

AGENDA



Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) Quarterly Tribal Consultation: June 10, 2015

Consulting Official: Arthur Neal
Deputy Administrator
AMS Transportation and Marketing Programs

Meeting Format: Conference Call
Toll Free: (866) 216-6835
Participant Access Code: 393436

Meeting Time: 3:00pm – 4:00pm Eastern

Meeting Materials: AMS Tribal Consultation Website
<http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/OutreachTribalConsultations>

Agenda Items:

3:00 p.m.

Introduction/Welcome

Arthur Neal, AMS Deputy Administrator (Transportation and Marketing Programs)

3:05 p.m.

Agency Consultation and Presentations

1. **Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (PACA):** The Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, also referred to as PACA, is a Federal law that was enacted at the produce industry's request in 1930 to promote fair trade. The PACA protects those businesses dealing in highly perishable produce. PACA assists the produce industry by facilitating a dispute resolution process for those involved in buying and selling fresh and frozen fruits and vegetables.
2. **AMS is Seeking Native American Owned Companies and Tribal Organizations for USDA Purchase Programs:** The Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) would like to offer a free webinar on how to sell commodities to Federal nutrition assistance programs targeted specifically to Native American owned companies and Tribal organizations. The webinar will serve as an introductory overview of AMS purchase programs and familiarize participants with purchase programs and how to get started. Members of the AMS, Commodity Procurement Staff (CPS) Livestock, Poultry, and Seed (LPS) Program, Food Safety and Commodity Specifications Division will participate.

3. **USDA Research and Promotion Boards Updates:** These programs are designed to strengthen the position of the industry in the marketplace and to maintain and expand domestic and foreign markets. Board members are nominated by industry and appointed officially by the Secretary of Agriculture. AMS oversees the activities of the boards or councils and approves budgets, in order to assure compliance with the legislation. We encourage everyone to apply based on requirements. There are currently openings on the American Egg Board, National Sheep Industry Improvement Center, National Pork Delegate Body, Watermelon Board, Potato Board, and Cotton Board.

3:40 p.m. Questions/Open Discussion

3:55 p.m. Closing Remarks

4:00 p.m. Adjourn

NOTE: If you have questions about this meeting, please contact Kimberly Duncan at Kimberly.duncan@ams.usda.gov or (202) 260-8605.