

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

Forest Service

Southwest Oregon Province Interagency Executive Committee (PIEC) Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Southwest Oregon PIEC Advisory Committee will meet on April 21, 1999 in North Bend, Oregon at the Coos Bay Bureau of Land Management Office at 1300 Airport Lane. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue until 4:30 p.m. Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Clear Water Act requirements; (2) Critique of February 23 PAC meeting; (3) Update on River Basin watershed restoration strategy; (4) Public comment; and (5) Current issues as perceived by Advisory Committee members.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Direct questions regarding this meeting to Chuck Anderson, Province Advisory Committee Coordinator, USDA, Forest Service, Rogue River National Forest, 333 W. 8th Street, Medford, Oregon 97501, phone (541) (858-2322).

Dated: March 29, 1999.

Charles J. Anderson,
Acting Designated Federal Official.

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BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Notice of Invitation for Nominations to the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ACTION: Solicitation of nomination for Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics Membership.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2, this notice announces an invitation from the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture for nominations to the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics.

Effective October 1, 1996, responsibility for the census of agriculture program was transferred to USDA. Responsibility for the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics was transferred from the Department of Commerce to USDA when the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) received funding and responsibility for the census of agriculture beginning in fiscal year 1997. The reestablishment of this Committee is in the public interest in accordance with the duties the law imposes on USDA.

The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on the scope, timing, content, etc. of the periodic censuses and surveys of agriculture, other related surveys, and the types of information to obtain from respondents concerning agriculture. The Committee also prepares recommendations regarding the content of agriculture reports and presents the views and needs for data for major suppliers and users of agriculture statistics.

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 agriculture community that can affect agricultural statistics activities.

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, representatives of national farm organizations, agricultural economists, rural sociologists, farm policy analysts, educators, State agriculture representatives, and agriculture-related business and marketing experts.

Terms of membership on the Committee will be staggered every 2 years. Initially, approximately one-half of the members selected by the Secretary in this, the first Advisory

Committed on Agriculture selection process, will service a 1-year term and the other half a 2-year term. Members selected after this year will serve a full 2-year term. The Chairperson of the Committed shall be selected by members to serve a 1-year term.

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.

Persons nominated for the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics will be required to complete and submit an Advisory Committee Membership Background Information questionnaire.

The duties of the Committee are solely advisory. The Committee will make recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture with regards to the agricultural statistics program of NASS, and such other matters as it may deem advisable, or which the Secretary of Agriculture, Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, or the Administrator of NASS may request. The Committee will meet at least annually. All meetings are open to the public. Committee members will be reimbursed for official travel expenses only.

DATES: Nominations must be received by May 6, 1999 to be assured of consideration.

Nominations, Additional Information, or Comments

Nominations should include the following information: name, title, address, telephone number, and organization, and should be e-mailed to hq_aa@nass.usda.gov, faxed to (202) 720-9013, OR telephoned to Rich Allen, Associate Administrator, NASS, at (202) 720-4333. Each person nominated is required to complete an Advisory Committee Membership Information questionnaire. This form may be requested by telephone, fax, or e-mail using the information above. Forms are also available on the Internet through the "Agency Information," "Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics" options of the NASS Home Page at