

of livestock and poultry diseases within the United States. Regulations in Part 71 contain requirements for moving swine interstate within a swine production system. (A production system consists of separate farms that each specialize in a different phase of swine production—sow herds, nursery herds, and finishing herds). Moving swine interstate within a swine production system involves the use of two information collection activities in the form of a Swine Production Health Plan and an Interstate Swine Movement Report.

Need and Use of the Information: The Swine Production Health Plan is a document developed by participating swine producers, stating that all farms within the given swine production system will maintain the health of their swine and remain vigilant for any signs of communicable disease. The Interstate Swine Movement Report is a document initiated by swine producers to notify their accredited veterinarians, APHIS, and State regulatory officials in the States of origin and destination that a group of animals is being moved across State lines in a swine production system. Without the information, the movement of swine interstate within a swine production system would become less efficient and more time-consuming, consequently placing more financial and logistical burden on producers who regularly engage in this activity.

Description of Respondents: Farms; Federal Government.

Number of Respondents: 1,000.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 1,000.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket No. FV04-996-1]

Peanut Standards Board

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for nominations.

SUMMARY: The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a Peanut Standards Board (Board) for the purpose of advising the Secretary on quality and handling standards for domestically produced and imported

peanuts. The initial Board was appointed by the Secretary and announced on December 5, 2002. USDA seeks nominations for individuals to be considered for selection as Board members for terms of office ending June 30, 2007. Selected nominees sought by this action would replace those six producer and industry representatives who are currently serving for the initial term of office that ends June 30, 2004. The Board consists of 18 members representing producers and industry representatives.

DATES: Written nominations must be received on or before April 30, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Nominations should be sent to Dawana J. Clark, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, Suite 2A04, Unit 155, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737; Telephone: (301) 734-5243; Fax: (301) 734-5275; E-mail: Dawana.Clark@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 1308 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Farm Bill) requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a Peanut Standards Board (Board) for the purpose of advising the Secretary regarding the establishment of quality and handling standards for all domestic and imported peanuts marketed in the United States. The Farm Bill requires the Secretary to consult with the Board before the Secretary establishes or changes quality and handling standards for peanuts.

The Farm Bill provides that the Board consist of 18 members, with three producers and three industry representatives from the States specified in each of the following producing regions: (a) Southeast (Alabama, Georgia, and Florida); (b) Southwest (Texas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico); and (c) Virginia/Carolina (Virginia and North Carolina).

For the initial appointments, the Farm Bill required the Secretary to stagger the terms of the members so that: (a) One producer member and peanut industry member from each peanut producing region serves a one-year term; (b) one producer member and peanut industry member from each peanut producing region serves a two-year term; and (c) one producer member and peanut industry member from each peanut producing region serves a three-year term. The term "peanut industry representatives" includes, but is not limited to, representatives of shellers, manufacturers, buying points, marketing associations and marketing cooperatives. The Farm Bill exempted the appointment of the Board from the requirements of the Federal Advisory

Committee Act. The initial Board was appointed by the Secretary and announced on December 5, 2002.

USDA invites those individuals, organizations, and groups affiliated with the categories listed above to nominate individuals for membership on the Board. Nominees sought by this action would replace one producer and one industry member from each peanut producing region who served for the initial term of office that ends June 30, 2004. New members would serve for a 3-year term of office ending June 30, 2007.

Nominees should complete a Peanut Standards Board Background Information form and submit it to Mrs. Clark. Copies of this form may be obtained at the Internet site: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/peanut-farmbill.htm>, or from Mrs. Clark. USDA seeks a diverse group of members representing the peanut industry.

Equal opportunity practices will be followed in all appointments to the Board in accordance with USDA policies. To ensure that the recommendations of the Board have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups within the peanut industry, membership shall include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated abilities to represent minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and limited resource agriculture producers.

Dated: February 18, 2004.

A.J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

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BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Rural Utilities Service

Farm Service Agency

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCIES: Rural Housing Service, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Rural Utilities Service, Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the subject agencies'

intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the programs for 7 CFR part 1956, subpart B, "Debt Settlement—Farmer Loan Programs and Multi-Family Housing."

