

entities. Primary wood-using mills are facilities that use roundwood to manufacture a primary product, such as lumber, wood pulp, veneer, etc. Forest Service personnel evaluate the information collected and use it to monitor volume of roundwood harvested throughout the Nation by primary product type, tree species, and origin. The information gathered is not available from other sources and provides baseline data for resource analyses, which are a key component in the formulation of forestry programs, industrial expansion decisions, and forest policy. Primary wood industry questionnaires are delivered to mills via regular mail or through email. Responses are collected through email, regular mail, phone interviews, or personal mill visits.

Logging Operations Questionnaire: This questionnaire is used by the Forest Service to collect and evaluate information from logging operations to help characterize the logging industry and its response to outside influences. The information is used to measure the 'health' of the logging industry as well as to provide background information for decision-making. The logging operations questionnaire is administered in person by field personnel during tree utilization data collection at sampled logging sites.

For this extension, we are proposing to revise the questionnaire for the primary wood industry survey to simplify the format and eliminate questions that are no longer needed. At the same time, we propose to test a few survey mechanisms that could help improve survey response and lower respondents' burden by piloting various survey structures including different questionnaire lengths (e.g., a three-question post-card or a short version of the traditional survey). We also propose using a cognitive survey to assess respondent's understanding of the survey questions and to identify areas of potential clarification. These proposed tests are in direct response to comments from data users, state partners, and other stakeholders indicating the need to adopt new approaches to motivate higher response rates. The logging operations survey will remain unchanged from the currently approved version.

In summary, this information collection will generate scientifically based, statistically reliable, up-to-date information about utilization of timber resources of the United States. Our testing efforts will allow us to improve the quality of data obtained. The results of these efforts contribute to the availability of reliable information on

timber resource use, facilitating more complete and accurate assessments of forest resources at state, regional, and national levels.

Affected Public: Individuals and the Private Sector (Businesses). In particular, mill owners and representatives, procurement foresters and loggers.

Estimate of Burden per Response: Accounting for the proposed tests, the primary wood industry questionnaire's estimated burdens are 41 minutes for the traditional format, to be delivered to a sample of 2,500 mills; 25 minutes for the short-form test version going to a sample of 98 mills; five minutes for the three-question post-card test to be sent to a sample of 2,500 mills; five minutes to a sample of 500 mills which will be screened for the cognitive interview; and 60 minutes for the cognitive interviews to be conducted for 20 mills identified during the screening process. Estimated time burden for the logging operations questionnaire is 11 minutes to be distributed to a sample of 150 logging operations.

Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 5,768.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 2,060 hours.

Comment is invited on: (1) Whether this collection of information is necessary for the stated purposes and proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical or scientific utility; (2) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the information collection, including validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses when provided, will be a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized and included in the submission request toward Office of Management and Budget approval.

Alexander L. Friend,
Deputy Chief, Research and Development.
[FR Doc. 2021-17319 Filed 8-12-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3411-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Request for Applications: The Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program

AGENCY: Forest Service, Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Request for applications.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), State and Private Forestry, and Cooperative Forestry staff requests applications for the Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program (Community Forest Program or CFP). This is a competitive grant program whereby local governments, qualified nonprofit organizations, and Indian tribes are eligible to apply for grants to establish community forests through fee simple acquisition of private forest land from a willing seller. The purpose of the program is to establish community forests by protecting forest land from conversion to non-forest uses and provide community benefits such as sustainable forest management; environmental benefits including clean air, water, and wildlife habitat; benefits from forest-based educational programs; benefits from serving as models of effective forest stewardship; and recreational benefits secured with public access.

DATES: Interested local government and nonprofit applicants must submit applications to the State Forester. Tribal applicants must submit applications to the appropriate Tribal government officials. All applications, either hardcopy or electronic, must be received by State Foresters or Tribal governments by January 10th, 2022. State Foresters or Tribal government officials must forward applications to the appropriate Forest Service Regional office or International Institute of Tropical Forestry by February 7th, 2022.

ADDRESSES: All local government and qualified nonprofit organization applications must be submitted to the State Forester of the State where the property is located. All Tribal applications must be submitted to the equivalent Tribal government official. Applicants are encouraged to contact and work with the Forest Service Region or International Institute of Tropical Forestry, and State Forester or equivalent Tribal government official when developing their proposal. Applicants must consult with the State Forester and equivalent Tribal government official prior to requesting technical assistance for a project. The

State Forester's member roster may be found on <https://www.stateforesters.org/who-we-are/our-membership/>. All applicants must also send an email to SM.FS.CFP@usda.gov to confirm an application has been submitted for funding consideration.

