DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Rural Business-Cooperative Service
Inviting Applications for the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2011
AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.
ACTION: Notice.
SUMMARY: This Notice is to invite applications for loans and grants under the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) program pursuant to 7 CFR part 4280, subpart A for Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 subject to the availability of funding. The commitment of program dollars will be made to applicants of selected responses that have fulfilled the necessary requirements for obligation. Expenses incurred in developing applications will be at the applicant’s risk. Historically, on an annual basis, Congress has appropriated $33 million for loans and $10 million for grants for these programs. This Notice is being issued prior to passage of a FY 2011 Appropriations Act, 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 FY 2011. A subsequent notice identifying the amount received in the appropriations will be published, if any.

DATES: The deadline for receipt of applications in the USDA Rural Development State Office is: Third Quarter, March 31, 2011; and Fourth Quarter, June 30, 2011.

ADDRESSES: Submit applications in paper format to the USDA Rural Development State Office, where your project is located. A list of USDA Rural Development State Office addresses and telephone numbers are as follows:

Alabama

Arizona

Arkansas

California
USDA Rural Development State Office, 430 G Street, Agency 4169, Davis, CA 95616–4169, (530) 792–5800/TDD (530) 792–5848.

Colorado
USDA Rural Development State Office, Denver Federal Center, Building 56, Room 2300, P.O. Box 25426, Denver, CO 80225–0426, (720) 544–2903/TDD (800) 659–3656.

Delaware/Maryland

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, 3400 NW 25th Place, P.O. Box 147010, Gainesville, FL 32614–7010, (352) 338–3400/TDD (352) 338–3499.

Hawaii
USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Room 311, 154 Waiauaneee Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720, (808) 933–8302/TDD (808) 933–8321.

Idaho

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

Indiana

Iowa

Kansas

DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE
Forest Service
White Pine-Nye County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC)
AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.
ACTION: Notice of meeting.
SUMMARY: The White Pine-Nye County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will hold a meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on March 2nd, 2011 and will begin at 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in Eureka County at the Eureka Opera House, 31 S. Main Street, Eureka, Nevada 89316.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jose Noriega, RAC Coordinator, USDA, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Ely Ranger District, 825 Avenue E Ely, NV 89301 (775) 289–3031; e-mail jnoriega@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Agenda items include: (1) Review and approve operating guidelines, (2) Review and approve meeting and business expenses, (3) Review and recommend funding allocation for proposed projects, (4) Determine timeframes for the next round of project proposals, (5) Public Comment. 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: February 4, 2011.
Tyrone Kelley,
Forest Supervisor.

For Further Information Contact:
Advisory Committee (RAC)
White Pine-Nye County Resource
Forest Service
BILLING CODE 3410–11–P
Kentucky

Louisiana

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, 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) 324–5119.

Minnesota

Mississippi
USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Suite 831, 100 West Capitol Street, Jackson, MS 39269, (601) 965–4211/TDD (601) 965–5830.

Missouri

Montana

Nebraska
USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Room 150, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, NE 68508, (308) 382–2195/TDD (402) 437–5093.

Nevada
USDA Rural Development State Office, 1390 South Curry Street, Carson City, NV 89703–9910, (775) 887–1222/TDD (775) 885–0633.

New Jersey
USDA Rural Development State Office, 8000 Midlantic Drive, 5th Floor North, Suite 500, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054, (856) 787–7700/TDD (856) 787–7784.

New Mexico

New York

North Carolina

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.

Ohio

Oklahoma

Oregon

Pennsylvania

Puerto Rico

South Carolina

South Dakota

Tennessee
USDA Rural Development State Office, 3322 West End Avenue, Suite 300, Nashville, TN 37203–1071, (615) 783–1300.

Texas
USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Suite 102, 101 South Main, Temple, TX 76501, (254) 742–9700/TDD (254) 742–9712.

Utah
USDA Rural Development State Office, Wallace F. Bennett Federal Building, 125 South State Street, Room 4311, Salt Lake City, UT 84138, (801) 524–4321/TDD (801) 524–3309.

Vermont/New Hampshire
USDA Rural Development State Office, City Center, 3rd Floor, 89 Main Street, Montpelier, VT 05602, (802) 828–6080/TDD (802) 223–6365.

