

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

Privacy Act; System of Records

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, USDA.
ACTION: Notice of New Privacy Act System of Records.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that USDA proposes to create a new Privacy Act system of records, USDA/RMA, entitled "Dairy Options Pilot Program (DOPP), USDA/RMA."

EFFECTIVE DATE: This notice will be adopted without further publication in the **Federal Register** on December 14, 1998 unless modified by a subsequent notice to incorporate comments received from the public. Although the Privacy Act requires only that the portion of the system which describes the "routine uses" of the system be published for comment, USDA invites comments on all portions of this notice. Comments must be received by the contact person listed below on or before December 3, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: E. Heyward Baker, Director, Reinsurance Services Division, Risk Management Agency, Room 6727-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250, Telephone: (202) 720-0191.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. 552a, USDA is creating a new system of records to be maintained by the Risk Management Agency (RMA) to support the DOPP; a program to educate dairy farmers in the use of options as risk management tools. The system contains data on purchases of options on milk futures contracts.

The purpose of DOPP is to educate dairy producers in the use of options contracts as risk management tools and to ascertain their particular usefulness to dairy producers in various regional markets. The program lasts 6 to 8 months for each participant. Over that

time, RMA will train the producers and pay for 80 percent of the premiums of their options contracts and up to \$30 in brokers fees per contract. Brokers play a key role in DOPP. Producers will select their own DOPP-eligible brokers and place orders through those brokers. Brokers will use an Internet-based communications system to provide to RMA data on participants' trading activity. RMA will use this data for program evaluation and compliance tracking purposes. Brokers will, themselves, be the subject of records in so far as each DOPP-eligible broker will have signed a contract with RMA and a profile on each broker will be a part of the DOPP software. In addition to tracking the trading activity of DOPP brokers, the system will identify the brokers as having attended a DOPP training session once they have complied with this requirement, thus identifying them as eligible to conduct trades for DOPP participants.

In conformance with 5 U.S.C. 552a(r), as implemented by OMB Circular A-130, the Department of Agriculture has sent a report on the new system to the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member, Committee on Governmental Affairs, United States Senate; the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member, Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, U.S. House of Representatives; and the Acting Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget on _____, 1998.

Signed at Washington, D.C., on October 26, 1998.

Dan Glickman,
Secretary of Agriculture.

[FR Doc. 98-29347 Filed 11-2-98; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Southwest Washington Provincial Advisory Committee Meeting Notice

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.
ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Southwest Washington Provincial Advisory Committee will meet on Thursday, November 19, 1998, in Centralia, Washington, at the King Oscar Motel (1049 Eckerson Road) in

their meeting room. The meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. and continue until 4:30 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to present: (1) The 1999/2000 Timber Sale Program for the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, followed by discussion, advice, and recommendations; (2) Monitoring results; (3) a special presentation of the AMA landscape; and (4) a Public Open Forum. All Southwest Washington Provincial Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend. The "open forum" provides opportunity for the public to bring issues, concerns, and discussion topics to the Advisory Committee. The "open forum" is scheduled as part of agenda item (4) for this meeting. Interested speakers will need to register prior to the open forum period. The committee welcomes the public's written comments on committee business at any time.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Direct questions regarding this meeting to Linda Turner, Public Affairs Specialist, at (360) 891-5195, or write Forest Headquarters Office, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, 10600 NE 51st Circle, Vancouver, WA 98682.

Dated: October 28, 1998.

Sandy Spurling,
Deputy Fire Staff.

[FR Doc. 98-29437 Filed 11-2-98; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Advisory Committee for Agriculture Statistics

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.
ACTION: Notice of intent to reestablish at USDA.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) proposes to reestablish the Advisory Committee for Agriculture Statistics. Effective October 1, 1996, responsibility for the census of agriculture program was transferred to the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) at USDA from the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce. Effective February 2, 1997, NASS also received the transferred program positions and staff from the Bureau of the Census, U.S.