State Foresters and Tribal government officials shall submit applications, either electronic or hardcopy, to the appropriate Forest Service Region/Institute contact noted below.

Northern and Intermountain Regions

Regions 1 and 4

(ID, MT, ND, NV, UT)

Janet Valle, USDA Forest Service, 324 25th St., Ogden, UT 84401, 801-710-3795 (mobile), janet.valle@usda.gov

Rocky Mountain Region

Region 2

(CO, KS, NE, SD, WY)

Claire Harper, USDA Forest Service, 1617 Cole Boulevard, Bldg. 17, Lakewood, CO 80401, 303-895-6157 (mobile), claire.harper@usda.gov

Southwestern Region

Region 3

(AZ, NM)

Laura Moser, USDA Forest Service, 333 Broadway SE, Albuquerque, NM 87102, 928-607-6040 (mobile), laura.moser@usda.gov

Pacific Southwest Region

Region 5

(CA)

Dana Walsh, USDA Forest Service, 1323 Club Drive, Vallejo, CA 94592, 530-450-5555 (mobile), dana.walsh@usda.gov

(Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia and other Pacific Islands)

Katie Friday, USDA Forest Service, 60 Nowelo St., Hilo, HI 96720, 808-785-5197 (mobile), kathleen.friday@usda.gov

Pacific Northwest, and Alaska Regions

Regions 6 and 10

(AK, OR, WA)

Candice Polisky, USDA Forest Service, 1220 SW Third Ave., Portland, OR 97204, 971-710-2346 (mobile), candice.polisky@usda.gov

Southern Region

Region 8

(AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA)

Susan Granbery, USDA Forest Service, 1720 Peachtree Rd. NW, Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 30309, 770-883-8925 (mobile), susan.granbery@usda.gov

International Institute of Tropical Forestry (PR, VI)

Magaly Figueroa, USDA Forest Service, Jardin Botanico Sur, 1201 Calle Ceiba, San Juan, PR 00926-1119, 787-309-9565 (mobile), magaly.figueroa@usda.gov

Eastern Region

Region 9

(CT, DC, DE, IA, IL, IN, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, VT, WI, WV)

Neal Bungard, USDA Forest Service, 271 Mast Road, Durham, NH 03824, 603-833-3287 (mobile), neal.bungard@usda.gov

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions regarding the grant application or administrative regulations, contact Scott Stewart, Program Coordinator, 202-465-5038, scott.stewart@usda.gov and Nausheen Iqbal, 202-594-7554, nausheen.iqbal@usda.gov. Additional information about the Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program may be obtained at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/private-land/community-forest>.

Individuals who use telecommunications devices for the hearing-impaired (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339, 24 hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Eligible lands for grants funded under this program are private forest that are at least five acres in size, suitable to sustain natural vegetation, and at least 75 percent forested. The lands must also be threatened by conversion to non-forest uses, must not be held in trust by the United States on behalf of any Indian Tribe, must not be Tribal allotment lands, must be offered for sale by a willing seller, and if acquired by an eligible entity, must provide defined community benefits under CFP and allow public access.

CFDA number 10.689: To address the goals of Section 7A of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2103d) as amended, the Forest Service is requesting proposals for community forest projects that protect forest land that has been identified as a national, regional, or local priority for protection and to assist communities in acquiring forestland that will provide public recreation, environmental and economic benefits, and forest-based educational programs.

Detailed information regarding what to include in the application, definitions of terms, eligibility, and necessary prerequisites for consideration can be found in the final program rule, published April 2, 2021 (86 FR 17302), which is available at [https://](https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/private-land/community-forest/)

www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/private-land/community-forest/program.

Grant Application Requirements

1. Eligibility Information

a. **Eligible Applicants.** A local governmental entity, Indian Tribe (including Alaska Native Corporations), or a qualified nonprofit organization that is qualified to acquire and manage land. Individuals are not eligible to receive funds through this program.

b. **Cost Sharing (Matching Requirement).** All applicants must demonstrate a 50 percent match of the total project cost. The match can include cash, in-kind services, or donations, which shall be from a non-Federal source. For additional information, please see § 230.6 of the final rule.

c. **DUNS Number.** All applicants shall include a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number in their application. For this requirement, the applicant is the entity that meets the eligibility criteria and has the legal authority to apply for and receive the grant. For assistance in obtaining a DUNS number at no cost, call the DUNS number request line 1-866-705-5711 or register on-line at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>.

d. **System for Award Management.** All prospective awardees shall be registered in the System for Award Management prior to award, during performance, and through final payment of any grant resulting from this solicitation. Further information can be found at: <https://www.sam.gov/SAM/>. For assistance, contact the Federal Service Desk 1-866-606-8220.

