

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

John Day/Snake Resource Advisory Council, Hells Canyon Subgroup

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Hells Canyon subgroup of the John Day/Snake Resource Advisory Council will meet on January 30–31, 2003 at the Presbyterian Church on 4th and Washington, Baker City, OR 97814. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. and continue until 5 p.m. the first day and day 2 will begin at 8 a.m. and will end at 2 p.m. Public comment will be heard on January 30, 2003 at 1 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Direct questions regarding this meeting to Kendall Clark, Area Ranger, USDA, Hells Canyon National Recreation area, 88401 Highway 82, Enterprise, OR 97828, 541–426–5501.

Dated: December 19, 2002.

Karyn L. Wood,
Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 02–32672 Filed 12–26–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–11–M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Information Collection; Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

ACTION: Notice to reinstate a previously approved information collection for review and comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Natural Resources Conservation Service's intention to reinstate a previously approved information collection. The collected

information will help the Natural Resources Conservation Service match the skills of individuals applying for volunteer work who will further the agency's mission. Information will be collected from potential volunteers who are 14 years of age or older.

EFFECTIVE DATES: Comments will be received for a 60-day period commencing with the date of this publication.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Michele Eginoire, National Volunteer Coordinator; fax (515) 289–1227; telephone: (515) 289–0325, extension 29; e-mail: eginoire@swcs.org.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Collection of this information is necessary to document service of volunteers as required by FPM Supplement 296–33, Subchapter 3. Agencies are authorized to recruit, train, and accept, with regard to civil service classification laws, rules or regulations, the services of individuals to serve without compensation. Volunteers may assist in any agency program/project, and may perform any activities which agency employees are allowed to do. Volunteers must be at least 14 years of age.

Persons interested in volunteering will have to write, call, e-mail, or visit a Natural Resources Conservation Service Office. The forms will be available electronically, and can be completed electronically.

DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION COLLECTION: The NRCS–PERS–002, Volunteer Interest and Placement Summary, is an optional form that assists the volunteer supervisor in placing the volunteer in a position that will benefit both the agency and the volunteer. The form is placed in a volunteer case file, and will be destroyed three years after the volunteer has completed service. In the event that the volunteer is injured, the case file will be transferred to the Official Personnel Folder.

Signed in Washington, DC, on December 18, 2002.

Bruce I. Knight,

Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

[FR Doc. 02–32671 Filed 12–26–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–16–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Timeframe for Section 514 Farm Labor Housing Loans and Section 516 Farm Labor Housing Grants for Off-Farm Housing for Fiscal Year 2003

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This Notice announces the timeframe to submit applications for section 514 Farm Labor Housing loan funds and section 516 Farm Labor Housing grant funds for new construction and acquisition and rehabilitation of off-farm units for farmworker households.

Applications may also include requests for section 521 rental assistance (RA) and operating assistance for migrant units. This document describes the method used to distribute funds, the application process, and submission requirements. We are publishing this Notice prior to passage of a final appropriations act to give applicants the maximum amount of time possible to complete their applications, and to provide the Agency sufficient time to process the selected applications within the current fiscal year. Applications for Fiscal Year (FY) 2003 will only be accepted through the date and time listed in this notice. A Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) announcing the level of funding for the program will be published upon passage of a final appropriations act in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 1490p and 7 CFR 1944.170. Because the Agency's appropriations act has not been passed, the Agency cannot make funding commitments. Expenses incurred in developing applications will be at the applicant's risk.

DATES: The closing deadline for receipt of all applications in response to this Notice is 5 p.m., local time for each Rural Development State Office on March 27, 2003. The application closing deadline is firm as to date and hour. RHS will not consider any application that is received after the closing deadline. Applicants intending to mail applications must provide sufficient time to permit delivery on or before the closing deadline date and time. Acceptance by a post office or private mailer does not constitute delivery.

Facsimile (FAX) and postage due applications will not be accepted.

