

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 70, No. 62

Friday, April 1, 2005

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

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 05-008-1]

National Wildlife Services Advisory Committee; Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, we are giving notice of a meeting of the National Wildlife Services Advisory Committee.

DATES: The meeting will be held on June 21, 22, and 23, 2005, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the National Wildlife Research Center, 4101 LaPorte Avenue, Fort Collins, CO.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Joanne Garrett, Director, Operational Support Staff, WS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 87, Riverdale, MD 20737-1234; (301) 734-7921.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Wildlife Services Advisory Committee advises the Secretary of Agriculture concerning policies, program issues, and research needed to conduct the Wildlife Services program. The committee also serves as a public forum enabling those affected by the Wildlife Services program to have a voice in the program's policies.

The meeting will focus on operational and research activities. The committee will discuss Wildlife Services' efforts to increase operational capacity through prioritizing research objectives. Additionally, the committee will discuss pertinent national programs, including the avian and disease programs and how to increase their effectiveness, as well as ensuring Wildlife Services remains an active participant in the goal of agricultural

protection. This meeting is open to the public.

Due to time constraints, the public will not be allowed to participate in the Committee's discussions. However, written statements concerning meeting topics may be filed with the Committee before or after the meeting by sending them to the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, or may be filed at the meeting. Please refer to Docket No. 05-008-1 when submitting your statements.

This notice of meeting is given pursuant to section 10 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. II).

Done in Washington, DC, this 28th day of March 2005.

Elizabeth E. Gaston,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. E5-1458 Filed 3-31-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Agency Information Collection

Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request: Food Stamp Program Pre-Screening Tool Survey

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice invites the general public and other public agencies to comment on the proposed extension of this collection. The information collection involves the use of a web-based pre-screening tool for the general public to use to determine potential eligibility for Food Stamp Program benefits. A new component of this tool collects survey data about the usability of the tool. Some data provided by the users will be captured and retained for analytical purposes. No personal identifiers such as last names, social security numbers, birthdates, etc. will be collected or retained.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before May 31, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Celeste Perkins, Contracting Officer Technical Representative, Program Development

Division, Food Stamp Program, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 810, Alexandria, VA 22302.

Pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507), 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.

All comments will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection. All comments will become a matter of public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Celeste Perkins at (703) 305-2507

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Food Stamp Program Pre-Screening Tool.

OMB Number: 0584-0519.

Expiration Date: May 31, 2005.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: In June 2003 the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) deployed an interactive web-based food stamp pre-screening tool that can be utilized by the general public to determine potential Food Stamp Program eligibility. A previous notice was published in the **Federal Register** on May 10, 2002 at 67 FR 31760. The tool has two components. The first component helps the users determine their eligibility for food stamps. Once the user enters household size, income, expenses and resource information, the tool will calculate and provide the user with an estimated range of benefits that the household may be eligible to receive. Other data collected are:

- ID (Each entry is assigned a unique identifier)

- State (System stores answer to required entry: which state or territory the user is from)
 - Number of Children (System stores required entry: number of children in the household)
 - Number of Elderly (System stores required entry: number of elderly members in the household)
 - Migrant Workers (System stores required entry: is anyone in the household a seasonal or migrant farm worker)
 - Homeless (System stores required entry: is the household homeless or living in a shelter)
 - User Type (System stores required entry: who is using the tool)
 - User Referral (System stores required entry: how the user heard about the tool)
 - Amount (System stores tool output: if user was eligible to receive benefits and if so the estimated range of benefits)
- Since food stamp eligibility and benefit amount may vary by location, FNS makes it clear that the tool is only an estimator, and the household will need to contact the local agency to determine actual eligibility and the appropriate benefit amount.
- FNS does not retain any specific identifying information like last names, social security numbers, birthdays, etc about the household itself in the tool; however, the system does request the following information during the initial process in which the user enters data:
- The State in which the user resides;
 - Whether the user is using the tool for personal reasons or on behalf of others;
 - If they are using it on the behalf of others; the user will be asked to identify him/herself (e.g., relative of a person in need, advocacy organization, faith-based group, etc.) using a drop down menu.

