

and sewer systems, essential community facilities, and business and industrial operations in rural areas. Section 331 and 335 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, as amended, authorize the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Agency, to establish provisions for security servicing policies for the loans and grants in questions. If there is a problem which exists, a recipient of the loan, grant, or loan guarantee must furnish financial information which is used to aid in resolving the problem through reamortization, sale, transfer, debt restructuring, liquidation, or other means provided in the regulations.

*Need and Use of the Information:* RHS will collect information to determine applicant/borrower eligibility and project feasibility for various servicing actions. The information enables field staff to ensure that borrowers operate on a sound basis and use loan and grant funds for authorized purposes.

*Description of Respondents:* State, Local or Tribal Government; Not-for-profit institutions.

*Number of Respondents:* 275.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 932.

#### **Agricultural Marketing Service**

*Title:* Application for Plant Variety Protection Certificate and Objective Description of Variety.

*OMB Control Number:* 0581-0055.

*Summary of Collection:* The Plant Variety Protection Act (PVPA), was approved December 24, 1970; 84 Stat. 1542, 7 U.S.C. 2321 *et seq.* was established to encourage the development of novel varieties of sexually-reproduced plants and make them available to the public, providing intellectual property rights (IPR) protection to those who breed, develop, or discover such novel varieties, and thereby promote progress in agriculture in the public interest. The PVPA is a voluntary user funded program that grants intellectual property ownership rights to breeders of new and novel seed- and tuber-reproduced plant varieties. To obtain these rights the applicant must provide information that shows the variety is eligible for protection and that it is indeed new, distinct, uniform, and stable, as the law requires. Applicants are provided with applications to identify the information that is required to issue a certificate of protection.

*Need and Use of the Information:* AMS will collect information from the

applicant to determine if the variety is eligible for protection under the PVPA. If this information is not collected, applicants would not be able to obtain the protection that the PVPA is intended to provide.

*Description of Respondents:* Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Federal Government.

*Number of Respondents:* 129.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 1,283.

#### **Forest Service**

*Title:* Forest Land Enhancement Program.

*OMB Control Number:* 0596-NEW.

*Summary of Collection:* The Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP) is authorized in the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-711) through an amendment to the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act (16 U.S.C. 2103). The goals of FLEP are to: (1) Enhance the productivity of timber, fish and wildlife habitat, soil and water quality, wetland, recreational resources and aesthetic values of private non-industrial private forestland; and (2) establish, manage, maintain, enhance, and restore such forests. The act requires establishing a grants program to achieve sustainable forestry; assist owners of non-industrial private forestlands to more actively manage these lands and related resources; and encourage such owners to use State, Federal, and private sector resource management expertise, financial assistance and educational programs. Through FLEP, States can cost-share up to 75% to implement eligible forest management practices on non-industrial private forest ownerships. In order to be eligible for cost-share, landowners must have a forest management plan that has been approved by their State forester.

*Need and Use of the Information:* The Forest Service (FS) will collect information to describe how the program will be implemented in each State. The plans must (1) describe how the State will allocate FLEP funding among the four major categories of administration, resource management expertise, education, and financial assistance; (2) describe how cost-share funds shall be made available to eligible participants; (3) describe ownership and acreage limitations; (4) define what constitutes a forest management plan; (5) identify landowner payment limitations; (6) identify eligible cost-share practices; (7) describe how funds may be distributed to participants; and (8) describe program application and

reimbursement processes. If these information collection requirements were not implemented, it would be virtually impossible to provide proper Federal oversight for the new program.

*Description of Respondents:* State, Local or Tribal Government; Individuals or households; Farms.

*Number of Respondents:* 8,418.

*Frequency of Responses:* Recordkeeping; Reporting: Semi-annually; Annually.

*Total Burden Hours:* 54,747.

**Sondra A. Blakey,**

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

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## **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

### **Forest Service**

#### **Plumas and Lassen National Forests; California, Administrative Study 4202-02-01**

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Cancellation of notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The Plumas and Lassen National Forests, in conjunction with the Pacific Southwest Research Station, hereby cancel the notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for an administrative study, as published on December 4, 2002 (64 FR 72136-72138). The notice is cancelled because of the need to configure a different study proposal that accommodates the Forests' implementation of the HFQLG legislation and the National Fire Plan while simultaneously addressing concerns with the scientific design of the originally-proposed study. Based on issues and questions raised during scoping, the proposed study was determined to be unacceptable regarding these factors.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lee Anne Taylor, Public affairs Officer, Plumas National Forest, P.O. Box 11500, Quincy, CA 95971, telephone (530) 283-7850.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Dated: April 21, 2003.

**James M. Peña,**

*Forest Supervisor.*

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