

Cooperative Agreements for Implementation of the National Animal Identification System (NAIS)

**United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
Veterinary Services (VS)**

Announcement Type: Initial Announcement

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 10.025, Plant and Animal Disease, Pest Control, and Animal Care

Dates: Applications must be received by December 18, 2006

Funding Opportunity Description: USDA initiated implementation of the NAIS in 2004. The Department's first priority with the initial funding in FY2004 was to have the components of the national premises registration system in place in every State by July 2005. With this accomplished, the next step was to use FY2005 funds to increase the number of registered eligible premises in each State. As of November 2006, over 327,000 premises have been registered nationwide, or just under twenty-three percent of the estimated number eligible¹.

Funding for FY2007 will be provided to State and Native American Tribal governments to support the continued implementation and maintenance of the national premises identification system and NAIS implementation within their respective areas. NAIS remains an industry-State-Federal partnership. In response to stakeholder input, on October 31, 2006, USDA unveiled a renewed, uniform educational message for all individuals, businesses, and organizations that focuses on the benefit of NAIS to producers. Applications for cooperative agreement funding must include an aggressive plan for education and outreach, including effective use of existing outreach resources such as cooperative extension, State Area Veterinarian in Charge (AVIC) offices, and State industry organizations, to stakeholders at all levels within the State or Tribe.

Approved applications for funding will be administered as a performance-oriented, base-plus cooperative agreement. Applications must present well-defined measurable outcomes and total allocation of funding will be dependent upon achieving projected results with a mid-year assessment.

This funding opportunity does NOT include funds for conducting pilot projects to develop solutions for animal identification and/or collecting animal movement data. Similarly, funds are not to be used for the purchase of animal identification devices or the development, support, or maintenance of animal tracking databases. Animal movement tracking will be developed, implemented, and funded within the private and/or State/Tribal sector.

States/Tribes/Territories must contribute premises registration data to the National Premises Information Repository (NPIR) to be eligible for FY2007 NAIS Implementation Cooperative Agreement funding. The work plan must describe in detail the resources needed, training required, if any, and timelines for achieving measurable outcomes.

¹ Based upon USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) 2002 Census data adjusted for duplication of premises estimates by species.

Total Amount to be Awarded: \$14,454,000

Plans to be Awarded: Approximately 80 Cooperative Agreements

Eligibility: State Governments
Federally recognized Native American Tribal governments

Cost Sharing: 20 percent cost sharing is required for all applicants unless the work plan describes in detail a plan for purchase and distribution within this funding period of NAIS-approved official animal identification tags/devices with non-NAIS implementation cooperative agreement funds. For applicants that wish to purchase NAIS-approved official animal identification tags/devices, the amount of the 20 percent cost sharing requirement will be reduced by the amount of the purchase. Applicants must include the proposed amount of purchase within the original work plan and budget submission. Applicants must also furnish documentation of the purchase of the NAIS-approved official animal identification tags/devices by submission of the first quarterly report. If documentation is not provided, the work plan and budget will need to be revised to reflect the 20 percent cost share requirement.

Application and Submission: A State or Tribal government may submit only one application and/or be a third party in an application submitted by another State or Tribal government.

Applicants can apply through the Grants.gov Web site or submit paper applications to the address at the end of this announcement.

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I. Funding Opportunity Description

A. Background

Increased media exposure of animal disease outbreaks around the world over the past decade has intensified the public interest in developing a national animal identification system for safeguarding animal health in the United States. Some populations of certain species have been required to be officially identified as part of cooperative State-Federal program disease eradication and control activities over the past several years. In addition, some significant regional voluntary and mandatory animal identification programs are in place. However, there is currently no mandatory, uniform national animal identification system in the United States.

Fundamental to controlling any disease threat to the Nation's animal resources is to have a system that can identify the following: individual animals or groups of animals, the premises where they are located, and the date of entry to each premises. Further, in order to achieve optimal success in controlling or eradicating an animal health threat, the timely retrieval of this information and implementation of intervention strategies after confirmation of a disease outbreak is necessary.

USDA, therefore, initiated implementation of the NAIS in 2004. In late 2004, Federal funds were provided on a competitive basis to State and Tribal governments to implement the national premises registration system component of the NAIS, and to conduct field trials or research into certain areas of interest in the proposed system. Subsequently, all States were provided access to Federal funds to begin NAIS implementation.

Implementation of the NAIS continued to progress in 2005 when funds were dispersed to States enabling them to implement the essential components of the national premises registration system by July 2005. This important milestone was achieved by the target date and allowed producers across the entire country to begin participation in the NAIS by registering livestock premises in their respective States.

Funding for 2007 will continue focus on increasing the number of registered premises, the foundation component of the NAIS. Significant emphasis will be placed on providing sufficient education and outreach to make sure all producers and stakeholders in States and Tribes receive the uniform NAIS message outlined by USDA on October 31, 2006. State/Tribe animal identification coordinating/advising committees, initiated as a requirement for cooperative agreement funding in FY2006, will be a requirement for Federal funding in FY2007.

