

Act \$25,000,000 should be used by the Secretary to compensate growers for losses on several specifically-named plant diseases. No particular breakdown of whom should be paid was set out in the statute, nor was a particular area identified for payments or a particular disposition specified in the statute for dividing up the funds among the eligible causes of loss. However, among the covered causes of losses covered in section 203(e) was that covered in section 203(e)(1)(C), which specified that monies could be used to pay growers for losses due to Pierce's disease, a disease that can damage vines. In this respect, the Managers report that accompanied ARPA specified that: "With respect to Pierce's disease, the Managers expect the Secretary to utilize at least \$7,140,000 in a manner that enables the California Department of Food and Agriculture to utilize such funding for state and local efforts to contain and control Pierce's disease, which is devastating agricultural areas in southern California, and is moving northward. Funds are needed immediately to monitor for the earliest signs of the diseases and to inspect nursery stock prior to shipment. The disease is spread by a vigorous and difficult to control insect called the glassy-winged sharpshooter. This insect is a major problem, but the elimination of the insect would not eliminate the disease." Some ambiguity exists in the Manager's Report because the Manager's Report referred to monies being expended for eradication efforts and the text of the law referred to payments to growers for their losses. Also of note is section 261(a)(2) of ARPA. That subsection specified that funding will be available for section 203, but it was further specified in section 262 of ARPA that funds made available under section 261(a)(2) must be obligated and expended in fiscal year 2001, which ends September 30, 2001. Further, section 804 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (2001 Appropriations Act) provides that the Secretary could use the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) to administer and make payment for losses not otherwise compensated to compensate growers for losses due to Pierce's disease. CCC does plan to provide for coverage of such losses generally in the crop loss program being implemented under sections 804 and 815 of the 2001 Appropriations Act and will do so for growers in all affected areas. In using the discretionary authority under section 804 CCC has

planned to treat Pierce's disease in the same manner as other losses covered by section 815, which incorporates by reference to previous disaster programs provisions for a payment limitation and a gross income test for eligibility.

In order to assure that any funds for these losses are used to compensate grape growers for vine losses it is proposed in this notice that, as set forth in the Manager's Report accompanying this provision, that \$7,140,000 be made available to the State of California for losses resulting from Pierce's disease infection spread by the Glassy-wing sharpshooter. These funds would be made available directly to the State and the State would decide how it would distribute funds among affected growers. All comments favorable or unfavorable to this disposition should be addressed to the person above by the indicated date.

By statute, the funds under section 203 must be expended by September 30, 2001. Accordingly, it does not appear feasible to do anything but make the payment to the State of California. The State would be allowed to deduct from the sums made available to growers those sums needed to administer the program. If the State was unwilling to take on the burden of disposing of the funds then the fund would go unexpended. As provided under section 804 of the 2001 Appropriations Act, any payments received by producers as a result of disbursements under section 203 of ARPA (that is, any disbursement resulting from the payment contemplated by this notice) would count against that person's eligibility under the program administered by CCC under section 804.

Signed at Washington, DC, on August 13, 2001.

James R. Little,

Acting Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. 01-20843 Filed 8-15-01; 10:02 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Giant Sequoia National Monument Scientific Advisory Board

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Giant Sequoia National Monument Scientific Advisory Board (Scientific Advisory Board) will meet in Sequoia National Park, California, September 5 and 6, 2001. The purpose of the meeting is to hear comments from the public; affirm advisories drafted at

the July meeting; review issues from the Giant Sequoia National Monument planning team; and initiate discussions for developing Advisories on issues.

DATES: The meeting will be held September 5 and 6, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. One half-day of the meeting is reserved for a field visit to parts of Sequoia National Park and Giant Sequoia National Monument.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at Wuksachi Lodge, 64720 Wuksachi Way, Sequoia National Park, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To receive further information, contact Arthur L. Gaffrey, 559-784-1500.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. If you are planning to attend either day, please contact Arthur L. Gaffrey to ensure adequate seating. Guidelines for the public participation portion of the Scientific Advisory Board's meeting are as follows: The public will be allowed to address the Scientific Advisory Board during the first 30 minutes of the meeting on September 5; when registering participants must provide a written copy of their presentation for inclusion in the meeting minutes; oral presentations may be no more than 5 minutes in length, depending on the number of people wishing to address the Scientific Advisory Board, priority for presentations will be given to persons who did not make a presentation at the July meeting; and all presentations must be related to the science surrounding the development of the Management Plan for the Giant Sequoia National Monument. Some members of the Scientific Advisory Board may participate in the meeting via telephone. In that event, arrangements will be made to enable the public to listen to all the members participating in the meeting.

