

producers for whom the applicant handles or markets products. The applicant also is required to attach a copy of the organic handling operation certificate provided by a USDA-accredited certifying agent under the OFPA and the NOP, and a copy of the applicant's NOP producer certificate, if applicable. An NOP certificate for each producer for whom the applicant handles also must be attached.

When the requirements for exemption no longer apply to a handler, the handler shall inform the committee or board within 30 days and pay the full assessment on all remaining assessable product for all committee or board assessments from the date the handler no longer is eligible to the end of the assessment period. The notification by the handler can be made in any manner the handler desires (telephone, fax, e-mail, etc.).

This information is necessary to help the committees or boards to determine an applicant's eligibility and to verify compliance. Inclusion of this information on the form assists the applicants in making their certifications and the committee or boards in properly administering the assessment exemption.

The respective marketing orders (e.g. 7 CFR 932.61 and 7 CFR 981.70) also provide that handlers maintain, and make available, all records necessary to demonstrate compliance with order requirements for two years. The burdens on handlers for such recordkeeping requirements are included in the information collection requests previously approved by OMB for the respective marketing orders under the following OMB Control Numbers: OMB No. 0581-0178 for marketing order Nos. 932, 947, 948, 955, 956, 958, 959, 966, 981, 982, 984, 985, 987, 989, and 993; OMB No. 0581-0189 for marketing order Nos. 906, 915, 916, 917, 922, 923, 924, 925, 927, 929, and 930.

The information collected is used only by authorized representatives of the USDA, including AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs' regional and headquarters' staff and authorized committee/board employees. Authorized committee/board employees are the primary users of the information and AMS is the secondary user.

AMS is committed to complying with the E-Government ACT, to promote the use of the Internet and other information technologies to provide increased opportunities for citizen access to Government information and services, and for other purposes.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information

is estimated to average 30 minutes per response.

*Respondents:* Eligible Certified Organic Handlers.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 103.

*Estimated Number of Total Annual Responses:* 103.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Estimated total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 52 hours.

*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 through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments should reference this docket number and the appropriate marketing order and be sent to the USDA in care of the Docket Clerk at the address above. 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.

Dated: August 23, 2007.

**Lloyd C. Day,**

*Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.*

[FR Doc. 07-4241 Filed 8-28-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-02-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket No. AMS-TM-07-0111; TM-07-08]

#### Notice of Agricultural Management Assistance Organic Certification Cost Share Program

**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice invites the following eligible States: Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New

Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming, to submit an Application for Federal Assistance (Standard Form 424), and to enter into a Cooperative Agreement with the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) for the Allocation of Organic Certification Cost-Share Funds. The AMS has allocated \$1.0 million for this organic certification cost-share program in Fiscal Year 2007. Funds will be available under this program to 15 designated States to assist organic crop and livestock producers certified under the National Organic Program (NOP). Eligible States interested in obtaining cost-share funds for their organic producers will have to submit an Application for Federal Assistance, and will have to enter into a cooperative agreement with AMS for the allocation for such funds.

**DATES:** Completed applications for Federal assistance along with signed cooperative agreements must be received by close of business, September 18, 2007, in order to participate in this program.

**ADDRESSES:** Applications for Federal assistance and cooperative agreements shall be requested from and submitted to: Robert Pooler, Agricultural Marketing Specialist, National Organic Program, USDA/AMS/TMP/NOP, Room 4008-South, AG Stop 0268, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0264; Telephone: (202) 720-3252; Fax: (202) 205-7808. Additional information may be found through the National Organic Program's homepage at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Robert Pooler, Agricultural Marketing Specialist, National Organic Program, USDA/AMS/TM/NOP, Room 4008-South, Ag Stop 0268, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0268; Telephone: (202) 720-3252; Fax: (202) 205-7808.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This Organic Certification Cost-Share Program is part of the Agricultural Management Assistance Program authorized under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (FCIA), as amended, (7 U.S.C. 1524). Under the applicable FCIA provisions, the Department is authorized to provide cost share assistance to producers in the States of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming. This organic certification cost share

program provides financial assistance to organic producers certified to the NOP authorized under the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990, as amended (7 U.S.C. 6501 *et seq.*). This program is in addition to and separate from the National Organic Certification Cost Share Program which is also administered by AMS and is open to all States and U.S. Territories.

To participate in the program, eligible States must complete a Standard Form 424, Application for Federal Assistance, and enter into a written cooperative agreement with AMS. The program will provide cost-share assistance, through participating States, to organic crop and livestock producers receiving certification or update of certification by a USDA accredited certifying agent from October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008. The Department has determined that payments will be limited to 75 percent of an individual producer's certification costs up to a maximum of \$500.00.