B. USDA Approach

Safeguarding the health of the nation's herds and flocks is dependent upon a functional, uniform National Animal Identification System. Essential for implementation is a system that is practical for producers and all others involved in production and animal disease surveillance. NAIS is voluntary and presents the opportunity for producers and stakeholders to obtain experience with the system and provide feedback as successful and practical solutions evolve. As a voluntary effort, full implementation of the NAIS will be achieved as a phased-in plan, emphasizing premises registration as the foundation of the system. Additional progress in implementation of the animal identification component and the animal movement reporting component will be made according to the needs of producers. States, however, may choose to direct implementation of the NAIS within their jurisdiction according to their own dictates.

FY2007 marks the fourth year of Federal funding support for implementation of the NAIS. Significant variation currently exists among States and Tribes with regard to percent of premises

registered. In order to most effectively use Federal funds to continue implementation of the NAIS, a performance-oriented, base-plus system will be used to administer the FY2007 NAIS cooperative agreement. All States will have access to the full reserved amount identified for each State (Appendix B); however, certain States, based upon percent premises registration to date (using 2002 National Agricultural Statistics Service premises estimates adjusted for duplication of premises by species type), will be provided only 90% of the full reserved amount at the beginning of the funding period that can be used in planning for the entire 12 months of the funding period. Depending upon successful achievement of measurable outcomes proposed in the initial work plan as determined by the Authorized Departmental Officer's Designated Representative (ADODR) as of June 15, 2007, the remaining 10%, or appropriate portion of the remaining 10%, of the reserved amount may be allocated to the State for the remaining six months of the funding period. This will be accomplished by a Revision to the Notice of Award and submission of a revised SF-424 and SF-424A, reflecting the amount of the increases only. (It is anticipated that for FY2008, the base plus percentage will be 80%-20% and based upon updated NAIS implementation goals and achievements.)

Premises registration remains a priority for use of FY2007 NAIS Implementation Cooperative Agreement funding. All States/Tribes/Territories must include an aggressive and comprehensive plan for outreach and education in support of premises registration to stakeholders at all levels within the State, Tribe, or Territory in the proposed work plan. The plan must include documentation of a functional NAIS coordination advisory group/committee/organization including established outreach resources in the State or Tribe such as State/Tribe species organizations representatives, non-affiliated producer representative(s), AVIC representative(s), State/Tribe/Territory animal health representatives, State and/or Federal animal identification coordinator(s), and cooperative extension specialists that are representative of the stakeholders in the State or Tribe. The plan must also include assigned function(s) of the group/committee/organization and frequency of planned meetings. The work plan must describe how the USDA NAIS updated outreach messages and plan as of October 31, 2006 (<http://animalid.aphis.usda.gov/nais/index.shtml> in the "browse by subject" section) will be implemented and used regarding the outreach effort. The work plan must also include specific goals of achievement (measurable outcomes) regarding premises registration efforts. In addition to projected numbers of premises registered, performance measures may also be included to document effort and productivity such as number of meetings conducted; number of producers/owners contacted; outcomes associated with animal identification coordinating committees; outreach materials distributed; mass mailing results; cooperative extension programming outcomes, including NAIS funded and unfunded cooperative extension efforts; and use of promotional incentives to register premises. Measurable outcome(s) for FY2007 NAIS Implementation Cooperative Agreement funding, including premises registration, among others, is/are to be emphasized over measurable outputs (what was accomplished is to be prioritized over what was done and documented in quarterly and final reports).

Federal fund will be approved through FY2007 NAIS Implementation Cooperative Agreements to States/Tribes/Territories to maintain capacity to interface with the national premises number allocator and data resources. Funds may be used for staff resources needed to support the administration of premises identification systems. States/Tribes who have already achieved registration of a significant portion of eligible premises may also request funding for administration of animal identification numbers (AIN) in the system, but will not be approved to develop, maintain, or purchase any system or database used to record the shipment record associating AINs with a premises identification number (PIN)

Since States vary greatly relative to percent of premises registration, use of FY2007 NAIS Implementation Cooperative Agreement funding may be more appropriately used by States with higher percent premises registered to support other components of the NAIS for implementation purposes. For FY2007 NAIS Implementation Cooperative Agreement funding, allowable expenditures will include support for animal movement infrastructure that facilitates collection of animal movement data, but does not report the collected data to a State or private animal tracking database (ATD). Support for animal movement infrastructure will be limited to livestock markets and dealers and for NAIS integration with established State/Federal cooperative animal health programs within a State/Tribe/Territory. It is anticipated that allowances for animal movement infrastructure support may enhance premises registration efforts. Consistent with emphasis on premises registration, however, the amount of the proposed total budget submitted to support animal movement infrastructure must be in accordance with the following:

NAIS Component	<6% Prem. Registered	6% - 10% Prem. Registered	11%-25% Prem. Registered	>25% Prem. Registered
Outreach and Premises Registration	100%	80% min.	70% min.	60% min.
Animal Movement Infrastructure	0%	20% max.	30% max.	40% max.

