

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Agricultural Marketing Service**

[Doc. No. AMS–SC–23–0059]

Notice of Request for Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) intention to request an extension and revision to the approved forms and information collection for marketing orders covering various vegetables and specialty crops.

DATES: Comments on this notice are due by January 26, 2024 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments concerning this notice. Comments must be sent to the Docket Clerk, Market Development Division, Specialty Crops Program, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, STOP 0237, Washington, DC 20250–0237; Fax: (202) 720–8938; or online at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Comments should reference the docket number and the date and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register** and will be available for public inspection in the Office of the Docket Clerk during regular business hours, or can be viewed at: <https://www.regulations.gov>. All comments submitted in response to this notice will be included in the record and will be made available to the public. Please be advised that the identity of individuals or entities submitting the comments will be made available to the public on the internet at the address provided above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Matthew Pavone, Chief, Rulemaking Services Branch, Market Development Division, Specialty Crops Program, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, STOP 0237, Room 1406–S, Washington, DC 20250–0237; Telephone: (202) 720–8085; Fax: (202) 720–8938; or Email: matthew.pavone@usda.gov.

Small businesses may request information on this notice by contacting Richard Lower, Market Development Division, Specialty Crops Program, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, STOP 0237, Room 1406–S, Washington, DC 20250–0237; Telephone (202) 720–8085; Fax: (202)

720–8938; or Email: Richard.Lower@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Vegetable and Specialty Crops.
OMB Number: 0581–0178.

Expiration Date of Approval: March 31, 2024.

Type of Request: Extension and Revision of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: Marketing order programs provide an opportunity for producers of fresh fruits, vegetables and specialty crops, in specified production areas, to work together to solve marketing problems that cannot be solved individually. This notice covers the following marketing order citations: 7 CFR parts 932 (California olives), 945 (Idaho/Oregon potatoes), 978 (Colorado potatoes), 955 (Vidalia onions), 956 (Walla Walla onions), 958 (Idaho/Oregon onions), 959 (South Texas onions), 966 (Florida tomatoes), 981 (California almonds), 982 (Oregon/Washington hazelnuts), 984 (California walnuts), 985 (Northwest spearmint oil), 987 (California dates), 989 (California raisins), 993 (California dried prunes), and 999 (Specialty Crop Import Regulations).

Marketing Order 946 (Washington potatoes) has been terminated since the last three-year renewal period of this information collection package. Currently, handling requirements for Marketing Order 993 (California dried prunes) are suspended at the industry's request, meaning its information collection requirements are not active. In addition, the import regulation for California dried prunes, as contained in 7 CFR part 999.200—Regulation governing the importation of prunes—is indefinitely suspended, effective February 17, 2009 (74 FR 2806).

Marketing order requirements help ensure adequate supplies of high-quality product and adequate returns to producers. Marketing orders are authorized under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 (Act), as amended (7 U.S.C. 601–674). The Secretary of Agriculture oversees the marketing order operations and issues regulations recommended by a committee of representatives from each commodity industry.

The information collection requirements in this request are essential to carry out the intent of the Act, to provide the respondents the type of service they request, and to administer the marketing orders. Under the Act, marketing orders may authorize: Production and marketing research, including paid advertising; volume regulation; reserves, including

pools and producer allotments; container requirements; and quality control. Assessments are levied on handlers regulated under the marketing orders. Section 8e of the Act requires imports of 14 commodities to meet certain quality standards. Included among these commodities are some covered in this forms package: olives, potatoes, onion, tomatoes, walnuts, dates, dried prunes, and raisins.

USDA requires several forms to be filed to enable the administration of each marketing order. These include forms covering the selection process for industry members to serve on a marketing order's committee or board and ballots used in referenda to amend or continue marketing orders.

Under Federal marketing orders, producers and handlers are nominated by their peers to serve as representatives on a committee or board which administers each program. Nominees must provide information on their qualifications to serve on the committee or board. Qualified nominees are then appointed by the Secretary. Amendments to marketing orders made through Formal rulemaking must be approved in referenda conducted by USDA and the Secretary. For the purposes of this action, ballots are considered information collections and are subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act. If a marketing order is amended, handlers are asked to sign an agreement indicating their willingness to abide by the provisions of the amended marketing order.

Some forms are required to be filed with the committee or board. The marketing orders authorize the respective committee or board, the agencies responsible for local administration of the marketing orders, to require handlers and producers to submit certain information. Much of the information is compiled in aggregate and provided to the respective industries to assist in marketing decisions. The committees and boards developed forms as a means for persons to file required information relating to supplies, shipments, and dispositions of their respective commodities, and other information needed to effectively carry out the purpose of the Act and their respective orders, and these forms are utilized accordingly.

The forms covered under this information collection require respondents to provide the minimum information necessary to effectively carry out the requirements of the marketing orders, and use of these forms is necessary to fulfill the intent of the Act as expressed in the marketing orders.

The information collected is used only by authorized employees of the committees and authorized representatives of the USDA, including AMS Specialty Crops Program's regional and headquarters' staff. Authorized committee or board employees are the primary users of the information and AMS is the secondary user.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.32 hours per response.

Respondents: Producers, handlers, processors, dehydrators, cooperatives, manufacturers, importers, and public members.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 14,190.

Estimated Number of Responses: 61,906.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 4.36.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 19,617 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 OMB No. 0581-0178 Vegetable and Specialty Crops 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 also become a matter of public record.

Erin Morris,

Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

[Docket No. RUS-23-AGENCY-0018]

Notice of Request for Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice invites comments on the OneRD Loan Guarantee Program information collection package and announces the Rural Utilities Service intention to request a revision for to a currently approved information collection from the Office of management and Budget (OMB).

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by January 26, 2024 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Adyam Negasi, Innovation Center, Regulations Management Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250; Tel: 202-221-9298; Email: Adyam.Negasi@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget's regulation (5 CFR part 1320) implementing provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) requires that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). This notice identifies an information collection that the Agency is submitting to OMB for revision.

Comments are invited on (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumption used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques on other forms and information technology.

Comments may be sent by the Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and, in the

"Search" box, type in the Docket No. RUS-23-AGENCY-0018. A link to the Notice will appear. You may submit a comment here by selecting the "Comment" button or you can access the "Docket" tab, select the "Notice," and go to the "Browse & Comment on Documents" tab. Here you may view comments that have been submitted as well as submit a comment. To submit a comment, select the "Comment" button, complete the required information, and select the "Submit Comment" button at the bottom. Information on using [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov), including instructions for accessing documents, submitting comments, and viewing the docket after the close of the comment period, is available through the site's "FAQ" link at the bottom.

Title: OneRD Guaranteed Loan Program.

OMB Number: 0572-0155.

Expiration Date of Approval: 04/30/2024.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: Rural Development has a consolidated guaranteed loan regulation that covers four guaranteed loan programs in one regulation (Community Facilities, Water and Waste Disposal, Business and Industry, and Rural Energy for America Program). Rural Development, a mission area of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), is comprised of three agencies (Rural Utilities Service (RUS), Rural Housing Service (RHS), and Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBCS)), that together administer loans through the OneRD Guaranteed Loan Program (or Program) pursuant to 7 CFR part 5001. Loans are used for water and waste disposal systems, essential community infrastructure such as healthcare, libraries and fire stations, and the development and improvement of businesses and industries in rural communities. The Program encourages lender participation and provides specific guidance in the processing and servicing of guaranteed loans.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 3.84 hours per response.

Respondents: Public Bodies; Non-Profits; Special Districts; Tribal Organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 725.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 19.09.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 53110.75.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Adyam Negasi,