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 1524.

**Dated:** August 23, 2007.

**Lloyd C. Day,**

*Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.*

[FR Doc. 07-4242 Filed 8-28-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-02-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Information Collection; Federal and Non-Federal Financial Assistance Instruments

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice, request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Forest Service is seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on the new information collection, Federal and Non-Federal Financial Assistance Instruments.

**DATES:** Comments must be received in writing on or before October 29, 2007 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments concerning this notice should be addressed to Director, Acquisition Management, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Attention: Chris Coppenbarger, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Mailstop 1138, Washington, DC 20250-1138.

Comments also may be submitted via facsimile to 703-605-5100 or by e-mail to: [ccoppenbarger@fs.fed.us](mailto:ccoppenbarger@fs.fed.us).

The public may inspect comments received at Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1621 N. Kent Street, RPE 707, Arlington, VA during normal business hours. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to 703-605-4719 to facilitate entry to the building.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Chris Coppenbarger, Acquisition Management, 703-605-4719.

Individuals who use TDD may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339, 24 hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** Federal and Non-Federal Financial Assistance Instruments.

**OMB Number:** 0596-New.

**Type of Request:** New.

**Abstract:** In order to carry out specific Forest Service activities, Congress created several authorities to assist the Agency in carrying out its mission. The Forest Service issues Federal Financial Assistance (FFA) awards (i.e., grants and cooperative agreements), as authorized by the Federal Grants and Cooperative Agreements Act (FGCAA), as well as agreements expressly exempted from FGCAA. In addition, Congress created specific authorizations for acts outside the scope of the FGCAA; as well as appropriations language conveying authority for the Forest Service to enter into relationships that are outside the scope of the FGCAA. The Forest Service implements these authorizations using instruments such as collection agreements; FGCAA exempted agreements; memorandums of understanding; and other agreements (which contain mutual benefits for participating parties). These instruments fall outside the scope of the Federal Acquisition Regulations and often require financial plans and statements of work. To create, develop, and administer these funded and non-funded agreements, Forest Service employees collect information from cooperating parties from the pre-award to the closeout stage via telephone calls, e-mails, postal mail, and person-to-person meetings. Respondents usually have multiple options for responding, including forms, non-forms, electronically, face-to-face, over the telephone, and over the Internet. The scope of information collected varies, but typically includes project type, project scope, financial plan, statement of work, and cooperator contact/business information.

The information is collected from non-profit and for-profit institutions; institutions of higher education; state, local, and Native American tribal

governments; individuals; foreign governments; and organizations.

Without the collected information, the Forest Service would not be able to create, develop, and administer these funded and non-funded agreements. The Agency would be unable to develop/monitor projects, make or receive payments, or identify financial and accounting errors.

The following forms are associated with this information collection:

FS-1500-NEW1: Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement.

FS-1500-NEW2: Cooperative Law Enforcement Agreement.

FS-1500-NEW3: Cooperative Forest Road Agreement.

FS-1500-NEW4: Challenge Cost Share Agreement.

FS-1500-NEW5: Collection Agreement.

FS-1500-NEW6: Cost-Reimbursable Agreement.

FS-1500-NEW7: Cooperative Research and Development Agreement.

FS-1500-NEW8: Joint Venture Agreement.

FS-1500-NEW9: Memorandum of Understanding.

FS-1500-NEW10: Participating Agreement.

FS-1500-NEW11: FSH 1509.11, Chapter 60—Other Agreements.

FS-1500-NEW12: Cooperative Law Enforcement Annual Operating & Financial Plan.

FS-1500-NEW13: Collection Agreement Financial Plan.

FS-1500-NEW14: Modification Form.

FS-1500-NEW15: Agreement Cover Page.

SF-424: Application for Federal Assistance.

AD-1047: Certification Regarding Department Suspension.

AD-1048: Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion—Lower Tier Covered Transactions.

AD-1049: Certificate Regarding Drug Free Workplace Requirements Alternative 1.

AD-1050: Certificate Regarding Drug Free Workplace Requirements Alternative 2.

AD-1052: Certificate Regarding Drug Free Workplace Requirements—State and State Agencies.

SF-269: Financial Status Report (Long Form).

SF-269a: Financial Status Report.

SF-270: Request for Advance or Reimbursement.

SF-272: Federal Cash Transaction Report.

SF-272a: Federal Cash Transaction Report (continuation).

SF-424a: Budget Information Non-Construction Programs.