

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS collects information, which includes the taxpayer identification number, name, and address and telephone number to collect fees. The procedures and the information requested for the passengers and aircraft are used to ensure that the correct users fees are collected and remitted in full in a timely manner. Without the information, APHIS would not be able to ensure substantial compliance with the statute. Noncompliance with the statute could result in misappropriation of public funds and lost revenue to the Federal Government.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Individuals or households; Federal Government; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 245,122.

Frequency of Responses: Recordkeeping; Reporting; On occasion.
Total Burden Hours: 11,876.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E8-27606 Filed 11-19-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2008-0129]

Public Meetings; National Tuberculosis Program Listening Sessions

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will host a series of public meetings to provide the public with an opportunity to offer comments regarding current challenges and new approaches for future tuberculosis control methods and eradication in view of budgetary constraints.

DATES: The public meetings will be held in Michigan on December 8, 2008; in Minnesota on December 10, 2008; in Texas on December 11, 2008; in California on December 12, 2008; and in Washington, DC, on December 16, 2008. The public meetings will be held from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., local time. Meeting registration will be from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. prior to each public meeting.

ADDRESSES: The public meetings will be held at the following locations:

- Michigan: Holiday Inn South Convention Center, 6820 South Cedar Street, Lansing, MI 48911;

- Minnesota: Hilton Minneapolis, 1001 Marquette Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55403;

- Texas: Hilton Garden Inn Austin Downtown, 500 North IH 35, Austin, TX 78701;

- California: Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel, 1230 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814; and

- Washington, DC: Washington Marriott at Metro Center, 775 12th Street NW, Washington, DC 20005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Alecia L. Naugle, Program Manager, National Tuberculosis Program, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 43, Riverdale, MD, 20737; (301) 734-6954.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is announcing a series of meetings to discuss its National Tuberculosis (TB) Program. The meetings are designed to assemble a wide range of producers and other stakeholders to discuss current challenges and potential new approaches for TB control and eradication in view of budgetary constraints. The meetings will be held in various geographical locations to facilitate attendance. Participants will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer written and oral comments. Tentative topics and questions for discussion at the upcoming meetings include:

1. *Regulatory Framework.* What is the role of State statutes in the National TB Program of the future? Are there other approaches to establishing movement restrictions and testing requirements that more effectively reduce the risk(s) of disease transmission from affected herds?

2. *Wildlife Issues.* How should the risk of TB associated with disease transmission in wildlife be mitigated?

3. *Biosecurity Issues.* How could producers be encouraged to adopt management and biosecurity practices that reduce the risk of transmission of TB and how could the National TB Program facilitate producers' adoption of these practices?

4. *Budget Concerns.* What alternatives exist for funding National TB Program activities?

5. *Future of Indemnities.* How should limited indemnity funds be used to reduce the risk of continued disease transmission in affected herds?

6. *Import Issues.* How should the risk of transmission of bovine tuberculosis associated with the importation of live cattle into the United States be mitigated?

7. *Eradication vs. Control.* Is eradication of TB in domestic livestock

feasible or is control a more appropriate program objective given the availability of program funding?

A list of discussion topics, questions, and meeting details is also available via the APHIS Web site at: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/hot_issues/bovine_tuberculosis/bovine_tb.shtml.

If you require special accommodations, such as a sign language interpreter, please see the contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Done in Washington, DC, this 14th day of November 2008.

Kevin Shea,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. E8-27620 Filed 11-19-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Information Collection; Evaluating Community Knowledge, Beliefs, Attitudes, and Preferences Concerning Fire and Fuels Management in Southwestern Forest, Woodland and Grassland Ecosystems

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Forest Service is seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on the extension with revision of a currently approved information collection, Evaluating Community Knowledge, Beliefs, Attitudes and Preferences Concerning Fire and Fuels Management in Southwestern Forest, Woodland and Grassland Ecosystems.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing on or before January 20, 2009 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Comments concerning this notice should be addressed to Dr. Carol Raish, USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, 333 Broadway, SE., Suite 115, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102-3497.

Comments also may be submitted via facsimile to 505-724-3688 or by e-mail to: craish@fs.fed.us. The public may inspect comments received at USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, 333 Broadway, SE., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102-3497, during normal business hours. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to 505-

724-3666 to facilitate entry to the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Carol Raish, 505-724-3666. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 twenty-four hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Evaluating Community Knowledge, Beliefs, Attitudes and Preferences Concerning Fire and Fuels Management in Southwestern Forest, Woodland and Grassland Ecosystems.