ADDRESSES: Applicants wishing to apply for assistance must contact the Rural Development State Office serving the place in which they desire to locate off-farm labor housing to receive further information and copies of the application package. Rural Development will date and time stamp incoming applications to evidence timely receipt, and, upon request, will provide the applicant with a written acknowledgment of receipt. A listing of Rural Development State Offices, their addresses, telephone numbers, and person to contact follows:

Note: Telephone numbers listed are not toll-free.

Alabama State Office, Suite 601, Sterling Center, 4121 Carmichael Road, Montgomery, AL 36106-3683 (334) 279-3455, TDD (334) 279-3495, James B. Harris

Alaska State Office, 800 West Evergreen, Suite 201, Palmer, AK 99645, (907) 761-7740, TDD (1-907-786-7786 Deborah Davis

Arizona State Office, Phoenix Corporate Center, 3003 N. Central Ave., Suite 900, Phoenix, AZ 85012-2906, (602) 280-8706, TDD (602) 280-8770, Johnna Vargas

Arkansas State Office, 700 W. Capitol Ave., Rm. 3416, Little Rock, AR 72201-3225, (501) 301-3250, TDD (501) 301-3063, Clinton King

California State Office, 430 G Street, #4169, Davis, CA 95616-4169, (530) 792-5830, TDD (530) 792-5848, Jeff Deiss

Colorado State Office, 655 Parfet Street, Room E100, Lakewood, CO 80215, (720) 544-2923, TDD (720) 544-2976, Mary Summerfield

Connecticut: Served by Massachusetts State Office

Delaware & Maryland State Office, 4607 South Dupont Highway, PO Box 400, Camden, DE 19934-9998, (302) 697-4353, TDD (302) 697-4303, Pat Baker

Florida & Virgin Islands State Office, 4440 NW., 25th Place, Gainesville, FL 32606-6563, (352) 338-3465, TDD (352) 338-3499, Joseph P. Fritz

Georgia State Office, Stephens Federal Building, 355 E. Hancock Avenue, Athens, GA 30601-2768, (706) 546-2164, TDD (706) 546-2034, Wayne Rogers

Guam: Served by Hawaii State Office

Hawaii State Office, (Services all Hawaii, American Samoa and Western Pacific), Room 311, Federal Building, 154 Waiianuenue Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720, (808) 933-8309, TDD (808) 933-8321, Thao Khamoui

Idaho State Office, Suite A1, 9173 West Barnes Dr., Boise, ID 83709, (208) 378-5628, TDD (208) 378-5644, LaDonn McElligott

Illinois State Office, 2118 W. Park Court, Suite A, Champaign, IL 61821-2986, (217) 403-6222, TDD (217) 403-6240, Barry L. Ramsey

Indiana State Office, 5975 Lakeside Boulevard, Indianapolis, IN 46278, (317) 290-3100 (ext. 423), TDD (317) 290-3343, John Young

Iowa State Office, 210 Walnut Street, Room 873, Des Moines, IA 50309, (515) 284-4666, TDD (515) 284-4858, Julie Sleeper

Kansas State Office, 1303 SW First American Place, Suite 100, Topeka, KS 66604-4040, (785) 271-2721, TDD (785) 271-2767, Virginia M. Hammersmith

Kentucky State Office, 771 Corporate Drive, Suite 200, Lexington, KY 40503, (859) 224-7325, TDD (859) 224-7422, Paul Higgins

Louisiana State Office, 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, LA 71302, (318) 473-7962, TDD (318) 473-7655, Yvonne R. Emerson

Maine State Office, 967 Illinois Ave., Suite 4, PO Box 405, Bangor, ME 04402-0405, (207) 990-9110, TDD (207) 942-7331, Michael Grondin

Maryland: Served by Delaware State Office

Massachusetts, Connecticut, & Rhode Island State Office, 451 West Street, Amherst, MA 01002, (413) 253-4333, TDD (413) 253-4590, Donald Colburn

