

# 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.

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Farm Service Agency

#### Notice of Request for Extension of Currently Approved Information Collection

**AGENCY:** Farm Service Agency, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intent of the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to request an extension of currently approved information collections for a regulation used in support of the FSA Farm Loan Program (FLP) (formerly Farmer Programs of the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA)). This renewal does not involve any revisions to the program rules.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received on or before July 6, 1998, to be assured consideration.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For additional information contact Phillip Elder, Senior Loan Officer, USDA, Farm Service Agency, Loan Servicing Division, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, STOP 0523, Washington, D.C. 20013-0523; Telephone (202) 690-4012; Electronic mail: pelder@wdc.fsa.usda.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* 7 CFR part 1951, subpart T, Disaster Set-Aside Program.

*OMB Control Number:* 0560-0164.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* August 31, 1998.

*Type of Request:* Extension of Currently Approved Information Collection.

*Abstract:* The Disaster Set-Aside program (DSA) is made available through the authority granted the Secretary of Agriculture under the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C.1981a) (The Act). The set-aside program is designed

to assist borrowers in financial distress who operated a farm or ranch in an area that was declared or designated a disaster area. As provided in Section 331A of the Act, the Secretary has the authority to defer principal and interest at the request of the borrower on a loan made by USDA under the Act. Under this program, FSA farm loan program borrowers can receive immediate financial relief by moving one annual installment for each loan to the end of the loan term. DSA allows eligible borrowers who are unable to make the payments to quickly eliminate their immediate financial stress.

The public reporting burden imposed by this subpart requires borrowers who request DSA to document that their income will be reduced to an amount that will prevent payment of living and operating expenses, and amounts due FSA and other creditors. The information is required of FSA farm borrowers and collected by loan servicing officials to support approval of a set-aside request. The information to be collected will primarily be financial data not already on file, such as borrower asset values, expenses and income. This information will be analyzed expediently to determine that disaster victims need payment relief.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 18 minutes per response.

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

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 10,700.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1.75.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 5,646 hours.

The Agency is soliciting comments on the burden of all of the above subparts regarding: (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (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. These comments should be sent to Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C. 20503 and to Phillip Elder, Senior Loan Officer, USDA, FSA, Farm Loan Programs, Loan Servicing Division, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, STOP 0523, Washington, D.C. 20250-0523. Copies of the information collections may be obtained from Mr. Elder at the above address. Comments regarding paperwork burden will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval of the information collection. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Signed in Washington, D.C., on April 28, 1998.

**Keith Kelly,**

*Administrator, Farm Service Agency.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Goose Creek Watershed Projects, Payette National Forest, Adams County, Idaho

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

**SUMMARY:** The USDA Forest Service is proposing to harvest and regenerate timber, improve watershed conditions, restore flammulated owl habitat, and expand the Grouse Campground in the Goose Creek watershed. The projects will be administered jointly by the New Meadows and McCall Ranger Districts of the Payette National Forest. The Goose Creek watershed is located on both the New Meadows and McCall Ranger Districts, roughly halfway between New Meadows and McCall, Idaho.

The Payette Forest completed scoping on the Goose Creek Watershed Projects in April 1997, with the intent of analyzing effects on issues and resources in an environmental assessment. However, the Forest has since decided to complete the analysis in an environmental impact statement due to the high intensity of public use