

TO:

United States Department of Agriculture

DATE: June 17, 2021

Farm Production And Conservation (FPAC) Josh Brammer OMB Desk Officer

Farm Service Agency (FSA)

THROUGH: Ruth Brown

**USDA** Information Collection Officer

1400 Independence Avenue, SW Stop 0540 Washington, DC 20250-0540

FROM: Jamie White

FSA Acting Deputy Administrator Farm Programs

SUBJECT: Request for Emergency Approval for a New Information Collection

Package—Pandemic Assistance for Timber Harvesters and Haulers

(PATHH) Program

FSA is requesting for an emergency approval on the collection of information that is necessary to implement the Pandemic Assistance for Timber Harvesters and Haulers (PATHH) Program assistance because we could not comply with normal clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act, and it is also essential to the mission of FSA to provide financial assistance as quickly as possible. PATHH will provide assistance to timber harvesting businesses and timber hauling business impacted by the effects of the COVID-19 Outbreak. PATHH eligibility for direct payments to eligible applicants who have suffered a gross revenue loss of at least 10 percent for the period from January 1 through December 1, 2020, compared to the period from January 1 through December 1, 2019. FSA will be the principal agency charged with implementing PATHH and Forestry Service (FS) will provide technical support.

The Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) will be published in the Federal Register to provide guidance and notify applicants of the sign-up period. About 2,396 timber harvesters and haulers are expected to apply for payments under PATHH.

FSA needs to collect the FSA-3118, PATHH from applicants who have 2019 gross revenue received from January 1, 2019 through December 1, 2019 and the 2020 gross revenue receive from January 1, 2020 through December 1, 2020. Timber Harvesters and Haulers are also required to have the following forms on file with FSA: AD-2047; Customer Data Worksheet, if applicable; CCC-901, Member Information for Legal Entities, if applicable; AD-1026, Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELC) and Wetland Conservation (WC) Certification and the IRS Form 2290, Heavy Highway Vehicle Use Tax Return (Timber haulers only).

We are requesting emergency approval of a new information collection package, in order to quickly provide assistance to Timber Harvesters and Haulers and to complete PATHH.

If there are any questions or concerns, please call Deirdre Holder at 202-205-5851 or Mary Ann Ball at 202-720-4283.