Michigan State Office, 3001 Coolidge Road, Suite 200, East Lansing, MI 48823, (517) 324-5192, TDD (517) 337-6795, Philip Wolak

Minnesota State Office, 375 Jackson Street Building, Suite 410, St. Paul, MN 55101, (651) 602-7804, TDD (651) 602-7830, Joyce Vondal

Mississippi State Office, Federal Building, Suite 831, 100 W. Capitol Street, Jackson, MS 39269, (601) 965-4325, TDD (601) 965-5850, Darnella Smith-Murray

Missouri State Office, 601 Business Loop 70 West, Parkade Center, Suite 235, Columbia, MO 65203, (573) 876-0990, TDD (573) 876-9480, Becky Eftink

Montana State Office, Unit 1, Suite B, 900 Technology Blvd., Bozeman, MT 59715, (406) 585-2552, TDD (406) 585-2562, Al Lazarewicz

Nebraska State Office, Federal Building, room 152, 100 Centennial Mall N, Lincoln, NE 68508, (402) 437-5594, TDD (402) 437-5093, Phil Willnerd

Nevada State Office, 1390 South Curry Street, Carson City, NV 89703-9910, (775) 887-1222 (ext. 25), TDD (775) 885-0633, Angilla Denton

New Hampshire State Office, Concord Center, Suite 218, Box 317, 10 Ferry Street, Concord, NH 03301-5004, (603) 223-6046, TDD (603) 229-0536, Jim Fowler

New Jersey State Office, Tarnsfield Plaza, Suite 22, 790 Woodland Road, Mt. Holly, NJ 08060, (856) 787-7740, TDD (856) 787-7784, George Hyatt, Jr.

New Mexico State Office, 6200 Jefferson St., NE., Room 255, Albuquerque, NM 87109, (505) 761-4944, TDD (505) 761-4938, Carmen N. Lopez

New York State Office, The Galleries of Syracuse, 441 S. Salina Street, Suite 357 5th Floor, Syracuse, NY 13202, (315) 477-6419, TDD (315) 477-6447, George N. Von Pless

North Carolina State Office, 4405 Bland Road, Suite 2120, Raleigh, NC 271209, (919) 873-2066, TDD (919) 873-2003, Terry Strole

North Dakota State Office, Federal Building, Room 208, 220 East Rosser, PO Box 1737, Bismarck, ND 58502, (701) 530-2049, TDD (701) 530-2113, Kathy Lake

Ohio State Office, Federal Building, Room 507, 200 North High Street, Columbus, OH 43215-2477, (614) 255-2418, TDD (614) 255-2554, Melodie Taylor-Ward

Oklahoma State Office, 100 USDA, Suite 108, Stillwater, OK 74074-2654, (405) 742-1070, TDD (405) 742-1007, Phil Reimers

Oregon State Office, 101 SW Main, Suite 1410, Portland, OR 97204-3222, (503) 414-3325, TDD (503) 414-3387, Margo Donelin

Pennsylvania State Office, One Credit Union Place, Suite 330, Harrisburg, PA 17110-2996, (717) 237-2281, TDD (717) 237-2261, Gary Rothrock

Puerto Rico State Office, New San Juan Office Bldg., Room 501, 159 Carlos E. Chardon Street, Hato Rey, PR 00918-5481, (787) 766-5095 (ext. 254), TDD 1-800-274-1572, Lourdes Colon

Rhode Island: Served by Massachusetts State Office

South Carolina State Office, Strom Thurmond Federal Building, 1835 Assembly Street, Room 1007, Columbia, SC 29201, (803) 253-3432, TDD (803) 765-5697, Larry D. Floyd

South Dakota State Office, Federal Building, Room 210, 200 Fourth Street, SW., Huron, SD 57350, (605) 352-1135, TDD (605) 352-1147, Roger Hazuka

