

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

Tongass Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Tongass Advisory Committee (Committee) will meet in Juneau, Alaska. The Committee is established consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (5 U.S.C. App. 2). Committee recommendations and advice may directly inform the development of a proposed action for modification of the 2008 Tongass Land Management Plan. The meeting is open to the public. Additional information concerning the Committee, including the meeting summary/minutes, can be found by visiting the Committee's Web site at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/R10/Tongass/TAC>.

DATES: The meeting will be held on:

- February 17, 2015 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (AKDT).
- February 18, 2015 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (AKDT).
- February 19, 2015 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (AKDT).

All meetings are subject to change and cancellation. For updated status of the meetings prior to attendance, please visit the Web site listed in the **SUMMARY** section, or contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Extended Stay America, 1800 Shell Simmons Drive, Juneau, Alaska 99801. Written comments may be submitted as described under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. All comments, including names and addresses when provided, are placed in the record and available for public inspection and copying. The public may inspect comments received at the Tongass National Forest Office.

Please call ahead to facilitate entry into the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Marina Whitacre, Committee Coordinator, by phone at 907-772-5934, or by email at mwhitacre@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 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the meeting is to:

- (1) Finalize recommendations on Plan Amendment components (e.g., standards and guidelines, LUDs, land base, CMAI, etc.);
- (2) Implement strategy discussions;
- (3) Prepare for release of final recommendations package.

There will be time allotted on the agenda for oral public comment. Those interested can register at the meeting. In addition, written statements may be filed with the Committee's staff before or after the meeting. Written comments may also be submitted by mail to Jason Anderson, Designated Federal Officer, Tongass National Forest, P.O. Box 309, Petersburg, Alaska 99833; or email to jasonanderson@fs.fed.us, or facsimile to 907-772-5895. Summary/minutes of the meeting will be posted on the Web site listed above within 45 days after the meeting.

Delayed Notice: Due to organizational changes within the agency, and recent changes to meeting location and dates to accommodate committee participation, this notice has not been published within 15 calendar-days of the February meeting.

Meeting Accommodations: If you are a person requiring reasonable accommodation, please make requests in advance for sign language interpreting, assistive listening devices or other reasonable accommodation for access to the facility or proceedings by contacting the person listed in the section titled **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. All reasonable accommodation requests are managed on a case-by-case basis.

Dated: February 6, 2015.

Angela V. Coleman,

Acting Chief of Staff, Forest Service.

[FR Doc. 2015-02870 Filed 2-10-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3411-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Opportunity for Designation in the Topeka, KS; Cedar Rapids, IA; Minot, ND; and Cincinnati, OH, Areas; Request for Comments on the Official Agencies Servicing These Areas

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The designations of the official agencies listed below will end on June 30, 2015. We are asking persons or governmental agencies interested in providing official services in the areas presently served by these agencies to submit an application for designation. In addition, we are asking for comments on the quality of services provided by the following designated agencies: Kansas Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Kansas); Mid-Iowa Grain Inspection, Inc. (Mid-Iowa); Minot Grain Inspection, Inc. (Minot); and Tri-State Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Tri-State).

DATES: Applications and comments must be received by March 13, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Submit applications and comments concerning this Notice using any of the following methods:

- *Applying for Designation on the Internet:* Use FGISonline (https://fgis.gipsa.usda.gov/default_home_FGIS.aspx) and then click on the Delegations/Designations and Export Registrations (DDR) link. You will need to obtain an FGISonline customer number and USDA eAuthentication username and password prior to applying.

- *Submit Comments Using the Internet:* Go to Regulations.gov (<http://www.regulations.gov>). Instructions for submitting and reading comments are detailed on the site.

- *Mail, Courier or Hand Delivery:* Eric J. Jabs, Deputy Director, USDA, GIPSA, FGIS, QACD, 10383 North Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO 64153.

- *Fax:* Eric J. Jabs, 816-872-1257.

- *Email:* Eric.J.Jabs@usda.gov.

Read Applications and Comments: All applications and comments will be available for public inspection at the office above during regular business hours (7 CFR 1.27(c)).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eric J. Jabs, 816-659-8408 or Eric.J.Jabs@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 79(f) of the United States Grain Standards Act (USGSA) authorizes the Secretary to designate a qualified applicant to provide official services in a specified area after determining that the applicant is better able than any other applicant to provide such official services (7 U.S.C. 79(f)). Under section 79(g) of the USGSA, designations of official agencies are effective for three years unless terminated by the Secretary, but may be renewed according to the criteria and procedures prescribed in section 79(f) of the USGSA.

