

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 65, No. 83

Friday, April 28, 2000

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

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Notice of Intent To Revise and Request an Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) implementing regulations this notice announces the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service's (CSREES) intention to revise and extend a currently approved information collection, Form CSREES-665 "Assurance of Compliance with the Department of Agriculture Regulations Assuring Civil Rights Compliance," and Form CSREES-666, "Organizational Information."

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received no later than July 3, 2000, to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Address all comments concerning this notice to Dr. Sally J. Rockey, Deputy Administrator; Competitive Research Grants and Awards Management; Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service; U.S. Department of Agriculture; STOP 2240; 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.; Washington, D.C. 20250-2240. E-mail: oep@reeusda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sally J. Rockey, (202) 401-1761.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Titles: Assurance of Compliance with the Department of Agriculture Regulations Assuring Civil Rights Compliance and Organizational Information.

OMB Number: 0524-0026.

Expiration Date of Approval: April 30, 2000.

Type of Request: Revise and extend currently approved information collection.

Abstract: CSREES has primary responsibility for providing linkages between the Federal and State components of a broad-based, national agricultural research, extension, and education system. Focused on national issues, its purpose is to represent the Secretary of Agriculture and carry out the intent of Congress by administering formula and grant funds appropriated for agricultural research, extension, and education. Before awards can be made, certain information is required from applicants to assure compliance with the applicable civil rights laws and to effectively assess the potential recipient's capacity to manage Federal funds.

The following information will continue to be collected:

Form CSREES-665—Assurance of Compliance with the Department of Agriculture Regulations Assuring Civil Rights Compliance: By signing this form the organization certifies that it complies with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended. The applicant agrees that it will offer its programs to all eligible persons without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, disability, age, political beliefs, religion, marital status, or familial status and that people will not be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the Applicant receives Federal financial assistance from the Department of Agriculture. This information is submitted to CSREES on a one-time basis.

Form CSREES-666—Organizational Information: Enables CSREES to determine that applicants recommended for awards will be responsible recipients of Federal funds. The information pertains to organizational management and financial matters of the potential grantee. This form and the documents which the applicant attaches to it provide CSREES with information such as the legal name of the grantee, certification that the organization has the legal authority to accept Federal funding, identification and signatures of the key officials of the organization, the organization's practices in regard to

compensation rates and benefits of employees, insurance for equipment, subcontracting with other organizations, etc., as well as the financial condition of the organization. All of this information is considered by CSREES prior to award to determine that grantees are both managerially and fiscally responsible. This information is submitted to CSREES on a one-time basis. If sufficient changes occur within the organization, the grantee submits revised information.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .5 hours for Form CSREES-665 and 3.5 hours for Form CSREES-666. These averages were based on a survey of grantees who had recently been approved for awards. They were asked to give an estimate of time it took them to complete each form. This estimate was to include such things as: 1) Reviewing the instructions; 2) Searching existing data sources; 3) Gathering and maintaining the data needed; and 4) Actual completion of the forms. The average time it took each respondent was calculated from their responses.

Respondents: Individuals or households, business or other for profit, non-profit institutions and small businesses or organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 150.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondent: 600 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Dr. Sally Rockey, Deputy Administrator, at (202) 401-1761.

Comments: 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, will 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 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 through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection

techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments should be sent to the address stated in the preamble.

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

Done at Washington, DC, this 20th day of April, 2000.

Charles W. Laughlin,

Administrator, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service.

[FR Doc. 00-10568 Filed 4-27-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Intergovernmental Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Intergovernmental Advisory Committee will meet on May 4, 2000, at the Embassy Suites Portland Downtown, 319 SW Pine Street, Portland, Oregon 97204-2726. The purpose of the meeting is to continue discussions on the implementation of the Northwest Forest Plan. The meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. and continue until 3:30 p.m. Agenda items to be discussed include, but are not limited to: briefings and discussion on Monitoring efforts, the President's Roadless Area initiative, continued discussion on integrating the forest plan into the management landscape, the Survey and Manage Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, and progress reports on ongoing implementation issues. The IAC meeting will be open to the public and is fully accessible for people with disabilities. Interpreters are available upon request in advance. Written comments may be submitted for the record at the meeting. Time will also be scheduled for oral public comments. Interested persons are encouraged to attend.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions regarding this meeting may be directed to Curt Loop, Acting Executive Director, Regional Ecosystem Office, 333 SW 1st Avenue, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208 (Phone: 503-808-2180).

Dated: April 21, 2000.

Curtis A. Loop,

Acting Designated Federal Official.

[FR Doc. 00-10685 Filed 4-27-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Olympic Provincial Interagency Executive Committee (PIEC) Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Olympic PIEC Advisory Committee will meet on May 19, 2000. The meeting will be held at the Olympic Natural Resource Center's conference room in Forks, Washington. The meeting will begin at 9:00 AM and end at approximately 3:30 PM. Agenda topics are: (1) Survey and Manage Forest Management Strategy; (2) Intergovernmental Advisory Committee Update; (3) Regional Ecosystems Office Update; (4) Olympic Discovery Trail Proposal; (5) Open forum; and (6) Public comments.

All Olympic Province Advisory Committee Meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Direct questions regarding this meeting to Ken Eldredge, Province Liaison, USDA, Olympic National Forest Headquarters, 1835 Black Lake Blvd., Olympia, WA 98512-5623, (360) 956-2323 or Dale Hom, Forest Supervisor, at (360) 956-2301.

Dated: April 17, 2000.

Dale Hom,

Forest Supervisor, Olympic National Forest.

[FR Doc. 00-10629 Filed 4-27-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

RIN 0596-AB67

Forest Transportation System

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; extension of public comment period.

SUMMARY: On March 3, 2000, in Part III, of the **Federal Register**, the Forest Service published a proposed administrative policy concerning the development, use, maintenance, and management of the national forest transportation system (65 FR 11684). A number of organizations have requested an extension of the public comment period. In considering these requests, the agency has determined that the public initially had difficulty obtaining a copy of the proposed policy and accompanying documents.

Additionally, the agency has concluded that a limited extension will not impede adoption of the final policy. Therefore, the agency is extending the comment period for 15 calendar days. Because the proposed administrative policy was accompanied by a related proposed rule regarding the Forest Transportation System, the agency, by separate notice in today's **Federal Register**, also is extending the comment period on the proposed rule for 15 calendar days.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing by May 17, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to USDA, CAET, Attention: Roads, P.O. Box 221090, Salt Lake City, UT 84122. Send comments electronically to roads/wocaet_slc@fs.fed.us.

All comments received, including names and addresses when provided, are placed in the record and are available for public inspection and copying at Forest Service, 201 14th Street SW., Washington, D.C. 20250. Persons wishing to inspect the comments are encouraged to call 202-205-1400 to facilitate building entrance.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Heidi Valetkevitch, Office of Communication, 202-205-0914.

Dated: April 24, 2000.

James R. Furnish,

Deputy Chief, National Forest System.

[FR Doc. 00-10655 Filed 4-27-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-U

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; Comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Business-Cooperative Service's (RBS) intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the program for the Annual Survey of Farmer Cooperatives, as authorized in the Cooperative Marketing Act of 1926.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by June 27, 2000 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charles A. Kraenzle, Director, Statistics Staff, RBS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 3256, 1400