

MAXIMUM PER MEAL REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR ALASKA ONLY—Continued

	Operating costs	Administrative costs	
		Rural or self-preparation sites	Other types of sites
Supplement	.89	.1075	.0850

The 2003 reimbursement rates, in dollars, for Hawaii:

MAXIMUM PER MEAL REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR HAWAII ONLY

	Operating Costs	Administrative costs	
		Rural or self-preparation sites	Other types of sites
Breakfast	\$1.58	\$1.1575	\$1.1250
Lunch or Supper	2.75	.2875	.2400
Supplement	.64	.0775	.0625

The total amount of payments to State agencies for disbursement to Program sponsors will be based upon these Program reimbursement rates and the number of meals of each type served. The above reimbursement rates, for both operating and administrative reimbursement rates, represent a 2.28 percent increase during 2002 (from 175.8 in November 2001 to 179.8 in November 2002) in the food away from home series of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor. The Department would like to point out that the SFSP administrative reimbursement rates continue to be adjusted up or down to the nearest quarter-cent, as has previously been the case. Additionally, operating reimbursement rates have been rounded down to the nearest whole cent, as required by Section 11(a)(3)(B) of the NSLA (42 U.S.C. 1759 (a)(3)(B)).

Authority: Secs. 9, 13 and 14, National School Lunch Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1758, 1761, and 1762a).

Dated: January 24, 2003.

Roberto Salazar,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 03-2113 Filed 1-29-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Idaho Panhandle National Forests, Bonners Ferry Ranger District, Cancellation of Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Bonners Ferry Ranger District Salvage Sales Project

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA

ACTION: Cancellation notice.

SUMMARY: On May 31, 2000 a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an environmental impact statement for the Bonners Ferry Ranger District Salvage Sales Project was published in the **Federal Register** (Volume 65, Number 105, pages 34654-34655). The proposal was to analyze the potential environmental effects of salvage harvesting up to 20,000 acres of dead and damaged trees in scattered areas located on the Bonners Ferry Ranger District, Idaho Panhandle National Forests. Since the publication of the Notice of Intent, public scoping and interdisciplinary team involvement have resulted in a project design that utilizes mitigation measures and restrictive design criteria that either eliminated or minimized potential impacts to resources that could result from the small salvage sales. Due to the redefined design and criteria of the project, the Interdisciplinary Team determined there will be no significant effects resulting from implementing the proposed action, therefore preparation of an environmental impact statement is not warranted.

ADDRESSES: Bonners Ferry Ranger District, 6286 Main St, Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805-9764

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Barry Wynsma, Project Team Leader, (208) 267-5561.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The public was first notified of this proposal and the intention to prepare an environmental impact statement in October 1999. The Bonners Ferry Ranger District of the Idaho Panhandle National Forests proposed salvage harvesting up to 20,000 acres of dead and damaged trees in scattered areas across the district. The small-scale salvage sales were expected to contribute to hazardous fuels reduction and to help restore productive stand conditions and/or ecological functioning in areas affected by windstorms, insects, disease and other damaging events. Salvage of the trees was expected to help provide forest products for local post and pole mills, small sawmills, and other forest product manufacturers.

Ensuring project design and development of action alternatives included incorporation of restrictive criteria such as avoiding resource areas of concern, old growth and riparian areas for instance, and mitigation measures such as timing salvage operations to take place during periods that minimized potential impacts to wildlife species of concern. The result of the project design for the proposed activities has led the project team to the conclusion that there will be no significant effects associated with the proposal, and therefore preparation of an environmental impact statement is not warranted. An environmental assessment will be prepared to document the proposed action, alternatives to the proposed action, and environmental consequences of implementing each of the alternatives.

Since an environmental assessment will be prepared instead of an environmental impact statement, the NOI is hereby rescinded.

Dated: January 24, 2003

Ranotta K. McNair,
Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 03-2150 Filed 1-29-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Notice of Resource Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Southwest Idaho Resource Advisory Committee, Boise, ID, Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the authorities in the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463) and under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Public Law 103-393), the Boise and Payette National Forests' Southwest Idaho Resource Advisory Committee will conduct a business meeting. The meeting is open to the public.