2. Award Information

Funds have not yet been appropriated for CFP in FY 2022. Individual grant applications may not exceed \$600,000, which does not include technical assistance requests. The Federal Government's obligation under this program is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds.

No legal liability on the part of the Government shall be incurred until funds are committed by the grant officer for this program to the applicant in writing. The initial grant period shall be for two years, and acquisition of lands should occur within that timeframe. Lands acquired prior to the grant award are not eligible for CFP funding. The grant may be reasonably extended by the Forest Service when necessary to accommodate unforeseen circumstances in the land acquisition process. Written annual financial performance reports

and semi-annual project performance reports shall be required and submitted to the appropriate grant officer.

Technical assistance funds, totaling not more than 10 percent of all funds, may be allocated to State Foresters and equivalent officials of the Indian tribe. Technical assistance, if provided, will be awarded at the time of the grant. Applicants shall work with State Foresters and equivalent officials of the Indian Tribe to determine technical assistance needs and include the technical assistance request in the project budget.

As funding allows, applications submitted through this request may be funded in future years, subject to the availability of funds and the continued feasibility and viability of the project.

3. Application Information

Application submission. All local governments and qualified nonprofit organizations' applications must be submitted to the State Forester where the property is located by January 10th, 2022. All Tribal applications must be submitted to the equivalent Tribal officials by January 10th, 2022. Applications may be submitted either electronically or hardcopy to the appropriate official. The State Forester's contact information may be found at: <https://www.stateforesters.org/who-we-are/our-membership/>.

All applicants must also send an email to SM.FS.CFP@usda.gov to confirm an application has been submitted to the State Forester or equivalent Tribal official for funding consideration.

All State Foresters and Tribal government officials must forward applications to the Forest Service by February 7th, 2022.

4. Application Requirements

The following section outlines grant application requirements:

a. The application can be no more than eight pages long, plus no more than two maps (eight and half inches by eleven inches in size).

b. Documentation verifying that the applicant is an eligible entity and that the land proposed for acquisition is eligible (see § 230.2 of the final rule).

c. Applications must include the following, regarding the property proposed for acquisition:

- (1) A description of the property, including acreage and county location;
- (2) A description of current land uses, including improvements;
- (3) A description of forest type and vegetative cover;
- (4) A map of sufficient scale to show the location of the property in relation

to roads and other improvements as well as parks, refuges, green/open space, urban natural areas, or other protected lands in the vicinity;

(5) A description of applicable zoning and other land use regulations affecting the property;

(6) A description of the type of community being served and the extent of community benefits, including to underserved communities (see Project Selection Criteria);

(7) A description of relationship of the property within and its contributions to landscape conservation initiatives, as well as any environmental justice initiatives, if applicable; and

(8) A description of any threats of conversion to non-forest uses, including any encumbrances on the property that prevent conversion to non-forest uses.

d. Information regarding the proposed establishment of a community forest, including:

(1) A description of the benefiting community, including demographics, availability of and access to green spaces and other vulnerabilities including health, economic, environmental and climate impacts faced by the community and a description of the associated benefits;

(2) A description of community involvement, including underrepresented communities, to-date in the planning of the community forest acquisition, and the participation of different community groups anticipated in long-term management;

(3) An identification of persons and organizations that support the project, a description of how they represent the greater population of the community benefiting from the establishment and management of the community forest, their specific role in establishing and managing the community forest; and

e. Information regarding the proposed land acquisition, including:

(1) A proposed project budget not exceeding \$600,000 and technical assistance needs as coordinated with the State Forester or equivalent Tribal government official (section § 230.6 of the final program rule);

(2) The status of due diligence, including signed option or purchase and sale agreement, title search, minerals determination, and appraisal;

(3) Description and status of cost share (secure, pending, commitment letter, etc.) (section § 230.6 of the final rule);

(4) The status of negotiations with participating landowner(s) including purchase options, contracts, and other terms and conditions of sale;

(5) The proposed timeline for completing the acquisition and establishing the community forest; and;

(6) Long term management costs and funding source(s).

f. Applications must comply with the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards also referred to as the Omni Circular (2 CFR part 200).