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by April 26, 2004 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Janet Stouder, Deputy Director, Multi-Family Housing Portfolio Management, USDA, RHS, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250-0782, telephone (202) 720-9728. Electronic mail: janet.stouder@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Debt Settlement—Farm Loan Programs and Multi-Family Housing.

OMB Number: 0575-0118.

Expiration Date of Approval: July 31, 2004.

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

Abstract: This regulation defines items to be submitted by borrowers to request settlement of their debt. Information regarding past and present income, living expenses, debt repayment, assets and liabilities is obtained. The information is used to determine if acceptance of the settlement offer is in the best interest of the Government and document the borrower's request and offer.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to average 8.5 hours per response.

Respondents: Individuals or households, businesses or other for profit and farms.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,400.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Number of Responses: 2,400.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 20,400.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Renita Bolden, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Support Services Division at (202) 692-0035.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the subject agencies, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agencies' 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. Comments may be sent to Renita Bolden, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Support Services Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, STOP 0742, 1400 Independence Ave. 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: February 12, 2004.

Arthur A. Garcia,

Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

Dated: February 12, 2004.

Peter J. Thomas,

Acting Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

Dated: February 11, 2004.

James R. Little,

Administrator, Farm Services Agency.

Dated: February 12, 2004.

Curtis M. Anderson,

Acting Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.

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BILLING CODE 3410-XV-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Payette National Forest, Idaho; Paddy Flat Vegetation Management Project

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: The USDA Forest Service will prepare the Paddy Flat Vegetation Management Project EIS. The proposed action in the EIS is to harvest timber and to do timber stand improvement in stands in the Paddy Flat Subdivision. The Payette National Forest invites written comments and suggestions on the scope of the analysis and the issues to address. The agency gives notice of the full National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis and decision-making process so that interested and affected people know how they may participate and contribute to the final decision.

DATES: Comments need to be received by March 29, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to mark J. Madrid, Forest Supervisor, Payette National Forest, P.O. Box 1026, McCall, Idaho, 83638.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions about the proposed action should be directed to Dan Anderson, Interdisciplinary Team Leader, at the above address, phone (208) 634-0400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Paddy Flat project area is located in the Kennally Creek sub-watershed on the McCall Ranger District. It is about 16 miles southeast of McCall, and approximately 6,700 acres in size. The purpose and need for this activity is to (1) move stands toward the desired condition in the Forest Plan for vegetation and (2) reduce the potential for uncharacteristic and/or undesired fire and create conditions that in the case of wildfire will tend toward a lower risk surface fire on National Forest System lands surrounding the Paddy Flat Subdivision.

The proposed action includes a variety of activities to meet the purpose and need. (1) Harvest timber on approximately 594 acres, producing approximately 6.3 million board feet (MMBF) of wood products, using tractor, jammer, and skyline logging systems. The silvicultural methods used would be shelterwood w/reserve tree, clearcut w/reserve tree, intermediate treatment, and improvement cut. (2) Excavator pile and burn approximately 488 acres, jackpot pile and burn approximately 14 acres, broadcast burn approximately 82 acres, and lop and scatter activity fuels on approximately 10 acres. (3) Regenerate by planting with seral species approximately 452 acres. (4) Reduce overall road density and reduce impacts to water quality in the project area by decommissioning approximately 18.0 miles of unneeded roads. (5) Build approximately 2.7 miles of new road to facilitate timber harvest. (6) Thin approximately 1,078 acres of plantations to reduce competition and increase growth. (7) Reduce the potential for uncharacteristic and/or undesirable fire by reducing the density in plantations and reducing the crown density of live trees and numbers of dead trees on National Forest System lands in proximity to the Paddy Flat Subdivision.

Preliminary issues for this project include effects on water quality, soil productivity, wildlife habitat, and access management.

A range of reasonable alternatives will be considered. The no-action alternative will serve as a baseline for comparison of alternatives. The proposed action will be considered along with additional