DATES: Wednesday, February 19, 2003 beginning at 10:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: Idaho Counties Risk Management Program Building, 3100 South Vista Avenue, Boise, Idaho.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Agenda topics will include review and approval of project proposals and an open public forum.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Randy Swick, Designated Federal Officer, at (208) 634-0400.

Dated: January 23, 2003.

Mark J. Madrid,
Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 03-2157 Filed 1-29-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Rural Broadband Access Loans and Loan Guarantees Program

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of application deadline.

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) announces funding available for the Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee program. For FY 2003,

no less than \$1.455 billion in loans is available, \$1.295 billion for direct cost-of-money loans, \$80 million for direct 4-percent loans, and \$80 million for loan guarantees.

DATES: All returned applications from the Broadband Pilot Program must be delivered to RUS or bear postmark no later than March 3, 2003 in order to have a priority consideration in FY 2003. All applications must be delivered to RUS or bear postmark no later than January 31, 2003, to be considered for funding from their applicable state's allocation. All other applications must be delivered to RUS or bear postmark no later than July 31, 2003, to be considered for funding in Fiscal Year 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Roberta D. Purcell, Assistant Administrator, Telecommunications Program, Rural Utilities Service, STOP 1590, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1590, Telephone (202) 720-9554, Facsimile (202) 720-0810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

General Information

During FY 2003, no less than \$1.455 billion will be made available for loans and loan guarantees for the construction, improvement, and acquisition of facilities and equipment for broadband service in eligible rural communities. Of the total loan funds available, \$1.295 billion will be available for direct cost-of-money loans, \$80 million for 4-percent direct loans, and \$80 million for loan guarantees. The Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program is authorized by the Rural Electrification Act (7 U.S.C. 601) (the Act), as added by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, Pub. L. 101-171.

Priority will be given to applications previously received by RUS under its Broadband Pilot Program, described at 67 FR 45079.

Applications must be submitted in accordance with 7 CFR part 1738. This part and an application guide to assist in the preparation of applications are available in the Internet at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/telecom>. Application guides may also be requested from RUS by contacting the appropriate agency contact:

Agency Contacts

For application information, contact the following individual: Deborah Jackson, Telecommunications Program, RUS/USDA, Room 2919, Stop 1541,

1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC, (202) 720-8427.

Minimum and Maximum Loan Amounts

Loans and loan guarantees under this authority will not be made for less than \$100,000. Maximum loan amounts apply only to the direct 4-percent loan program. The maximum amount available for any one applicant for a direct 4-percent loan is \$5,000,000.

Minimum Rate of Data Transmission Criteria

The Secretary of Agriculture determines what qualifies as broadband service for the purpose of determining eligibility for financial assistance under the Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program. During fiscal year 2003 (and thereafter until further notice), to qualify as broadband service, the minimum rate-of-data transmission shall be 200 kilobits/second in the customer's connection to the network, both from the provider to the customer (downstream) and from the customer to the provider (upstream).

State Allocations

Due to the date of publication of the regulation and the regulatory deadline of January 31 for applications to be considered under the state allocation, applications submitted pursuant to this notice for fiscal year 2003 will be funded from the national reserve.

The Act requires RUS, from amounts made available each fiscal year, to establish a national reserve for loans and loan guarantees to eligible entities in states and to allocate amounts in the reserve to each state for each fiscal year. The Act further sets forth the method of allocation as follows:

"The amount of an allocation made to a State for a fiscal year * * * shall bear the same ratio to the amount of allocations made for all States for the fiscal year as the number of communities with a population of 2,500 inhabitants or less in the State bears to the number of communities with a population of 2,500 inhabitants or less in all States, as determined on the basis of the latest available census".

The following table shows the number of communities with 2,500 inhabitants or less (from the 2000 U.S. Census data), the percent in each state of such communities in relation to the total of all states, and the dollar amount of loan and loan guarantee funds available to each state: