

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

Food and Nutrition Service

Summer Food Service Program for Children Program Reimbursement for 2003

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice informs the public of the annual adjustments to the reimbursement rates for meals served in the Summer Food Service Program for Children (SFSP). These adjustments reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index and are required by the statute governing the Program. In addition, further adjustments are made to these rates to reflect the higher costs of providing meals in the States of Alaska and Hawaii, as authorized by the William F. Goodling Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act of 1998.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robert M. Eadie, Branch Chief, Policy and Program Development Branch, Child Nutrition Division, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 640, Alexandria, Virginia 22302, (703) 305-2620.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This program is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.559 and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372 which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials (7 CFR part 3015, subpart V, and final rule related notice published at 48 FR 29114, June 24, 1983).

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3518), no new recordkeeping or reporting requirements have been included that are subject to approval from the Office of Management and Budget.

This notice is not a rule as defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612) and thus is exempt from the provisions of that Act. Additionally, this notice has been determined to be exempt from review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Order 12866.

Definitions

The terms used in this Notice shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the regulations governing the Summer

Food Service Program for Children (7 CFR part 225).

Background

In accordance with section 13 of the National School Lunch Act (NSLA)(42 U.S.C. 1761) and the regulations governing the SFSP (7 CFR part 225), notice is hereby given of adjustments in Program payments for meals served to children participating in the SFSP in 2003. Adjustments are based on changes in the food away from home series of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for All Urban Consumers for the period November 2001 through November 2002.

Section 104(a) of the William F. Goodling Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 105-336) amended section 12(f) of the NSLA (42 U.S.C. 1760(f)) to allow adjustments to SFSP reimbursement rates to reflect the higher cost of providing meals in the SFSP in Alaska and Hawaii. Therefore, this notice contains adjusted rates for Alaska and Hawaii. This change was made in an effort to be consistent with other Child Nutrition Programs, such as the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program, which already had the authority to provide higher reimbursement rates for programs in Alaska and Hawaii.

The 2003 reimbursement rates, in dollars, for all States excluding Alaska and Hawaii:

MAXIMUM PER MEAL REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR ALL STATES (NOT AK OR HI)

| | Operating costs | Administrative costs | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Rural or self-preparation sites | Other types of sites |
| Breakfast | \$1.35 | \$1.350 | \$1.050 |
| Lunch or Supper | 2.35 | .2475 | .2050 |
| Supplement | .55 | .0675 | .0525 |

The 2003 reimbursement rates, in dollars, for Alaska:

MAXIMUM PER MEAL REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR ALASKA ONLY

| | Operating costs | Administrative costs | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Rural or self-preparation sites | Other types of sites |
| Breakfast | \$2.19 | \$2.175 | \$1.725 |
| Lunch or Supper | 3.82 | .4000 | .3300 |

MAXIMUM PER MEAL REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR ALASKA ONLY—Continued

| | Operating costs | Administrative costs | |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Rural or self-preparation sites | Other types of sites |
| Supplement | .89 | .1075 | .0850 |

The 2003 reimbursement rates, in dollars, for Hawaii:

MAXIMUM PER MEAL REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR HAWAII ONLY

| | Operating Costs | Administrative costs | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Rural or self-preparation sites | Other types of sites |
| Breakfast | \$1.58 | \$.1575 | \$.1250 |
| Lunch or Supper | 2.75 | .2875 | .2400 |
| Supplement | .64 | .0775 | .0625 |

The total amount of payments to State agencies for disbursement to Program sponsors will be based upon these Program reimbursement rates and the number of meals of each type served. The above reimbursement rates, for both operating and administrative reimbursement rates, represent a 2.28 percent increase during 2002 (from 175.8 in November 2001 to 179.8 in November 2002) in the food away from home series of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor. The Department would like to point out that the SFSP administrative reimbursement rates continue to be adjusted up or down to the nearest quarter-cent, as has previously been the case. Additionally, operating reimbursement rates have been rounded down to the nearest whole cent, as required by Section 11(a)(3)(B) of the NSLA (42 U.S.C. 1759 (a)(3)(B)).

Authority: Secs. 9, 13 and 14, National School Lunch Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1758, 1761, and 1762a).

Dated: January 24, 2003.

Roberto Salazar,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 03-2113 Filed 1-29-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Idaho Panhandle National Forests, Bonners Ferry Ranger District, Cancellation of Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Bonners Ferry Ranger District Salvage Sales Project

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA

ACTION: Cancellation notice.

SUMMARY: On May 31, 2000 a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an environmental impact statement for the Bonners Ferry Ranger District Salvage Sales Project was published in the **Federal Register** (Volume 65, Number 105, pages 34654-34655). The proposal was to analyze the potential environmental effects of salvage harvesting up to 20,000 acres of dead and damaged trees in scattered areas located on the Bonners Ferry Ranger District, Idaho Panhandle National Forests. Since the publication of the Notice of Intent, public scoping and interdisciplinary team involvement have resulted in a project design that utilizes mitigation measures and restrictive design criteria that either eliminated or minimized potential impacts to resources that could result from the small salvage sales. Due to the redefined design and criteria of the project, the Interdisciplinary Team determined there will be no significant effects resulting from implementing the proposed action, therefore preparation of an environmental impact statement is not warranted.

ADDRESSES: Bonners Ferry Ranger District, 6286 Main St, Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805-9764

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Barry Wynsma, Project Team Leader, (208) 267-5561.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The public was first notified of this proposal and the intention to prepare an environmental impact statement in October 1999. The Bonners Ferry Ranger District of the Idaho Panhandle National Forests proposed salvage harvesting up to 20,000 acres of dead and damaged trees in scattered areas across the district. The small-scale salvage sales were expected to contribute to hazardous fuels reduction and to help restore productive stand conditions and/or ecological functioning in areas affected by windstorms, insects, disease and other damaging events. Salvage of the trees was expected to help provide forest products for local post and pole mills, small sawmills, and other forest product manufacturers.

Ensuring project design and development of action alternatives included incorporation of restrictive criteria such as avoiding resource areas of concern, old growth and riparian areas for instance, and mitigation measures such as timing salvage operations to take place during periods that minimized potential impacts to wildlife species of concern. The result of the project design for the proposed activities has led the project team to the conclusion that there will be no significant effects associated with the proposal, and therefore preparation of an environmental impact statement is not warranted. An environmental assessment will be prepared to document the proposed action, alternatives to the proposed action, and environmental consequences of implementing each of the alternatives.