Areas Open for Designation

Kansas

Pursuant to section 79(f)(2) of the United States Grain Standards Act, the following geographic area, in the States of Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, and Wyoming are assigned to this official agency.

In Colorado

The entire State of Colorado.

In Kansas

The entire State of Kansas.

In Nebraska

Bounded on the North by the northern Scotts Bluff County line; the northern Morrill County line east to Highway 385;

Bounded on the East by Highway 385 south to the northern Cheyenne County line; the northern and eastern Cheyenne County lines; the northern and eastern Deuel County lines;

Bounded on the South by the southern Deuel, Cheyenne, and Kimball County lines; and

Bounded on the West by the western Kimball, Banner, and Scotts Bluff County lines.

In Wyoming

Goshen, Laramie, and Platt Counties.

The following grain elevators are not part of this geographic area assignment and are assigned to: Hastings Grain Inspection, Inc.; Farmers Coop and Big Springs Elevator, Big Springs, Deuel County, Nebraska.

Mid-Iowa

Pursuant to section 79(f)(2) of the United States Grain Standards Act, the following geographic area, in the States of Minnesota and Iowa, is assigned to this official agency.

In Minnesota

Wabasha, Olmstead, Winona, Houston, and Fillmore Counties.

In Iowa

Bounded on the North by the northern Winneshiek and Allamakee County lines;

Bounded on the East by the eastern Allamakee County line; the eastern and southern Clayton County lines; the eastern Buchanan County line; the northern and eastern Jones County lines; the eastern Cedar County line south to State Route 130;

Bounded on the South by State Route 130 west to State Route 38; State Route 38 south to Interstate 80; Interstate 80 west to U.S. Route 63; and

Bounded on the West by U.S. Route 63 north to State Route 8; State Route 8 east to State Route 21; State Route 21 north to D38; D38 east to State Route 297; State Route 297 north to V49; V49 north to Bremer County; the southern Bremer County line; the western Fayette and Winneshiek County lines.

Minot

Pursuant to section 79(f)(2) of the United States Grain Standards Act, the following geographic area, in the State of North Dakota, is assigned to this official agency.

In North Dakota

Bounded on the North by the North Dakota State line east to the eastern Bottineau County line;

Bounded on the East by the eastern Bottineau County line south to the northern Pierce County line; the northern Pierce County line east to State Route 3; State Route 3 south to State Route 200;

Bounded on the South by State Route 200 west to State Route 41; State Route 41 south to U.S. Route 83; U.S. Route 83 northwest to State Route 200; State Route 200 west to U.S. Route 85; U.S. Route 85 south to Interstate 94; Interstate 94 west to the North Dakota State line; and

Bounded on the West by the North Dakota State line.

The following grain elevators are part of this geographic area assignment. In Grain Inspection, Inc.'s, area: Benson Quinn Company, Underwood, McLean County; and Falkirk Farmers Elevator, Washburn, McLean County, North Dakota.

Tri-State

Pursuant to section 79(f)(2) of the United States Grain Standards Act, the following geographic area, in the States of Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio, is assigned to this official agency.

In Indiana

Dearborn, Decatur, Franklin, Ohio, Ripley, Rush (south of State Route 244), and Switzerland Counties.

In Kentucky

Bath, Boone, Bourbon, Bracken, Campbell, Clark, Fleming, Gallatin, Grant, Harrison, Kenton, Lewis (west of State Route 59), Mason, Montgomery, Nicholas, Owen, Pendleton, and Robertson Counties.

In Ohio

Bounded on the North by the northern Preble County line east; the western and northern Miami County lines east to State Route 296; State Route 296 east to State Route 560; State Route 560 south to the Clark County line; the northern Clark County line east to U.S. Route 68;

Bounded on the East by U.S. Route 68 south to U.S. Route 22; U.S. Route 22 east to State Route 73; State Route 73 southeast to the Adams County line; the eastern Adams County line;

Bounded on the South by the southern Adams, Brown, Clermont, and Hamilton County lines; and

Bounded on the West by the western Hamilton, Butler, and Preble County lines.

Opportunity for Designation

Interested persons or governmental agencies may apply for designation to provide official services in the geographic areas specified above under the provisions of section 79(f) of the USGSA and 7 CFR 800.196. Designation in the specified geographic areas is for the period beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2018. To apply for designation or for more information, contact Eric J. Jabs at the address listed above or visit GIPSA's Web site at <http://www.gipsa.usda.gov>.