Note: The above information is not retained once the user logs out of the system.

The second component is a formal survey appended to this tool. This information will help FNS to determine the degree of usage, the need for modifying the tool and potential areas for further study.

The optional Survey Component consists of responses to the following items:

- Gender (System stores optional survey entry: User gender)
- Zip Code (System stores optional survey entry: User zip code)
- Current Food Stamp Participation (System stores optional survey entry: Is user currently receiving food stamp benefits)
- Past Food Stamp Participation (System stores optional survey entry: Has user ever received food stamps)

- Will Apply (System stores optional survey entry: Will the user apply for food stamps)
- Tool Ease (System stores optional survey entry: Was the tool easy to use)
- Changed Mind (System stores optional survey entry: Did the result of the screening change the likelihood that the user will apply for benefits)
- Completed Survey (System stores tool output: Was a survey completed (partially, in full or not at all)
- Comments (System stores optional survey entry: User comments)

Estimate of Burden

Pre-Screening Tool Component Burden

Affected Public: Potential food stamp applicants and those using the tool on their behalf.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 264,000 per year.

Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Total Number of Annual Responses: 264,000.

Estimated Time per Response: 10 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 44,000 hours.

Survey Component Burden

Affected Public: Potential food stamp applicants and those using the tool on their behalf.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 251,000 per year.

Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Total Number of Annual Responses: 251,000.

Estimated Time per Response: 1 minute.

Estimated Total Survey Annual Burden: 4,183 hours.

Estimated Total Pre-Screening Tool Annual Burden + Estimated Total Survey Annual Burden: 48,183.

Dated: March 28, 2005.

Jerome A. Lindsay,

Acting Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.

[FR Doc. 05-6489 Filed 3-31-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

BLT Vegetation Management Project, Deschutes National Forest, Klamath County, OR

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The USDA, Forest Service, will prepare an environmental impact

statement (EIS) on a proposed action to address forest health and hazardous fuels concerns within the 14,800 acre planning area known as the BLT Vegetation Project. The planning area is located in the Upper Little Deschutes Watershed, which includes the upper reaches of the Little Deschutes River; it is located in T.25-26 S, R. 6½E; T. 25-26 S, R. 7E; T. 24S, R. 8 E. The alternatives will include the proposed action, no action, and additional alternatives that respond to issues generated through the scoping process. The agency will give notice of the full environmental analysis and decision making process so interested and affected people may participate and contribute to the final decision.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by 30 days following the date that this notice appears in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Phil Cruz, District Ranger, Crescent Ranger District, PO Box 208, Crescent, Oregon 97733.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Chris Mickle, Environmental Coordinator, Crescent Ranger District, PO Box 208, Crescent, Oregon 97773, phone (541) 433-3200. E-mail lcickle@fs.fed.us.

Responsible Official: The responsible official will be Leslie Weldon, Forest Supervisor, Deschutes National Forest, PO Box 1654 Hwy 20 East, Bend, OR 97701.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose and Need. Current conditions on the landscape indicate that forests are moving toward late seral stages, with stand structure becoming more complex and more susceptible to stand replacement events. Stands once dominated by large trees (greater than 21 inches in diameter) have a steadily increasing amount of smaller trees. In many areas the large trees do not dominate the forest sufficiently to provide adequately for species that depend on late- and old-structure habitat. Overcrowding and competition with the young, smaller trees are causing the large-tree component to decline. This may occur slowly through insect/disease outbreaks, or more rapidly through large-scale fire events.

In addition to unhealthy conditions for large trees, mortality resulting from insect and disease outbreaks has created dead fuel build up. High levels of blowdown in some areas increase the fuel loadings. Some lodgepole pine stands have an overstory that is in poor condition, with heavy mistletoe in some cases. This poses a condition that could