

Notices

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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

Office of the Secretary

Notice of Request for Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Appeals Division.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Appeals Division's to request an extension for and revision to a currently approved information collection for Customer Service Survey.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by August 14, 2006 to be assured of consideration.

Additional Information or Comments: Contact Jerry Jobe, U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Appeals Division, 3101 Park Center Drive, Suite 1100, Alexandria, VA 22302, 703.305.2514, 703.305.1496 (fax).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: National Appeals Division Customer Service Survey.

OMB Number: 0503-0007.

Expiration Date of Approval: October 31, 2006.

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

Abstract: NAD proposes to extend and revise its currently approved information collection survey. This revision will include collecting information pertaining to its Public Awareness Program.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .33 hours per response.

Respondents: Appellants, farm show attendees, producers, and other USDA Agencies.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1176.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: One (1).

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 388.

Comments are invited on: (1) 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; (2) 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; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) 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 Jerry L. Jobe, U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Appeals Division, 3101 Park Center Drive, Suite 1100, Alexandria, VA 22302, 703.305.2514, 703.305.1496 (fax). All comments received will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same address.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Roger Klurfeld,

Director, National Appeals Division.

[FR Doc. E6-9219 Filed 6-12-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-WY-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Highland Lake Fish Passage, Highland Lake Watershed, Westbrook, ME

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability of Finding of No Significant Impact.

SUMMARY: The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has prepared an Environmental Assessment

(EA) for the Highland Lake Fish Passage Project, Westbrook, Maine. NRCS has found that the restoration of the Highland Lake Stream channel and alteration to the fishway would not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment, particularly when focusing on the significant adverse effects that NEPA is intended to help decision makers avoid and mitigate against. Therefore, NRCS has prepared a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended, and gives notice that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Single copies of the EA and FONSI documents, may be obtained by contacting Mr. Wayne Munroe, District Conservationist, USDA-NRCS, 306 U.S. Route One, Suite A1, Scarborough, ME 04074, (207) 883-0159 ext. 101. For additional information related to this notice, contact Joyce Swartzendruber, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 967 Illinois Avenue, Suite 3, Bangor, ME 04401-2700; telephone (207) 990-9100 ext. 3. Comments on the EA and FONSI must be received no later than 30 days after this notice is published.

DATES: *Effective Date:* Comments on the EA and FONSI must be postmarked on or before the effective date of June 19, 2006.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The sponsoring local organization, Maine Department of Marine Resources (MDMR), concurs with this determination and agrees with carrying forward the proposed project. The objective of the sponsoring local organization is to create a stable unbraided stream channel and improve a fish ladder in the Highland Lake Dam in order to provide passage for migrating anadromous fish.

The FONSI has been forwarded to the Federal Energy Regulatory Agency and to various Federal, State and local agencies and interested parties.

No administrative action on implementation of the proposed action will be taken until 30 days after the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: June 5, 2006.

Joyce A. Swartzendruber,
State Conservationist.

[FR Doc. E6-9196 Filed 6-12-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Announcement of the Small, Minority Producer Grant Program Application Deadlines

AGENCY: Rural Business—Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of solicitation of applications.

SUMMARY: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service announces the availability of approximately \$1.473 million in competitive grant funds for fiscal year (FY) 2006 for cooperatives and associations of cooperatives to assist small minority producers. USDA Rural Development Cooperative Programs hereby requests proposals from eligible cooperatives and associations of cooperatives interested in a competitively awarded grant. The cooperatives and associations of cooperatives will be use the grants to fund technical assistance to rural businesses. The maximum award per grant is \$200,000.

DATES: Applicants may submit completed applications for grants on paper or electronically according to the following deadlines:

Paper copies must be postmarked and mailed, shipped, or sent overnight no later than July 28, 2006, to be eligible for FY 2006 grant funding. Late applications are not eligible for FY 2006 grant funding.

Electronic copies must be received by July 28, 2006, to be eligible for FY 2006 grant funding. Late applications are not eligible for FY 2006 grant funding.

The comment period for information collection under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 continues through August 14, 2006. Comments on the paperwork burden must be received by this date to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Applicants may obtain application guides and materials for the Small Minority Producer Grant Program (SMPG) at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/SMPG/SMPG.htm> or by contacting your USDA Rural Development State Office. You can reach your State Office by calling (202) 720-4323 and pressing "1".

Submit completed paper applications for a grant to Cooperative Programs,

Attn: SMPG Program, Mail Stop 3250, Room 4016-South, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-3250. The telephone number that should be used for FedEx packages is (202) 720-7558. You may also submit electronic grant applications at <http://www.grants.gov>, following the instructions found on this Website.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Visit the program Web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/SMPG/SMPG.htm>, which contains application guidance or contact USDA Rural Development Cooperative Programs at 202-720-7558 or cpgrants@wdc.usda.gov. Applicants are encouraged to contact Cooperative Programs well in advance of the deadline to discuss their projects and ask any questions about the application process.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Paperwork Reduction Act

The collection of information requirements contained in this notice have received temporary emergency clearance by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under Control Number 0570-0052. However, in accordance with the paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, USDA Rural Development will seek standard OMB approval of the reporting requirements contained in this Notice and hereby opens a 60-day public comment period.

Title: Small Minority Producer Grant Program.

Type of Request: New collection.

Abstract: USDA Rural Development needs to receive the information contained in this collection of information to select the projects it believes will provide the most long-term economic benefit to rural areas. The selection process is competitive. USDA Rural Development will ensure that the funds are used for the intended purpose. The primary focus is to provide assistance to small minority producers and whose governing board and/or membership is comprised of at least 75 percent minority. These funds are to be used for cooperatives and association of cooperatives to provide technical assistance to small minority producers and minority cooperatives in rural areas.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden contained in this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response.

Respondents: Minority Cooperatives and Minority Associations of Cooperatives

Estimated Number of Respondents: 25.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 14.

Estimated Number of Responses: 347.
Estimated Total Annual Burden on respondents: 418.

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

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of Rural Development, including whether the information will have 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 through 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 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.

Overview

Federal Agency: Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS).

Funding Opportunity Title: Small, Minority Producer Grants.

Announcement Type: Initial announcement.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 10-771

Dates: Application Deadline: Applicants may submit completed applications for grants on paper or electronically according to the following deadlines:

Paper copies must be postmarked and mailed, shipped, or sent overnight no later than July 28, 2006, to be eligible for FY 2006 grant funding. Late applications are not eligible for FY 2006 grant funding.

Electronic copies must be received by July 28, 2006, to be eligible for FY 2006 grant funding. Late applications are not eligible for FY 2006 grant funding.

Programs Affected

This will not affect other programs in USDA Rural Development.