Tennessee State Office, Suite 300, 3322 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203-1084, (615) 783-1300, TDD (615) 783-1397, Larry Kennedy

Texas State Office, Federal Building, Suite 102, 101 South Main, Temple, TX 76501, (254) 742-9758, TDD (254) 742-9712, Julie Hayes

Utah State Office, Wallace F. Bennett Federal Building, 125 S. State Street, Room 4311, Salt Lake City, UT 84147-0350, (801) 524-4324, TDD (801) 524-3309, Robert L. Milianta

Vermont State Office, City Center, 3rd Floor, 89 Main Street, Montpelier, VT 05602, (802) 828-6028, TDD (802) 223-6365, Sandra Mercier

Virgin Islands: Served by Florida State Office

Virginia State Office, Culpeper Building, Suite 238, 1606 Santa Rosa Road, Richmond, VA 23229, (804) 287-1596, TDD (804) 287-1753, CJ Michels

Washington State Office, 1011 East Main St., Suite 306, Puyallup, WA 98372-6771, (253) 845-9272 X114, TDD (360) 704-7760, Robert Lund

Western Pacific Territories: Served by Hawaii State Office

West Virginia State Office, Federal Building, 75 High Street, Room 320, Morgantown, WV 26505-7500, (304) 284-4889, TDD (304) 284-4836, Craig St. Clair

Wisconsin State Office, 4949 Kirschling Court, Stevens Point, WI 54481, (715) 345-7620 (ext. 7145), TDD (715) 345-7614, Sherry Engel

Wyoming State Office, 100 East B, Federal Building, Room 1005, PO Box 820, Casper, WY 82602, (307) 261-6315, TDD (307) 261-6333, Jack Hyde

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information, applicants may contact Mary Fox, Senior Loan Specialist or David Layfield, Senior Loan Specialist, of the Multi-Family Housing Processing Division, Rural Housing Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Stop 0781, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC, 20250-0781, telephone (202) 720-1624 or (202) 690-0759 (voice) (this is not a toll free number) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD-Federal Information Relay Service).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Programs Affected

The Farm Labor Housing Program is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under Number 10.405, Farm Labor Housing Loans and Grants. Rental Assistance is listed in the Catalog under Number 10.427, Rural Rental Assistance Payments.

Definitions

Farm Labor. Farm labor includes services in connection with cultivating the soil, raising or harvesting any agriculture or aquaculture commodity; or in catching, netting, handling, planting, drying, packing, grading, storing, or preserving in its

unmanufactured state any agriculture or aquaculture commodity; or delivering to storage, market, or a carrier for transportation to market or to process any agricultural or aquacultural commodity.

Migrant Agricultural Laborers. Agricultural laborers and family dependents who establish a temporary residence while performing agriculture work at one or more locations away from the place they call home or home base. (This does not include day-haul agricultural workers whose travels are limited to work areas within one day of their work locations.)

Off-Farm Labor Housing. Housing for farm laborers regardless of the farm where they work.

Operating Assistance. Assistance toward the cost of operating off-farm migrant farmworker projects financed under sections 514 or 516 of the Housing Act of 1949. Projects that receive operating assistance may not receive tenant-specific rental assistance (RA).

Discussion of Notice

I. Authority and Distribution Methodology

A. Authority

The Farm Labor Housing program is authorized by the Housing Act of 1949: Section 514 (42 U.S.C. 1484) for loans and section 516 (42 U.S.C. 1486) for grants. Tenant subsidies (rental assistance (RA)) and operating assistance for migrant projects are available through section 521 (42 U.S.C. 1490a). Sections 514 and 516 provide RHS the authority to make loans and grants for financing off-farm housing to broad-based nonprofit organizations, nonprofit organizations of farmworkers, federally recognized Indian tribes, agencies or political subdivisions of State or local government, public agencies (such as local housing authorities) and with section 514 loans to nonprofit limited partnerships in which the presence and extent of leveraged assistance, including donated land, for the units that will serve program-eligible general partner is a nonprofit entity.

