

# Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 88, No. 97

Friday, May 19, 2023

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

### Office of the Secretary

#### Meeting Notice of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board

**AGENCY:** Research, Education, and Economics, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, section 1408 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977, and the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announces a meeting of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics (NAREEE) Advisory Board.

**DATES:** The NAREEE Advisory Board will meet in person on June 6–7, 2023.

**Public Participation/Oral Comments:** This meeting is open to the public. Interested individuals may participate in-person or virtually. To attend the meeting via Zoom and/or make oral comments, you must contact Ms. Michele Simmons at email: [nareee@usda.gov](mailto:nareee@usda.gov) at least 5 business days prior to the meeting (no later than May 30, 2023).

**Written Comments:** The public may file written comments no later than May 30, 2023. Written comments from the public may be submitted via email at [nareee@usda.gov](mailto:nareee@usda.gov) to the attention of Ms. Michele Simmons.

All statements will become a part of the official record of the NAREEE Advisory Board and will be kept on file for public review in the NAREEE Advisory Board's Office. Written comments by attendees and other interested stakeholders will be welcomed for the public record before and up to two weeks following the Board meeting (no later than 5 p.m.

eastern standard time on Wednesday, June 21, 2023).

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting location on June 6, 2023: USDA Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Room 107–A, Washington, DC 20250. The meeting location on June 7, 2023: USDA, Yates Building, 201 14th Street SW, Room 2SC01, Washington, DC 20250.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Kate Lewis, Executive Director/ Designated Federal Official, or Ms. Michele Simmons, Program Support Coordinator, National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board; telephone: (202) 579–6610 or email: [nareee@usda.gov](mailto:nareee@usda.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Purpose of the meeting:** The Board will meet to provide advice and recommendations on the top priorities and policies for food and agricultural research, education, extension, and economics. The main focus of this meeting will be to receive updates from the REE Under Secretary and the leadership from the REE agencies; discuss the Board's plan for their annual Relevancy and Adequacy (R&A) assessment of REE's main science and research priorities; and hear updates from the Board's committees and subcommittees.

An agenda for this two-day meeting may be received by sending an email to the attention of Ms. Michele Simmons @ [nareee@usda.gov](mailto:nareee@usda.gov)

USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the

Federal Relay Service at (800) 877–8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

Equal opportunity practices in accordance with USDA's policies will be followed in all appointments to the Committee. To ensure that the recommendations of the Committee have taken in account the needs of the diverse groups served by USDA, membership shall include to the extent possible, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women and person with disabilities. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Dated: May 16, 2023.

**Cikena Reid,**

*USDA Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2023–10727 Filed 5–18–23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410–03–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food and Nutrition Service

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program and WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) Waivers

**AGENCY:** Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), 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 a proposed information collection. This collection is a new information collection for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) which contains the reporting burden associated with requesting waivers of WIC and WIC FMNP Program requirements as authorized under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and the American Baby Formula Act of 2022. In order to receive waivers authorized by these statutes, WIC and WIC FMNP State agencies must submit a request that establishes that they have met the requirements for a waiver.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before July 18, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** The Food and Nutrition Services, USDA, invites interested persons to submit written comments.

- *Preferred Method:* Federal eRulemaking Portal. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and follow the online instructions for submitting comments electronically.

- *Mail:* Send comments to: Allison Post, Chief, WIC Administration, Benefits, and Certification Branch, Policy Division, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1320 Braddock Place, Alexandria, VA 22314.

- *Email:* email comments to [Allison.Post@usda.gov](mailto:Allison.Post@usda.gov)

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will be a matter of public record.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Requests for additional information or copies of this information collection should be directed to Allison Post at (703) 457-7708 or [Allison.Post@usda.gov](mailto:Allison.Post@usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions that were used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

*Title:* Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program and WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) Waivers.

*Form Number:* Not applicable.

*OMB Number:* 0584-NEW.

*Expiration Date:* Not yet determined.

*Type of Request:* New collection.

