DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Secretary
Forestry Research Advisory Council

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to re-establish an advisory council and call for nominations

SUMMARY: The Department of Agriculture intends to re-establish the Forestry Research Advisory Council (Council). In accordance with provisions of Section 1441(c) of the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (Pub. L. 97–98), and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), (5 U.S.C. App. 2), the Council is being re-established to provide advice to the Secretary of Agriculture on accomplishing efficiently the purposes of the Act of October 10, 1962 (16 U.S.C. 582a, et seq.), commonly known as the McIntire-Stennis Act of 1962. The Council also provides advice relative to the Forest Service research program, authorized by the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95–307, 92 Stat.353, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1600 (note)). Therefore, the Secretary of Agriculture is seeking nominations to fill six vacancies on the Council, and five additional vacancies that will occur when current appointments expire in December 2013.

DATES: Written nominations must be received by April 29, 2013. Nominations must contain a completed application packet that includes the nominee’s name, resume, and completed form AD–755 (Advisory Committee Membership Background Information). The package must be sent to the address below.

ADDRESSES: Daina Dravnieks Apple, USDA Forest Service, Office of the Deputy Chief, Research and Development, 1601 North Kent Street, 4th Floor, Arlington, Virginia 22209 by express mail or overnight courier service. If sent via the U.S. Postal Service, they must be sent to the following address: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Office of the Deputy Chief, Research and Development, Mail Stop 1120, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250–1120.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daina Dravnieks Apple, USDA Forest Service, Office of the Deputy Chief, Research and Development, Telephone: (202) 205–1665, Email: dapple@fs.fed.us. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

In accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended (5 U.S.C. App. 2), the Secretary of Agriculture intends to re-establish the Forestry Research Advisory Council (FRAC). The Council, a statutory committee, will continue to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on regional and national research planning and coordination of forestry research within the Federal and State agencies, forestry schools, forest industries, and non-governmental organizations. The Council may fulfill its responsibility to consult on a periodic or regular basis on appropriation of funds.

Advocacy Council Organization

The Council will be comprised of not more than 20 members. The members appointed to the Council will be fairly balanced in terms of the points of view represented, functions to be performed, and will represent a broad array of expertise, leadership and relevancy to a membership category. Geographic balance and a balanced distribution among the categories are also important. The Council shall include five representatives each in the following categories: (1) Federal and State Agencies; (2) Industry; (3) Academic; and (4) Voluntary Organization. The Council members will serve staggered terms up to 3 years, and will meet annually, or as often as necessary and at such times as designated by the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). No individual who is currently registered as a Federal lobbyist is eligible to serve as a member of the Council.

The appointment of members to the Council will be made by the Secretary of Agriculture. Vacancies on the Council will be filled in the manner in which the original appointment was made. Any individual or organization may nominate one or more qualified persons to serve on the Council. Individuals may also nominate themselves. Nominations for one individual who fits several of the categories or for more than one person who fits one category will be accepted. To be considered for membership, nominees must submit a:

1. Resume describing qualifications for membership to the Council;
2. Cover letter with a rationale for serving on the Council and what you can contribute;
3. Indication of the specific membership category of your interest; and
4. Complete form AD–755, Advisory Committee Membership Background Information. The form AD–755 may be obtained from the Forest Service contact person or from the following Web site: http://www.usda.gov/documents/OCIO_AD_755_Master_2012.pdf;
5. Letters of recommendations are welcome.

All nominations will be vetted by USDA. Nominations are open to all individuals without regard for race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, mental or physical handicap, marital status, or sexual orientation. Nominations are being solicited from universities, organizations, associations, societies, councils, federations, groups, and companies that represent a wide variety of forestry research interests throughout the country. Members of the Council will serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for travel expenses while performing duties on behalf of the Council, subject to approval by the DFO. A meeting notice will be published in the Federal Register 15 to 45 days before a scheduled meeting date. All meetings are generally open to the public and may include a “public forum” that may offer 5–10 minutes for participants to present comments to the advisory committee. The Chairperson of the given Council ultimately makes the decision whether to offer time on the agenda for the public to speak to the general body.

Equal opportunity practices, in line with USDA policies, will be followed in
all appointments to the advisory committee. To ensure that the recommendations of the FRAC have taken into account the needs of diverse groups served by the Department, membership will, to the extent practicable, include individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.


Gregory Parham,
Acting Assistant Secretary for Administration.

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BILLING CODE 3410–11–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Research Service

Notice of Intent To Grant Exclusive License

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent.


DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 12, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to: USDA, ARS, Office of Technology Transfer, 5601 Sunnyside Avenue, Rm. 4–1174, Beltsville, Maryland 20705–5131.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: June Blalock of the Office of Technology Transfer at the Beltsville address given above; telephone: 301–504–5989.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: The Federal Government’s patent rights in these inventions are assigned to the United States of America, as represented by the Secretary of Agriculture. It is in the public interest to so license these inventions as Lysando AG of Triesenberg, Liechtenstein has submitted a complete and sufficient application for a license. The prospective exclusive license will be royalty-bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective exclusive license may be granted unless, within thirty (30) days from the date of this published Notice, the Agricultural Research Service receives written evidence and argument which establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

Robert Griesbach,
Assistant Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request—Impact of Implementation of the Affordable Care Act on SNAP Operations and Participation

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice invites the general public and other public agencies to comment on this proposed information collection. This is a new collection for research on the impact of implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) on the operations of, and participation in, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Written comments must be received on or before May 13, 2013.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 12, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to: USDA, FNS, Office of Management and Budget, Park Center Drive, Room 1014, Alexandria, Virginia 22302. Information requests should be directed to Steven Carlson at 703–305–2576 or via email to Steve.Carlson@fns.usda.gov. Comments will also be accepted through the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Go to http://www.regulations.gov, and follow the online instructions for submitting comments electronically.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of this information collection should be directed to Steven Carlson at 703–305–2017. Information requests submitted through email should refer to the title of this proposed collection and/ or the OMB approval number in the subject line.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Impact of Implementation of the Affordable Care Act on SNAP Operations and Participation.

OMB Number: 0584—NEW.

Expiration Date: Not Yet Determined.

Type of Request: New Collection.

Abstract: The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the USDA’s largest nutrition program, helping over 46 million low-income Americans (in fiscal year 2012) to purchase food. The program, administered by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), is designed to respond to broad economic and individual circumstances as they change over time. The program’s operating environment will be influenced importantly by the implementation of the ACA. This study will assess the impact of ACA implementation on participation in the SNAP among nonelderly, non-disabled adults, ages 19–64. This issue has major significance not only in its implications for Federal and State