usda.gov](mailto:RMA.Risk-Ed@rma.usda.gov). You may also obtain information regarding this announcement from the RMA Web site at: <http://www.rma.usda.gov/aboutrma/agreements/>.

Signed in Washington, DC, on July 14, 2009.

**William J. Murphy,**

*Manager, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.*

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**BILLING CODE 3410-08-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Agricultural Marketing Service**

[Doc. No. AMS-LS-09-0017]

**Lamb Promotion, Research, and Information Program**

**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service; USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is announcing that lamb producers, feeders, seedstock producers, and first handlers of lamb and lamb products voting in a national referendum from February 2, 2009, through February 27, 2009, have approved the continuation of the Lamb Promotion, Research, and Information Order (Order).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Kenneth R. Payne, Chief; Marketing Programs Branch, Livestock and Seed Program; Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA, Room 2628-S; STOP 0251; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW.; Washington, DC 20250-0251, telephone number 202/720-1115, fax number 202/720-1125, or by e-mail at: [Kenneth.Payne@ams.usda.gov](mailto:Kenneth.Payne@ams.usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to the Commodity Promotion, Research, and Information Act of 1996 (Act) (7 U.S.C. 7411-7425), the Department of Agriculture conducted a referendum from February 2, 2009, through February 27, 2009, among eligible lamb producers, feeders, seedstock producers, and first handlers of lamb and lamb products to determine if the Order would continue to be effective. Procedures used in conducting this referendum are set forth in 7 CFR part 1280, subpart E. A final rule amending this subpart was published in the December 16, 2008, issue of the **Federal Register** (73 FR 76193).

Of the 1,971 valid ballots cast, 1,678 (85.1 percent) favored and 293 (14.9 percent) opposed the continuation of the Order. Additionally, of those persons who cast valid ballots in the referendum, those who favored the Order accounted for 93 percent of the total production voted, and those opposed account for 7 percent of the total production voted. For the program to continue, it must have been approved by at least a majority of those persons voting for approval who were engaged in the production, feeding, or slaughter of lambs during calendar year 2008 and who also represent a majority of the volume of lambs produced, fed, or slaughtered.

Therefore, based on the referendum results, the Secretary of Agriculture has determined that the required majority of eligible voters who voted in the nationwide referendum from February 2, 2009, through February 27, 2009, voted to continue the Order. As a result, the Lamb Checkoff Program will continue to be funded by a mandatory assessment on producers, seedstock producers (breeders), feeders, and exporters at the rate of one-half cent (\$.005) per pound when live ovine animals are sold. The first handler, primarily packers, pay an additional \$.30 cents per head on ovine animals purchased for slaughter. Importers are not assessed.

**STATE REFERENDUM RESULTS**

[February 2, 2009, through February 27, 2009]

State	Votes		Volume voted	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Arizona .....	5	0	50,794	0
California .....	126	5	1,099,775	9,188
Colorado .....	60	7	950,095	18,590
Georgia .....	4	1	244	12
Idaho .....	38	1	144,237	1,625
Illinois .....	26	5	2,689	1,022
Indiana .....	43	4	3,920	939
Iowa .....	89	15	409,003	2,353
Kansas .....	28	7	13,445	1,496
Kentucky .....	24	1	3,741	450
Maine .....	15	1	417	4
Maryland .....	9	2	1,274	102
Massachusetts .....	7	1	387	41
Michigan .....	55	9	15,129	1,768
Minnesota .....	66	16	27,367	4,348
Missouri .....	39	9	9,605	526
Montana .....	146	40	120,837	19,733
Nebraska .....	25	10	5,575	2,112
Nevada .....	9	1	30,916	6,000
New Hampshire .....	7	2	844	434
New Jersey .....	6	0	377	0
New Mexico .....	15	2	7,459	54
New York .....	21	10	3,603	5,881
North Carolina .....	24	1	2,042	307
North Dakota .....	25	11	8,287	1,425
Ohio .....	100	24	19,934	5,209

STATE REFERENDUM RESULTS—Continued  
 [February 2, 2009, through February 27, 2009]

State	Votes		Volume voted	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Oregon .....	51	9	37,179	4,373
Pennsylvania .....	49	11	5,321	30,607
South Dakota .....	92	43	69,216	82,413
Tennessee .....	22	3	1,215	110
Texas .....	158	6	203,437	47,536
Utah .....	80	3	161,377	4,457
Virginia .....	15	7	4,388	997
Washington .....	35	0	23,677	0
West Virginia .....	50	4	9,728	278
Wisconsin .....	28	6	4,232	4,438
Wyoming .....	72	11	212,224	11,406
Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, & Vermont <sup>1</sup>	14	5	6,092	10,407
National Totals .....	1,678	293	3,670,082	280,641

<sup>1</sup> To ensure the confidentiality of the voting process, the results of States in which there were not at least 3 votes in total with a minimum of one vote in each category are combined for the purpose of this report.

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 7411–7425 and 7 U.S.C. 7401.

Dated: July 14, 2009.

**David R. Shipman,**  
*Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.*

[FR Doc. E9–17032 Filed 7–17–09; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**Availability of Seats for the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council**

**AGENCY:** Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

**ACTION:** Notice and request for applications.

**SUMMARY:** The ONMS is seeking applications for the following vacant seats on the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council: Education. Applicants are chosen based upon their particular expertise and experience in relation to the seat for which they are applying; community and professional affiliations; philosophy regarding the protection and management of marine resources; and possibly the length of residence in the area affected by the sanctuary. Applicants who are chosen should expect to serve until February 2011.

**DATES:** Applications are due by August 21, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** Application kits may be obtained from 299 Foam Street, Monterey, CA 93940. Completed applications should be sent to the same address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nicole Capps, 299 Foam Street, Monterey, CA 93940, (831) 647–4206, *nicole.capps@noaa.gov*.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The MBNMS Advisory Council was established in March 1994 to assure continued public participation in the management of the Sanctuary. Since its establishment, the Advisory Council has played a vital role in decisions affecting the Sanctuary along the central California coast.

The Advisory Council’s twenty voting members represent a variety of local user groups, as well as the general public, plus seven local, state and federal governmental jurisdictions. In addition, the respective managers or superintendents for the four California National Marine Sanctuaries (Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary, Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary) and the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve sit as non-voting members.

Four working groups support the Advisory Council: The Research Activity Panel (“RAP”) chaired by the Research Representative, the Sanctuary Education Panel (“SEP”) chaired by the Education Representative, the Conservation Working Group (“CWG”) chaired by the Conservation Representative, and the Business and Tourism Activity Panel (“BTAP”)

chaired by the Business/Industry Representative, each dealing with matters concerning research, education, conservation and human use. The working groups are composed of experts from the appropriate fields of interest and meet monthly, or bi-monthly, serving as invaluable advisors to the Advisory Council and the Sanctuary Superintendent.

The Advisory Council represents the coordination link between the Sanctuary and the state and federal management agencies, user groups, researchers, educators, policy makers, and other various groups that help to focus efforts and attention on the central California coastal and marine ecosystems.

The Advisory Council functions in an advisory capacity to the Sanctuary Superintendent and is instrumental in helping develop policies, program goals, and identify education, outreach, research, long-term monitoring, resource protection, and revenue enhancement priorities. The Advisory Council works in concert with the Sanctuary Superintendent by keeping him or her informed about issues of concern throughout the Sanctuary, offering recommendations on specific issues, and aiding the Superintendent in achieving the goals of the Sanctuary program within the context of California’s marine programs and policies.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. Sections 1431, *et seq.* (Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program)