*Abstract:* Recently, USDA received legislative authority to grant waivers to the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) State agencies. The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA; Pub. L. 117-2) grants temporary waiver authority to WIC and WIC FMNP for the purpose of outreach,

modernization, and innovation and The Access to Baby Formula Act of 2022 (ABFA; Pub. L. 117-129) grants permanent waiver authority to WIC during certain emergencies and supply chain disruptions. This burden collection covers activities associated with the waiver request process.

**American Rescue Plan Act of 2022**

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA; Pub. L. 117-2). ARPA amends Section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (CNA; Pub. L. 111-296) to provide WIC and WIC FMNP \$390 million through FY 2024, to carry out outreach, innovation, and program modernization efforts, including appropriate waivers and flexibilities, to increase participation and redemption of benefits. The waiver authority provided under ARPA does not apply to the content of the WIC food packages, funding or regulatory nondiscrimination requirements. In order to request and utilize approved waivers under the authority of ARPA, WIC and WIC FMNP State agencies will be required to perform administrative tasks that will contribute to their reporting burden hours.

ARPA waivers are intended to provide flexibility to WIC and WIC FMNP State agencies as they carry out outreach, innovation, and program modernization efforts. In coordination with ARPA-funded projects, FNS anticipates that WIC and WIC FMNP State agencies will request waivers that will allow them to implement the grant-funded projects. Additionally, FNS anticipates that WIC and WIC FMNP State agencies will be interested in testing modernization projects that will not require funding, such as extending WIC certification periods to align household certification periods. FNS will offer three types of waivers to State agencies under ARPA's authority: (1) waivers requiring additional information, (2) accelerated waivers, and (3) ad hoc waivers.

Waiver requests requiring additional information are waivers identified and pre-cleared by FNS as allowable under ARPA's waiver authority for State agencies to request but require State agencies to provide supplemental information to support their request. These waiver requests are estimated to take 1 hour to complete. FNS estimates that all 89 WIC State agencies and 51 WIC FMNP State agencies will request an average of 5 waivers requiring additional information annually. Like waiver requests requiring additional information, accelerated waivers are waivers identified and pre-cleared by

FNS as allowable under ARPA's waiver authority. Unlike waiver requests requiring additional information, these waivers will not require State agencies to submit additional information along with their request. It is estimated that State agencies will take 10 minutes to fill out a request form for an accelerated waiver. FNS estimates that all 89 WIC State agencies and 51 WIC FMNP State agencies will request an average of 4 accelerated waivers annually. Finally, FNS will also offer additional, novel waivers at the request of the State agency that do not fall under the waivers requiring additional information and accelerated waivers as they have not already been identified and pre-cleared by FNS as allowable under ARPA's waiver authority. These ad hoc waivers will meet the specific needs of the State agency to implement innovative and modern WIC and WIC FMNP enhancements. It is estimated that the ad hoc waiver requests will take 2 hours to complete. FNS anticipates that 10 WIC State agencies and 5 WIC FMNP State agencies will request an average of 1 ad hoc waiver annually. The estimated total burden for ARPA waiver requests is 823.52 burden hours.

**Access to Baby Formula Act of 2022 Waiver Authority**

On May 21, 2022, President Biden signed into law the Access to Baby Formula Act of 2022 (ABFA; Pub. L. 117-129). ABFA amends section 17 of the CNA to establish waiver authority for the Secretary of Agriculture to address certain emergencies, disasters, and supply chain disruptions impacting WIC.

USDA has authority under ABFA to waive or modify any statutory requirement under section 17 of the CNA or any regulatory requirement, provided that the following two conditions are met: (1) such requirements cannot be met by WIC state agencies under the conditions that prompted either the emergency period or the supply chain disruption, including a supplemental food product recall, and (2) exercising the waiver authority is necessary to serve participants and does not substantially weaken the nutritional quality of supplemental foods. ABFA also provides USDA with the ability to issue the waiver or modification to multiple WIC State agencies or on a nationwide basis.