OMB Number: 0596-0200.

Expiration Date of Approval: July 31, 2009.

Type of Request: Extension with revision.

Abstract: Increasingly, experts recommend fire as a fuels reduction tool on both public and private lands, though controversy often inhibits its use. Insufficient communication and understanding between land managers and the public frequently contribute to these difficulties. In order to design and implement successful, socially acceptable fire and fuels management policies and programs, managers need a better understanding of the public's knowledge, attitudes, and practices concerning wildfire. Phase I of this project collected information from members of the public residing in Arizona and New Mexico.

Phase I collected information using a mail survey of households located in Arizona and New Mexico. The response rate to the mailed questionnaires (n=2000) was 25.1 percent. The type of information collected included:

(1) Attitudes and preferences toward wildfire and fire management alternatives for public lands,

(2) Risk reduction behaviors that homeowners and individuals have undertaken to minimize wildfire risk, and

(3) Sources of information regarding wildfires and wildfire analyzed by researchers at the Rocky Mountain Research Station and cooperators.

Proponents now wish to renew this information collection and implement Phase II of the project, which will use the same questionnaire to collect data from regional experts in fire risk behavior and mitigation actions. The plan is to interview 50 experts individually or in small focus groups (5-7 participants). Interviews will last one hour per individual and two hours per focus group. Interviewers will emphasize sections A through E of the approved survey instrument of this information collection. These sections

focus on wildfire risk-management options for reducing risks to homeowners, the effectiveness of each option, the responsibilities of the various parties for risk reduction actions, and the perceived knowledge of the homeowners regarding wildfire risks.

Estimates are that 60 percent of respondents will consist of State fire representatives from Arizona and New Mexico; local government fire officials at the county and city levels charged with implementing fire mitigation programs; and individual members of the private sector considered wildfire risk-mitigation experts. The remaining respondents (40 percent) will be Federal employees considered experts in this field: U.S. Forest Service in Region 3 (30 percent), and Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Indian Affairs (10 percent). As the Paperwork Reduction Act does not regulate responses provided by Federal employees, this information collection request is for the portion of the study affecting non-Federal entities (State, county, and city officials, and individuals).

Researchers will compare results of the expert interviews with results of the previously conducted qualitative and quantitative interviews (Phase I). In addition, information from Phase II will assist in development of a more detailed survey instrument for future research. Future research will help statistically verify that there is or is not a statistically significant variation between the experts in wildfire management and homeowners in Region 3. Prior to implementing such a survey, proponents would return to OMB for approval.

This information collection provides information to decision makers, enhancing understanding of the similarities and differences between experts and the public concerning wildfire mitigation options and preferences in Arizona and New Mexico. This information will assist Forest Service land managers in their efforts to interact more effectively with the public and manage the risks associated with wildland fire. If managers do not have adequate information concerning public attitudes and actions concerning wildfire risk reduction behaviors (for example, creating defensible space on their properties by clearing brush and trees from a 30-foot area around the residence), then managers may not make well-informed decisions concerning appropriate communication techniques and needed public education information.

Estimate of Annual Burden: 2 hours.
Type of Respondents: Individuals.
Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 30.
Estimated Annual Number of Responses per Respondent: One.
Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 60 hours.

Comment Is Invited

Comment is invited on: (1) Whether this collection of information is necessary for the stated purposes and the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical or scientific utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses when provided, will be a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized and included in the submission request toward Office of Management and Budget approval.

Dated: November 17, 2008.

Ann Bartuska,

Deputy Chief, Research and Development.

[FR Doc. E8-27587 Filed 11-19-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Announcement of Grant Application Deadlines and Funding Levels

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of solicitation of applications.

SUMMARY: USDA Rural Development administers loan and grant programs through the Rural Utilities Service. USDA Rural Development announces the Public Television Digital Transition Grant Program application window for fiscal year (FY) 2009. The FY 2008 funding for the Public Television Station Digital Transition Grant Program was approximately \$5 million. This notice is being issued prior to passage of a final appropriations bill, which may or may not provide funding for this program, to allow time to submit