Virginia

Washington

West Virginia
USDA Rural Development State Office, 1550 Earl Core Road, Suite 101, Morgantown, WV 26505, (304) 284–4860/TDD (304) 284–4836.

Wisconsin
USDA Rural Development State Office, 4949 Kirschling Court, Stevens Point, WI 54481, (715) 345–7600/TDD (715) 345–7614.

Wyoming
USDA Rural Development State Office, P.O. Box 11005, 100 East B, Federal Building, Room 1405, Casper, WY 82601, (307) 233–6703/TDD (307) 233–6733.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Rural Development State Office identified in this Notice where the project will be located.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Overview
Federal Agency: Rural Business-Cooperative Service.
Funding Opportunity Type: Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants.
Announcement Type: Initial Announcement.
Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 10.854.
Dates: Application Deadline: Completed applications must be received in the State Office as follows: Third Quarter, March 31, 2011; and Fourth Quarter, June 30, 2011.

I. Funding Opportunity Description

The regulations for these programs are at 7 CFR part 4280, subpart A. The primary objective of the program is to promote rural economic development and job creation projects. Assistance provided to rural areas, as defined, under this program may include business startup costs, business expansion, business incubators, technical assistance feasibility studies, advanced telecommunications services and computer networks for medical, educational, and job training services and community facilities projects for economic development. Awards are made on a competitive basis using specific selection criteria contained in 7 CFR part 4280, subpart A. Information

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required to be in the application includes an SF—424, “Application for Federal Assistance,” a Resolution of the Board of Directors; AD—1047, “Debarment/Suspension Certification;” Assurance Statement for the Uniform Act; Restrictions on Lobbying, AD 1049, “Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements;” Form RD 400–1, “Equal Opportunity Agreement;” Form RD 400–4, “Assurance Agreement;” Seismic Certification (if construction); Form RD 1940–20, “Request for Environmental Information;” RUS Form 7, “Financial and Statistical Report;” and RUS Form 7a, “Investments, Loan Guarantees, and Loans,” or similar information; and written narrative of project description. Applications will be tentatively scored by the State Offices and submitted to the National Office for review.

Definitions

The definitions are published at 7 CFR 4280.3.

II. Award Information

Type of Awards: Loans and Grants. Fiscal Year Funds: FY 2011. Maximum Anticipated Award: This amount depends on the amount Congress appropriates, but the Agency anticipates the following amounts:

Loans—$740,000; Grant—$300,000.

Anticipated Award Dates: Third Quarter, June 15, 2011; and Fourth Quarter, September 15, 2011.

III. Eligibility Information

A. Eligible Applicants

Loans and grants may be made to any entity that is identified by USDA Rural Development as an eligible borrower under the Rural Electrification Act. In accordance with 7 CFR 4280.13, applicants that are not delinquent on any Federal debt or otherwise disqualified from participation in these programs are eligible to apply. An applicant must be eligible under 7 U.S.C. 940c.

B. Cost Sharing or Matching

For loans, either the Ultimate Recipient or the Intermediary must provide supplemental funds for the project equal to at least 20 percent of the loan to the Intermediary. For grants, the Intermediary must provide supplemental funds for the project equal to at least 20 percent of the grant to the Intermediary.

C. Other Eligibility Requirements

Applications will only be accepted for projects that promote rural economic development and job creation.

D. Completeness Eligibility

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

IV. Fiscal Year 2011 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 Notice to obtain copies of the application package.

Applications are encouraged to submit applications through the Web site at: http://www.grants.gov. Applications may be submitted in either electronic or paper format. Users of Grants.gov will be able to download a copy of the application package, complete it off line, and then upload and submit the application via the Grants.gov Web site. Applications may not be submitted by electronic mail.

• When you enter the Grants.gov Web site, you will find information about submitting an application electronically through the site as well as the hours of operation. USDA Rural Development strongly recommends that you do not wait until the application deadline date to begin the application process through Grants.gov. To use Grants.gov, applicants must have a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number which can be obtained at no cost via a toll-free request line at 1–866–705–5711 or at http://www.dnb.com.

• You may submit all documents electronically through the Web site, including all information typically included on the application for REDLGs and all necessary assurances and certifications.

