

201–204) and the Department of Agriculture (USDA) (subtitle B, sections 211–213). Under section 212 of the Act, the Secretary of Agriculture must establish regulations governing the possession, use, and transfer of listed biological agents and toxins in order to protect animal and plant health, and animal and plant products. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is the USDA agency with primary responsibility for establishing and enforcing regulations in 7 CFR part 331 and 9 CFR part 121 associated with the possession, use, and transfer of those biological agents and toxins under USDA's jurisdiction.

APHIS regulations require an individual or entity (unless specifically exempted under the regulations) to register with APHIS or, for overlap agents or toxins (affecting both humans and animals), APHIS or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HHS, in order to possess, use, or transfer biological agents or toxins.

To register, an individual or entity must submit a registration application package; develop and implement a Biocontainment and Security Plan or Biosafety and Security Plan, as applicable; and request access approval for individuals who have been identified as having a legitimate need to handle or use listed agents or toxins and who have the appropriate training and skills to handle or use such agents or toxins.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of these information collection activities for an additional 3 years.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:

(1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies; *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

Estimate of burden: The public reporting burden for this collection of

information is estimated to average 1.5442 hours per response.

Respondents: Researchers, universities, research and development organizations, diagnostic laboratories and other interested parties who possess, use, or transfer agents or toxins deemed a severe threat to animal or plant health, or to animal or plant products.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 490.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 2.6327.

Estimated annual number of responses: 1,290.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 1,992 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

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

Done in Washington, DC, this 29th day of November 2004.

Elizabeth E. Gaston,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Madera County Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of resource advisory committee meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the authorities in the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (Pub. L. 92–463) and under the secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106–393) the Sierra National Forest's Resource Advisory Committee for Madera County will meet on Monday, December 13, 2004. The Madera Resource Advisory Committee will meet at the Bass Lake Ranger District Office, North Fork, CA 93643. The purpose of the meeting is: Review FY 2004 RAC proposals.

DATES: The Madera Resource Advisory Committee meeting will be held Monday, December 13, 2004. The meeting will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The Madera County RAC meeting will be held at the Bass Lake Ranger District Office, 57003 Road 225, North Fork, CA 93643.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Dave Martin, USDA, Sierra National Forest, Bass Lake Ranger District, 57003 Road 225, North Fork, CA 93643 (559) 877–2218 ext. 3100; e-mail: dmartin05@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Review of procedures for approval of 2005 RAC proposals; (2) discussion of types of projects to be solicited by the committee.

Dated: November 29, 2004.

Mark Lemon,

Acting District Ranger for Bass Lake Ranger District.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Announcement of Grant Application Deadlines

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of solicitation of applications.

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) announces its Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) Program grant application window for funding during fiscal year (FY) 2005 subject to the availability of funding. FY 2004 funding for the DLT grant program was approximately \$24.6 million. This notice is being issued prior to passage of a final appropriations bill to allow applicants sufficient time to submit proposals and give RUS maximum time to process applications within the current fiscal year. A Notice of Funding Availability will be published announcing the funding level for the DLT grant program once an appropriations bill providing funding for DLT grants has been enacted. Expenses incurred in developing applications will be at the applicant's risk.

In addition to announcing application windows, RUS announces the minimum and maximum amounts for DLT grants applicable for the fiscal year.

DATES: You may submit completed applications for grants on paper or electronically according to the following deadlines:

- Paper copies must be postmarked and mailed, shipped, or sent overnight *no later* than February 1, 2005, to be eligible for FY 2005 grant funding. Late applications are not eligible for FY 2005 grant funding.
- Electronic copies must be received by February 1, 2005, to be eligible for