B. Distribution Methodology

Because RHS has the ability to adjust loan and grant levels, final loan and grant levels will fluctuate. The actual funds available for fiscal year (FY) 2003 for off-farm housing will be published at a later date in a subsequent Notice.

C. Section 514 and Section 516 Funds

Section 514 loan funds and section 516 grant funds will be distributed to

States based on a national competition, as follows:

1. States will accept, review, and score requests in accordance with 7 CFR part 1944, subpart D. The scoring factors are:

(a) tenants, calculated as a percentage of the RHS total development cost (TDC). RHS TDC excludes non-RHS eligible costs such as a developer's fee. Leveraged assistance includes, but is not limited to, funds for hard construction costs, section 8 or other non-RHS tenant subsidies, and state or federal funds. A minimum of ten percent leveraged assistance is required to earn points; however, if the total percentage of leveraged assistance is less than ten percent and the proposal includes donated land, two points will be awarded for the donated land. Points will be awarded in accordance with the following table. (0 to 20 points)

Percentage	Points
75 or more	20
60-74	18
50-59	16
40-49	12
30-39	10
20-29	8
10-19	5
0-9	0
Donated land in proposals with less than ten percent total leveraged assistance	2

(b) Seasonal, temporary, migrant housing. (5 points for up to and including 50 percent of the units; 10 points for 51 percent or more.)

(c) The selection criteria contained in 7 CFR 1944, subpart D includes one optional criteria set by the National Office. The National Office initiative will be used in the selection criteria as follows:

Up to 10 Points will be awarded based on the presence of and extent to which a tenant services plan exists that clearly outlines services that will be provided to the residents of the proposed project. These services may include but are not limited to: transportation related services, on-site English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, move-in funds, emergency assistance funds, homeownership counseling, food pantries, after school tutoring, and computer learning centers. Two points will be awarded for each resident service included in the tenant services plan up to a maximum of 10 points. Plans must detail how the services are to be administered, who will administer them, and where they will be administered. All tenant service plans must include letters of intent that clearly state the service that will be

provided at the project for the benefit of the residents from any party administering each service, including the applicant. (0 to 10 points)

2. States will conduct preliminary eligibility review, score applications, and forward to the National Office.

3. The National Office will rank all requests nationwide and distribute funds to States in rank order, within funding and RA limits. If insufficient funds or RA remain for the next ranked proposal, the Agency will select the next ranked proposal that falls within the remaining levels. In the event there are multiple preapplications in either category, one preapplication from each State (the highest State-ranked) will compete by computer-based random lottery. If necessary, the process will be completed until all same-pointed preapplications are selected or funds are exhausted.

II. Funding Limits

A. Individual requests may not exceed \$3 million (total loan and grant).

B. No State may receive more than 30 percent of the total available funds unless an exception is granted from the Administrator.

C. Rental Assistance and Operating Assistance will be held in the National office for use with section 514 loans and section 516 grants and will be awarded based on each project's financial structure and need.

III. Application Process

All applications for sections 514 and 516 funds must be filed with the appropriate Rural Development State office and must meet the requirements of 7 CFR part 1944, subpart D, and section IV of this Notice. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed and will be returned to the applicant. No application will be accepted after 5 p.m., local time, on March 27, 2003 unless date and time is extended by another Notice published in the **Federal Register**.

IV. Application Submission Requirements

A. Each application shall include all of the information, materials, forms and exhibits required by 7 CFR part 1944, subpart D, as well as comply with the provisions of this Notice. Applicants are encouraged, but not required, to include a check list and to have their applications indexed and tabbed to facilitate the review process. The Rural Development State Office will base its determination of completeness of the application and the eligibility of each applicant on the information provided in the application.