To request and utilize approved waivers under the authority of ABFA, WIC State agencies will be required to perform administrative tasks that will contribute to their reporting burden hours. FNS estimates that 10 WIC State

agencies will request an average of three waivers each in response to emergencies, disasters, and supply chain disruptions. It is estimated that State agencies will take 15 minutes to fill out one request form. The estimated total burden is 7.5 burden hours.

**Affected Public:** State and Tribal government. Respondent groups include WIC and WIC FMNP State agencies (including Indian Tribal Organizations and U.S. Territories).

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** The total estimated number of

respondents is 140 for the proposed information collection request associated with OMB Number 0584-NEW. This includes: 89 WIC State agencies and 51 WIC FMNP State agencies.

**Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:** The total estimated number of responses per respondent for this collection is 9.32.

**Estimated Total Annual Responses:** The total estimated number of responses is 1,305 for the proposed information

collection request associated with OMB Number 0584-NEW.

**Estimated Time per Response:** The estimated time per response averages .64 hours across waiver types. For the reporting burden, the estimated time per response varies from approximately 10 minutes to 2 hours depending on the waiver type being requested.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:** The estimated total for reporting burden is 831 hours.

See the table below for more detail on the estimated total annual burden.

WIC AND WIC FMNP WAIVER BURDEN TABLE—OMB# 0584-NEW

Affected public	Instruments	Est. Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Total annual responses	Est. total hours per response	Est. total burden
<b>ARPA</b>						
WIC State Program Staff ....	Accelerated waivers .....	89	4	356	0.17	59.45
WIC State Program Staff ....	Waivers requiring additional information.	89	5	445	1	445.00
WIC State Program Staff ....	Ad hoc waivers .....	10	1	10	2	20.00
WIC FMNP State Program Staff.	Accelerated waivers .....	51	4	204	0.17	34.07
WIC FMNP State Program Staff.	Waivers requiring additional information.	51	5	255	1	255.00
WIC FMNP State Program Staff.	Ad hoc waivers .....	5	1	5	2	10.00
Subtotal ARPA Reporting		140	9.11	1,275	0.65	823.52
<b>ABFA</b>						
WIC State Program Staff ....	Waiver request form .....	10	3	30	0.25	7.5
Subtotal ABFA Reporting		10	3	30	0.25	7.5
Grand Total Reporting Burden		140	9.32	1,305	0.64	831.02

**Tameka Owens,**  
*Assistant Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.*  
 [FR Doc. 2023-10752 Filed 5-18-23; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 3410-30-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Forest Service**

**Notice of Intent To Publish for Public Comment Proposed Permanent Hunting Order in the Wall Ranger District of the Buffalo Gap National Grassland**

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, Agriculture (USDA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Forest Service (Forest Service or Agency), United States Department of Agriculture, is giving notice of its intent to publish for public comment a proposed permanent order prohibiting prairie dog hunting on

106,568.5 acres of the Wall Ranger District in the Buffalo Gap National Grassland. At the end of the advance notice period, the Forest Service will seek public comments, as specified in this notice, on the proposed permanent hunting order.

**DATES:** Advance notice of the opportunity to provide public comment on the proposed permanent hunting order is being provided until May 26, 2023. Beginning on May 26, 2023, the Forest Service will accept comments on the proposed permanent hunting order for 60 days. The notice of opportunity for public comment will be posted on the Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands (NNFG) web page at [www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/nebraska/alerts-notices](http://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/nebraska/alerts-notices).

**ADDRESSES:** The proposed permanent hunting order, the justification for the proposed permanent order, and map are posted on the Forest Service’s Regulations and Policies web page at

[www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/regulations-policies](http://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/regulations-policies).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Julie Johndreau, Recreation Program Manager, 308-432-0330 or [julie.johndreau@usda.gov](mailto:julie.johndreau@usda.gov). Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf and hard of hearing may call the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339, 24 hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Advance Notice and Public Comment Procedures**

Section 4103 of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act of 2019 (Pub. L. 116-9, title IV, (Sportsmen’s Access and Related Access)), hereinafter “the Dingell Act,” requires the Forest Service to provide advance notice and opportunity for public comment before temporarily or permanently closing any National Forest System lands to hunting, fishing, or recreational