A field visit to parts of the Sequoia National Park and Giant Sequoia National Monument is planned for part of the meeting. The field visit is also open to the public. Anyone wishing to attend the field visit must provide his or her own transportation. Carpooling is encouraged. Written comments for the Scientific Advisory Board may be submitted to Forest Supervisor Arthur L. Gaffrey, Sequoia National Forest, 900 West Grand Avenue, Porterville, California 93257.

A final agenda can be obtained by contacting Arthur L. Gaffrey or by visiting the Giant Sequoia National Monument web site at www.r5.fs.fed.us/giant_sequoia.

Dated: August 8, 2001.

Arthur L. Gaffrey,

Forest Supervisor, Sequoia National Forest.

[FR Doc. 01-20752 Filed 8-16-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Nutrient Budgeting Tool: Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2001

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA

ACTION: Announcement of availability of funds and request for applications for a Cooperative Agreement for the development of a farm nutrient budgeting tool that addresses manure, organic by-products, and commercial fertilizers.

SUMMARY: The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announces the availability of FY 2001 funds under the Conservation Technical Assistance program. Applications are being solicited for a Cooperative Agreement to develop a farm nutrient budgeting tool that addresses manure, organic by-products, and commercial fertilizers. Funding for this agreement is authorized by Section 714 of the FY 2001 Agricultural Appropriations Act, Public Law 106-387. Animal Feeding Operations (AFO) has come under scrutiny due to the potential adverse impact AFO can have on water quality if not managed properly. AFO operators are developing nutrient management plans to address the use of commercial fertilizers, manure, and other organic by-products for crop production which minimizes adverse impact on water quality. Due to the technical complexities involved in developing nutrient management plans, a simplified approach needs to be developed that will allow AFO operators to explore science-based planning alternatives.

Eligible Applicants: States and public or non-profit agencies and organizations, including Indian Tribes and institutions of higher education.

Date Applications Available: August 9, 2001.

Deadline for Submission of Applications: August 30, 2001.

Deadline for Inter-Governmental Review: September 10, 2001.

Size of Award: \$100,000.

Project Period: Date of award through September 30, 2002.

Page Limit: Application narrative (Part III of the application) is where the

applicant addresses the selection criteria which reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than 4 pages, using the following standards:

1. A page is 8.5 inches by 11 inches; one side only, with 1-inch margins at the top, bottom, and one side.
2. Use a font that is 12-point or larger, or no smaller than 10-point (characters per inch). The page limit does not apply to Part I, the cover sheet; Part II, the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography, or the letters of support. In addition to the narrative supporting information in relation to the selection criteria, which is readable, executable from a CD-ROM, or located on a web site, will be allowed. Furthermore, the information will not be counted against the four-page limitation.

An application will be rejected if Part III does not comply with the page limit restrictions or the minimum font size.

Applicable Regulations: The Department of Agriculture, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, regulations in 7 CFR parts 3015, 3019, and 3052.

Selection Criteria: In evaluating an application for an award, NRCS will take into account the degree to which the proposal addresses:

1. The development of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium nutrient budgets at the farm level for manure, organic by-products and commercial fertilizers; land grant university fertilizer requirements; and determination of manure nutrients generated on-farm for each major animal sector. (40)
2. The functionality, ease of use, and the comprehensiveness of documentation provided by the proposed tool. (40)

3. The qualifications, knowledge, and experience of individuals identified in the proposal as they relate to nutrient management and science-based tool development; and the capability of proposed staffing to complete the proposal within the period of the cooperative agreement.

The maximum score for all the above criteria is 100 points.

NRCS reserves the right to negotiate with the Project Director and/or the submitting entity regarding project revisions (e.g. reductions in scope of work), funding level, or period of support prior to award. A proposal may be withdrawn at anytime before a final funding decision is made. A copy of each proposal that is not selected for funding (including those that are

withdrawn) will be retained by NRCS for one year.

Programmatic Contact: For additional information on the program, please contact: Mr. Dan Meyer, Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service at (301) 504-2226 or by e-mail at dan.meyer@usda.gov.

For Applications Contact: Sheila Leonard, Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, P.O. Box 2890, Room 5220 South Building, Washington, D.C. 20013-2890. Telephone: (202) 720-2604, FAX: (202) 720-7149.

To file a complaint of discrimination to USDA, write USDA Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Signed in Washington, D.C., on August 10, 2001.

Pearlie S. Reed,

Chief, Natural Resource Conservation Service.

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COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Additions and Deletion

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed additions to and deletion from Procurement List.

SUMMARY: The Committee is proposing to add to the Procurement List commodities and services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and to delete commodity previously furnished by such agencies.

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE: September 17, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Jefferson Plaza 2, Suite 10800, 1421 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-3259.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Louis R. Bartalot (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 47(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on