

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: The Use of Markets to Increase Private Investment in Environmental Stewardship
Type of Report (ERR, EIB, EB) ERR
 Influential Scientific Information
Agency: Economic Research Service [] Highly Influential Scientific Assessment
USDA
Agency Contact: Elise Golan, egolan@ers.usda.gov
Subject of Review: Farmers produce a wide variety of commodities for food and fiber, but they can also produce a variety of ecosystem services. While markets generally exist for farm commodities, markets do not exist or are imperfectly formed for non-commodity outputs, such as ecosystem services. Ecosystem services are valued by society, but due to their nature or institutional arrangements, farmers often do not receive a price signal for them. The absence of a price signal results in inefficient allocations of resources in that farmers under-produce ecosystem services from society's point of view. This report explores the conditions under which markets for environmental services from agriculture might arise and send appropriate price signals to farmers. The report also describes how government can assist in market formation and performance.

Purpose of Review: The purpose of the review is to ensure the high-quality of the economic analysis, transparent explanation of methods, objective interpretation of results, and effective communication to the intended audience.

Type of Review: [] Panel Review [X] Individual Reviewers
[] Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 01/08/08 End: 02/27/08 Completed: 04/17/08

Number of Reviewers: [] 3 or fewer [X] 4 to 10 [] More than 10

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists

Reviewers selected by: [X] Agency [] Designated Outside Organization
Organization's Name:

Opportunities for Public Comment? [] Yes [X] No
If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:
How:
When:

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? [] Yes [X] No
Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? [] Yes [X] No