In order to assist applicants, a Community Forest Road Map can be found on the CFP website at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/private-land/community-forest/program>. The application guidance is located at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/application-guidance-revised.pdf> and the scoring guidance is at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/ScoringGuidance-revised.pdf>.

5. Forest Service's Project Selection Criteria

a. Using the criteria described below, to the extent practicable, the Forest Service will give priority to applications that maximize the delivery of community benefits, as defined in the final rule (see section § 230.2 of the final rule); and

b. The Forest Service will evaluate all applications received by the State Foresters or equivalent Tribal government officials and award grants based on the following criteria:

(1) Type and extent of community benefits provided, including to underserved communities. Community benefits are defined in the final program rule as:

(i) Economic benefits, such as timber and non-timber products resulting from sustainable forest management, recreation, and tourism;

(ii) Environmental benefits, including clean air and water, stormwater management, wildlife habitat, and cultural resources.

(iii) Benefits from forest-based experiential learning, including K–12 conservation education programs; vocational education programs in disciplines such as forestry and environmental biology; and environmental education through individual study or voluntary participation in programs offered by organizations such as 4–H, Boy or Girl Scouts, Master Gardeners, etc.;

(iv) Benefits from serving as replicable models of effective forest stewardship for private landowners; and

(v) Recreational benefits such as hiking, hunting, and fishing secured through public access.

(2) Extent and nature of community engagement, including participation by

underserved communities, in the establishment and long-term management of the community forest;

(3) Amount of cost share leveraged;

(4) Extent to which the community forest contributes to any landscape conservation initiatives, as well as any applicable environmental justice initiatives;

(5) Extent of due diligence completed on the project, including cost share committed and status of appraisal;

(6) Likelihood that, unprotected, the property would be converted to non-forest uses; and

(7) Costs to the Federal Government.

6. Grant Requirements

a. Once an application is selected, funding will be obligated to the grant recipient through a grant adhering to the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards also referred to as the Omni Circular (2 CFR part 200).

b. Forest Service must approve any amendments to a proposal or request to reallocate funding within a grant proposal. If negotiations on a selected project fail, the applicant cannot substitute an alternative site.

c. The grant recipient must comply with the requirements in section § 230.8 in the final rule before funds will be released.

d. After the project has closed, as a requirement of the grant, grant recipients will be required to provide the Forest Service with a Geographic Information System (GIS) shapefile: A digital, vector-based storage format for storing geometric location and associated attribute information, of CFP project tracts and cost share tracts, if applicable.

e. Any funds not expended within the grant period must be de-obligated and revert to the Forest Service.

f. All media, press, signage, and other documents discussing the creation of the community forest must reference the partnership and financial assistance by the Forest Service through the CFP.

Dated: August 9, 2021.

Jaelith Hall-Riviera,

Acting Deputy Chief, State and Private Forestry.

[FR Doc. 2021-17317 Filed 8-12-21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural-Business Cooperative Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection; Comments Request; Rural Development Loan Servicing

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: 60-Day notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Business-Cooperative Service's (RBCS) intention to request a revision of a currently approved information collection in support of Rural Development Loan Servicing for the Intermediary Relending Program.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by October 12, 2021 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lori Pittman, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA, STOP 3226, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250-3226, Telephone: (202) 720-1400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Rural Development Loan Servicing.

OMB Number: 0570-0015.

Expiration Date of Approval: November 30, 2021.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: Subpart R of 7 CFR part 1951 contains regulations for servicing and liquidating loans made by Rural Development under the Intermediary Relending Program (IRP) and the Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program (RMAP) to eligible intermediaries and applies to ultimate recipients and other involved parties. The information requested is vital to RBS for prudent loan servicing, credit decisions, and reasonable program monitoring.

Rural Development has determined that the financial reporting requirements are necessary to provide the Agency with current information in order to monitor the program, to make various reporting requirements to Congress, and for program innovation and expansion under the Government's Performance Review.

Servicing of the IRP is administered by RBCS in Washington, DC, which will be the primary user of the information collected. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the general public can request the majority of the

data by the Agency from the intermediaries, except for information that is classified as confidential.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 3 hours per response.

Respondents: Non-profit corporations, public agencies, Indian groups and cooperatives.

Estimated number of Respondents: 475.

Estimated number of responses: 3,941.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 11,878 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Kimble Brown, Innovation Center—Regulations Management Division, at (202) 720-6780.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of RBCS, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of RBCS 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 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.

Mark Brodziski,

Acting Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

[FR Doc. 2021-17344 Filed 8-12-21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

[Docket No. RBCS-BUSINESS-0025]

Notice of Request for Revisions of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.