Department of Commerce. Responsibility for the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics, which is a discretionary committee, was transferred, along with its allocated slot, to USDA with the census of agriculture program.

The Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics has provided input and direction to the census of agriculture program since the committee was first established on July 16, 1962. It has been particularly critical to have the committee as a valuable resource to USDA during the transfer of the census from the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The purpose of the committee is to make recommendations on census of agriculture operations including questionnaire design and content, publicity, publication plans, and data dissemination. Comments are requested on the establishment of this committee at USDA.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by January 7, 1999 to be assured of consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Contact Donald M. Bay, Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4117 South Building, Washington, D.C. 20250-2000, (202) 720-2707.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. appendix), notice is hereby given that the Secretary of Agriculture intends to reestablish the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics, hereafter referred to as Committee. The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on the conduct of the periodic censuses and surveys of agriculture, other related surveys, and the types of agricultural information to obtain from respondents. The committee also prepares recommendations regarding the content of agriculture reports, and presents the views and needs for data of major suppliers and users of agriculture statistics.

The Secretary of Agriculture has determined that the work of the Committee is in the public interest and relevant to the duties of USDA. No other advisory committee or agency of USDA is performing the tasks that will be assigned to the Committee.

The Committee, appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture, shall consist of 25 members representing a broad range of disciplines and interests, including, but not limited to, agricultural economists, rural sociologists, farm policy analysts, educators, State agriculture representatives, and

agriculture-related business and marketing experts.

A representative of the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, serves as an ex-officio member of the Committee.

The committee draws on the experience and expertise of its members to form a collective judgment concerning agriculture data collected and the statistics issued by NASS. This input is vital to keep current with shifting data needs in the rapidly changing agricultural environment and keep NASS informed of emerging developments and issues in the food and fiber sector that can affect agriculture statistics activities.

The Secretary of Agriculture invites individuals to comment on the reestablishment of this committee at USDA.

Equal opportunity practices, in line with USDA policies, will be followed in all membership appointments to the Committee. To ensure that the recommendations of the Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by USDA, membership shall include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

Signed at Washington, D.C., October 27, 1998.

Reba Evans,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration.

[FR Doc. 98-29346 Filed 11-2-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-20-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Highline Breaks Watershed, Otero & Pueblo Counties, CO

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), DOA.

ACTION: Notice of a finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR Part 1500); and the NRCS Regulations (7 CFR Part 560); the NRCS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, gives notice that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared for the Highline Breaks Watershed, Otero and Pueblo Counties, Colorado.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen F. Black, State Conservationist,

655 Parfet St., Room E200C, Lakewood, CO 80215-5517. (303) 236-2886, Extension 202.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The environmental assessment of this federally assisted action indicates that the project will not cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. As a result of these findings, Stephen Black, State Conservationist, has determined that the preparation and review of an environmental impact statement are not needed for this project.

The project purpose is a plan for agricultural water management watershed protection. The planned works of improvement include accelerated technical assistance for implementing land treatment practices such as nutrient management, residue management, irrigation water management, and enduring practices to reduce deep percolation to improve water quality and protect the resource base.

The Notice of Finding No Significant Impact (FONSI), has been forwarded to the Environmental Protection Agency and to various Federal, State, and local agencies and interested parties. A limited number of copies of the FONSI are available to fill single copy requests at the above address. Basic data developed during the environmental assessment are on file and may be reviewed by contacting Stuart N. Simpson.

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

Stephen F. Black,

State Conservationist.

(This activity is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under NO. 10.904, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention, and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which required intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials).

Finding of No Significant Impact for Highline Breaks Watershed Otero and Pueblo Counties, Colorado

Introduction

The Highline Breaks Watershed is a federally assisted action authorized for planning under Public Law 83-566, the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act. An environmental assessment was undertaken in conjunction with the development of the watershed plan. This assessment was conducted in consultation with local, state, and federal agencies as well as with interested organizations and individuals. Data developed during the