

to Docket No. 04-017-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3C71, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. 04-017-1.

- *E-mail:* Address your comment to regulations@aphis.usda.gov. Your comment must be contained in the body of your message; do not send attached files. Please include your name and address in your message and "Docket No. 04-017-1" on the subject line.

- *Agency Web site:* Go to <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/cominst.html> for a form you can use to submit an e-mail comment through the APHIS Web site.

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and follow the instructions for locating this docket and submitting comments.

Reading Room: You may read any comments that we receive on this docket in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690-2817 before coming.

Other Information: You may view APHIS documents published in the **Federal Register** and related information, including the names of groups and individuals who have commented on APHIS dockets, on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrepor.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the tuberculosis eradication regulations and payments to owners of dairy cattle in El Paso, Texas, contact Dr. Terry Beals, Senior Staff Veterinarian, Eradication and Surveillance Team, National Center for Animal Health Programs, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 43, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-5467. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 734-7477.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Tuberculosis Payments to Owners of Dairy Cattle in El Paso, Texas.

OMB Number: 0579-0193.

Type of Request: Extension of approval of an information collection.

Abstract: The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is responsible for, among other things, preventing the interstate spread of pests

and diseases of livestock within the United States and for conducting eradication programs. In connection with this mission, USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) participates in the Cooperative State-Federal Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication Program, which is a national program to eliminate bovine tuberculosis from the United States.

Federal regulations implementing this program are contained in 9 CFR part 77. Additionally, the regulations in 9 CFR part 50 provide for the payment of indemnity to owners of certain animals destroyed because of tuberculosis, in order to encourage destruction of animals that are infected with, or at significant risk of being infected with, the disease. In part 50, payments are also authorized to owners of dairy cattle in El Paso, Texas, for their animals and other property, the cessation of operations, and relocation of a dairy plant's equipment.

The payment program for owners in El Paso, TX, requires the use of a number of information collection activities, including an agreement to cease operations, the use of metal eartags, movement permits, salvage reports, salvage and disposal affidavits, and payment claim forms.

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 information collection, 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 information collection 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 1.483 hours per response.

Respondents: Owners of dairy operations in the El Paso, TX, area;

owner/operators of livestock markets and slaughtering plants in the El Paso, TX, area; cattle purchasers and selling agents; State animal health authorities; and accredited veterinarians.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 95.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 6.210526.

Estimated annual number of responses: 590.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 875 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 25th day of March 2004.

Kevin Shea,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 04-7010 Filed 3-29-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

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, April 19, 2004. The Madera Resource Advisory Committee will meet at the USDA Forest Service Office, North Fork, CA. The purpose of the meeting is: New RAC proposal review and voting, review Holistic Goal & Evaluation Criteria, and Review Sierra Business Council book.

DATES: The Madera Resource Advisory Committee meeting will be held Monday, April 19, 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 USDA Forest Service Office, 57003 Road 225, North Fork, CA 93643.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dave Martin, U.S.D.A., 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) New RAC proposal review and voting, (2) review Holistic Goal & Evaluation Criteria, and (3) review of Sierra Business Council book. Public input opportunity will be provided and individuals will have the opportunity to address the Committee at that time.

Dated: March 23, 2004.

David W. Martin,

District Ranger, Bass Lake Ranger District.

[FR Doc. 04-7024 Filed 3-29-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Mendocino Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Mendocino County Resource Advisory Committee will meet April 16, 2004, (RAC) in Willits, California. Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Approval of minutes, (2) Public Comment, (3) Processes, (4) Forest Service Projects and other potential projects, (5) Multiple Use—discussion, (6) General Discussion, (7) Next agenda and meeting date.

DATES: The meeting will be held on April 16, 2004, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Mendocino County Museum, located at 400 E. Commercial St., Willits, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roberta Hurt, Committee Coordinator, USDA, Mendocino National Forest, Covelo Ranger District, 78150 Covelo Road, Covelo CA 95428. (707) 983-8503; E-mail rhurt@fs.fed.us

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. Persons who wish to bring matters to the attention of the Committee may file written statements with the Committee staff by April 1, 2004. Public comment will have the opportunity to address the committee at the meeting.

Dated: March 24, 2004.

Blaine Baker,

Designated Federal Official.

[FR Doc. 04-7038 Filed 3-29-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection, comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces Rural Development's intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG) Program.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by June 1, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Marc Warman, Program Leader, Funded Programs, Cooperative Services, Rural Business and Cooperative Programs, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 3250, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20252-3250, Telephone Number (202) 690-1431.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Value-Added Producer Grants.

OMB Number: 0570-0039.

Expiration Date of Approval: October 30, 2004.

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

Abstract: The primary purpose of the Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG) Program is to enable producers of agricultural commodities to participate in the economic returns to be found in the value-added market. Grants can be used for planning purposes such as feasibility studies, marketing plans, and business plans. Grants can also be used to establish working capital accounts to pay salaries, utilities, and other operating expenses for a new venture to help achieve a positive cash flow. Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis to eligible applicants based on specific selection criteria.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 43 hours per grant application.

Respondents: Independent agricultural producers, farmer and rancher cooperatives, agricultural producer groups, and majority-controlled producer-based groups.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 800.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Number of Responses: 800.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 34,040 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Cheryl Thompson, Regulations and Paperwork Management Division, at (202) 692-0043.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of Rural Development functions, including whether the information will have a practical utility; (b) the accuracy of Rural Development'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 the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Cheryl Thompson, Regulations and Paperwork Management Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, STOP 0742, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250. 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.

Dated: March 23, 2004.

John Rosso,

Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

[FR Doc. 04-7036 Filed 3-29-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XY-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Maximum Dollar Amount on Awards Under the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2004

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service hereby announces the maximum dollar amount on loan and grant awards under the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) program for fiscal year (FY) 2004. The maximum dollar award on zero-interest loans for FY 2004 is \$450,000. The maximum dollar award on grants for FY 2004 is \$300,000. The maximum loan and grant awards stated in this notice are effective for loans and