Request for Comments

We are publishing this Notice to provide interested persons the opportunity to comment on the quality of services provided by the Kansas, Mid-Iowa, Minot, and Tri-State official agencies. In the designation process, we are particularly interested in receiving comments citing reasons and pertinent data supporting or objecting to the designation of the applicants. Submit all comments to Eric J. Jabs at the above address or at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

We consider applications, comments, and other available information when determining which applicants will be designated.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 71–87k.

Larry Mitchell,

Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.

[FR Doc. 2015–02744 Filed 2–10–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–KD–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of Advocacy and Outreach

[FOA No.: OAO–00009]

Funding Opportunity Announcement

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) No.: 10.464—Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers Policy Research Center.

AGENCY: Office of Advocacy and Outreach (OAO), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA).

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of funds and solicits applications from eligible institutions to compete for financial assistance in the form of a grant to establish a Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers Policy Research Center (The Center) at an 1890 Institution (as defined in 7 U.S.C. 7601).

Authority: The Agricultural Act of 2014, Title XII, Subtitle B, provides funding for a “Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers Policy Research Center.” Section 12203 directs the Secretary to award a grant to a college or university eligible to receive funds under the Act of August 30, 1890 [Second Morrill Act] (7 U.S.C. 321 *et seq.*), including Tuskegee University, to establish a policy research center to be known as the “Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers Policy Research Center” for the purpose of developing policy recommendations for the protection and promotion of the interests of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.

The Center will collect and analyze data, develop policy recommendations, and evaluate policy concerning socially disadvantaged farmer and rancher issues. “Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers” is defined in 7 U.S.C. 2279.

We will award \$400,000 in fiscal year (FY) 2015, ending September 30. Additional funds may be awarded to the successful grantee through FY 2018 without further competition.

DATES: Proposals must be received by April 13, 2015, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST), at www.grants.gov. Proposals received after this deadline will *not* be considered for funding.

ADDRESSES:

How to File a Complaint of Discrimination: To file a complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which may be accessed online at http://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain_combined_6_8_12.pdf, or write a letter signed by you or your authorized representative.

Send your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by mail, fax, or email:

Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250–9410/.

Fax: (202) 690–7442.

Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Agency Contact: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Advocacy and Outreach, Attn: Kenya Nicholas, Program Director, Whitten Building Room 520–A, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250, Phone: (202) 720–6350, Fax: (202) 720–7136, Email: OASDVFR2015@osec.usda.gov.

Persons with Disabilities: Persons who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.), should contact USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice and TDD).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Funding/Awards

The total funding available for this competitive opportunity is \$400,000. The OAO will award one new grant from this announcement.

Contents of This Announcement

- I. Funding Opportunity Description
- II. Award Information
- III. Eligibility Information
- IV. Proposal and Submission Information
- V. Competitive Review and Evaluation Criteria
- VI. Award Administration Information

I. Funding Opportunity Description

USDA’s Office of Advocacy and Outreach (OAO) invites submission of proposals for a competitive grant award to establish a new USDA Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers Policy Research Center (The Center). The Center will specialize in policy research impacting socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. Land loss, land retention, and access to local, state, and federal programs will be major areas of research and policy development. The Center’s director and staff will have experience and/or education required to understand the socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers communities. The Center will propose how they will work with other

institutions, as appropriate, inside and outside the land grant community.

Proposed recommendations resulting from the following list of activities, including but not limited to, shall be submitted to the Director of OAO:

- Analyze current agriculture policy and its implications on socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.
- Collect data on where USDA meetings are being held, and how socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers participate.
- Make recommendations on improving participation rates of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.
- Provide recommendations on how to improve diversity of county office staff and committees.
- Provide recommendations on actions to improve USDA program agencies’ outreach and technical assistance to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.
- Collect data on the history of the education of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and evaluate the results of past educational efforts in the South and the ability of higher education institutions to meet the educational needs of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers today.
- Collect data on how socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers receive agricultural information.
- Determine how many socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers have access to information technology equipment and broadband.
- Determine how many socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers have received training on the use of information technology (IT) equipment and provide recommendations on ways to increase the utilization of IT for their farming organizations.
- Provide recommendations on improving the application approval process for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers applying for USDA assistance. Determine how past discrimination impacts access to present programs and provide recommendations to improve participation among socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.
- Collect data on the reasons for the decline of farm, ranch, and land ownership by socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. Provide recommendations on how to track and maintain current data on the number and location of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.
- Analyze data collected from all sources, and develop policy recommendations that will enable socially disadvantaged farmers and