• After electronically submitting an application through the Web site, the applicant will receive an automatic acknowledgement from Grants.gov that contains a Grants.gov tracking number.

• USDA Rural Development may request that the applicant provide original signatures on forms at a later date.

• If applicants experience technical difficulties on the closing date and are unable to meet the deadline, you may submit a paper copy of your application to your respective Rural Development State Office. Paper applications submitted to a Rural Development State Office must meet the closing date and local time deadline.

Please note that applicants must locate the downloadable application package for this program by the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number or FedGrants Funding Opportunity Number, which can be found at http://www.grants.gov.

B. Content and Form of Submission

An application must contain all of the required elements. Each selection priority criterion outlined in 7 CFR 4280.42(b), 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 4280, subpart A, 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


Explanation of Deadlines:

Applications must be in the Rural Development State Office by the deadline dates as indicated above.

V. Application Review Information

The National Office will score applications based on the grant selection criteria and weights contained in 7 CFR part 4280, subpart A, and will select an Intermediary subject to the Intermediary’s satisfactory submission of the additional items required by 7 CFR part 4280, subpart A and the USDA Rural Development Letter of Conditions.

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 loan/grant award will be approved. Provided the application requirements have not changed, an application not selected will be reconsidered in three subsequent funding competitions for a total of four competitions. If an application is withdrawn, it can be resubmitted and will be evaluated as a new application.

B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Additional requirements that apply to Intermediary’s selected for this program can be found in 7 CFR part 4280, subpart A. Applicable provisions of 7 CFR parts 3015, 3019, and 3052 also apply.

VII. Agency Contacts

For general questions about this announcement, please contact your
The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).


Title: Pacific Tuna Fisheries Logbook.

OMB Control Number: 0648–0148.

Form Number(s): NA.

Type of Request: Regular submission (extension of a current information collection).

Number of Respondents: 15.

Average Hours per Response: 5 minutes.

Burden Hours: 106.

Needs and Uses: United States (U.S.) participation in the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) results in certain recordkeeping requirements for U.S. fishermen who fish in the IATTC’s area of management responsibility. These fishermen must maintain a log of all operations conducted from the fishing vessel, including the date, noon position, and the tonnage of fish aboard the vessel, by species. The logbook form provided by the IATTC is universally used by U.S. fishermen to meet this recordkeeping requirement. The information in the logbooks includes areas and times of operation, and catch and effort by area. Logbook data are used in stock assessments and other research concerning the fishery. If the data were not collected or if erroneous data were provided, the IATTC assessments would likely be incorrect and there would be an increased risk of overfishing or inadequate management of the fishery.

Affected Public: Business or other nonprofit organizations.

Frequency: Daily.

Respondent’s Obligation: Mandatory.

OMB Desk Officer:

OIRA Submission@omb.eop.gov.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482–0266, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@dol.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to OIRA Submission@omb.eop.gov.

Dated: February 9, 2011.

Gwennar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Written comments must be submitted on or before April 15, 2011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to David A. Ritchie, U.S. Department of Commerce, Office of Technology and Electronic Commerce, Telephone: 202–482–4936; e-mail: david.ritchie@trade.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Office of Technology and Electronic Commerce in the Manufacturing and Services unit of the International Trade Administration (ITIA) administers the U.S.-European Union (EU) and U.S.-Swiss Safe Harbor Frameworks. These Frameworks allow U.S. companies to meet the requirements of the European Union’s Data Protection Directive and the Swiss Federal Act on Data Protection, respectively. This is significant because the Frameworks ensure uninterrupted transfers of personal information worth billions of dollars in trade between the United States and the EU and Switzerland.

In line with the President’s National Export Initiative, ITIA is interested in gathering information from U.S. companies that use the U.S.-EU and U.S.-Swiss Safe Harbor Frameworks to better evaluate the programs and how they support U.S. exports. The information will be obtained via a survey using the following questions:

(1) Does your company’s participation in the U.S.-EU or U.S.-Swiss Safe Harbor programs help your company increase U.S. exports and support U.S. jobs? Please explain.

(2) Please specify the approximate amount of exports in United States Dollars (USD) facilitated by your company’s participation in the U.S.-EU or U.S.-Swiss Safe Harbor programs...