B. Applicants are advised to contact the Rural Development State Office serving the place in which they desire to submit an application for application information.

Dated: December 20, 2002.

James E. Selmon, III,

Associate Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

[FR Doc. 02-32760 Filed 12-26-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XV-U

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Timeframe To Submit Applications for the Section 515 Rural Rental Housing Program for Fiscal Year 2003

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This Notice announces the timeframe for submitting applications for the section 515 Rural Rental Housing Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2003. We are publishing this Notice prior to passage of a final appropriations act to give applicants the maximum amount of time possible to complete their applications, to provide the Agency sufficient time to process the selected applications within the current fiscal year, and in order to comply with 7 CFR 1944.231. Because the Agency's appropriations act has not been passed, applicants are cautioned that the Agency cannot make commitments based on the anticipated funding. Expenses incurred in developing applications will be at the applicant's risk.

Additional Application Information

Applications may be submitted for section 515 Rural Rental Housing (RRH) new construction loan funds and section 521 Rental Assistance (RA). Section 515 funds include the nonprofit set-aside for eligible nonprofit entities and the set-aside for the most Underserved Counties and Colonias (Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act). Section VI of this Notice gives additional information regarding the set-asides.

DATES: The closing deadline for receipt of all applications, including those for the set-asides, in response to this Notice is 5 p.m., local time for each Rural Development State Office on February 25, 2003. The application deadline is firm as to date and hour. RHS will not consider any application that is received after the closing deadline. Applicants intending to mail applications must

provide sufficient time to permit delivery on or before the closing deadline date and time. Acceptance by the United States Postal Service or private mailer does not constitute delivery. Facsimile (Fax) and postage due applications will not be accepted.

ADDRESSES: Applicants wishing to apply for assistance must contact the Rural Development State Office serving the place in which they desire to submit an application for rural rental housing to receive further information and copies of the application package. Rural Development will date and time stamp incoming applications to evidence timely receipt, and, upon request, will provide the applicant with a written acknowledgment of receipt. A listing of Rural Development State offices, their addresses, telephone numbers, and person to contact follows:

Note: Telephone numbers listed are not toll-free.

Alabama State Office, Suite 601, Sterling Centre, 4121 Carmichael Road, Montgomery, AL 36106-3683, (334) 279-3455, TDD (334) 279-3495, James B. Harris.
Alaska State Office, 800 West Evergreen, Suite 201, Palmer, AK 99645, (907) 761-7740, TDD (907) 761-8905, Deborah Davis.
Arizona State Office, Phoenix Corporate Center, 3003 N. Central Ave., Suite 900, Phoenix, AZ 85012-2906, (602) 280-8765, TDD (602) 280-8706, Johnna Vargas.
Arkansas State Office, 700 W. Capitol Ave., Room 3416, Little Rock, AR 72201-3225, (501) 301-3250, TDD (501) 301-3063, Cathy Jones.
California State Office, 430 G Street, #4169, Davis, CA 95616-4169, (530) 792-5830, TDD (530) 792-5848, Jeff Deiss.
Colorado State Office, 655 Parfet Street, Room E100, Lakewood, CO 80215, (720) 544-2922, TDD (720) 544-2976, "Sam" Mitchell.
Connecticut Served by Massachusetts State Office
Delaware and Maryland State Office, 4607 South Dupont Highway, P.O. Box 400, Camden, DE 19934-9998, (302) 697-4353, TDD (302) 697-4303, Pat Baker.
Florida & Virgin Islands State Office, 4440 N.W. 25th Place, Gainesville, FL 32606-6563, (352) 338-3465, TDD (352) 338-3499, Joseph P. Fritz.
Georgia State Office, Stephens Federal Building, 355 E. Hancock Avenue, Athens, GA 30601-2768, (706) 546-2164, TDD (706) 546-2034, Wayne Rogers.
Guam: Served by Hawaii State Office
Hawaii State Office, (Services all Hawaii, American Samoa and