Eligible entities or cooperators for receiving animal movement infrastructure support will be limited to livestock markets and dealers. States may also use animal movement infrastructure support for NAIS integration with established State/Federal Cooperative Animal Health Programs. All applicants who wish to utilize FY2007 NAIS Implementation Cooperative Agreement funding for this purpose must submit an accounting of all eligible items listed below under allowable expenditures that were purchased with Federal NAIS funds for the three previous years of funding (FY2004, FY2005, and FY2006), including pilot projects and field trial components or funding, and also must include current status and dispensation. The following descriptions apply:

Livestock Markets and Dealers

- States will be responsible for selecting cooperating livestock markets and dealers in their State and coordinating support, including documentation of performance for required reports. Participating livestock markets and dealers must cost share and provide a minimum of 20 percent of out of pocket costs for data collection equipment, and the Federal contribution through the State would be a maximum of 80 percent of their allowable “animal movement infrastructure funds” per facility. States will determine whether use of the Federal funds would be best distributed to as many markets and dealers as possible, or to optimally assist a targeted few, basing the decision on achieving the greatest impact for NAIS implementation within the State. Markets and dealers would also cover the cost of any retrofitting of their facilities that may be required to accommodate the automated data capture equipment. Participating livestock markets and dealers must be actively promoting NAIS premises registration efforts and their success in acquiring premises registration results must be documented by the State in the proposed work plan and quarterly and

final reports. Allowable device and data collection infrastructure costs are listed below. Software program purchases or costs for livestock market and dealer inventory, management, or accounting purposes cannot be approved as an allowable expense with this cooperative agreement, nor as part of the cost matching requirement.

NAIS Integration with Established State Federal Cooperative Animal Health Programs

- States may use up to 50 percent of their allowable “animal movement infrastructure” funds for further integration of NAIS standards with cooperative State Federal animal health programs by purchasing devices and equipment listed below to support the administration of State/Federal cooperative animal health programs (tuberculosis testing, brucellosis vaccination, etc.) in that State. The work plan must describe how the collection of official animal identification numbers, and premises identification numbers (PINs) consistent with appropriate State/Federal animal health forms, will be accurately and electronically recorded, reported, and transferred to an appropriate federal database, depending upon the specific program. Documenting the amount of data accurately collected and reported to the appropriate federal animal disease program database must be one of the measurable outcomes described in the work plan. In order to provide animal movement infrastructure, States must provide the number of animal health employees; the number of animal health employees that would need access to or use such infrastructure; and the plan for implementing and inventorying appropriate animal movement infrastructure items. Applicants that may wish to use brand inspectors as part of State/Federal cooperative animal health program efforts must document that all necessary non-brand inspector, animal health personnel are supported; and then provide animal movement infrastructure to brand inspector personnel only to the extent that brand inspectors perform State/Federal cooperative animal health functions (if 10% of a brand inspection program is documented as serving a State/Federal cooperative animal health function, then 10% of brand inspection employees would be eligible for support for animal movement infrastructure). If this option is pursued, the work plan must document the specific, intended State/Federal cooperative animal health program(s) to be enhanced; document compatibility and coordination of hardware and software requests in the proposed work plan with the specific State/Federal cooperative animal health program coordinators by attaching a letter (copy of email is acceptable) from the AVIC attesting that the proposed effort is compatible, coordinated, and approved by the specific State/Federal animal health program coordinators; and include the amount of data transferred to federal animal health databases as a measurable outcome. The clear intent must be to enhance the accurate collection and transfer of cooperative State/Federal animal health program information to Federal animal health databases. Applicants must recognize that not all cooperative State/Federal animal health program planning efforts are at the same level of completion or status regarding information technology (IT) functionality. As such, not all cooperative State/Federal animal health program efforts may be eligible for inclusion in this cooperative agreement. It is the responsibility of the applicant, in coordination with the AVIC, to inquire of the selected cooperative State/Federal animal health program coordinator(s) regarding the compatibility of the proposed work plan and use of animal movement data collection infrastructure with the specific program goals and objectives, including hardware and software intraoperability.

Allowable expenditures for support of animal movement infrastructure will only be associated with ISO 11784/11785 Compliant RFID technology. The following are allowable expenditures:

Devices and Data Collection Infrastructure

1. Tag applicators
2. ISO Compliant Automated Data Capture Equipment
 - Handheld and Stationary readers
 - Includes:
 - ❖ Antennae, reader module, and software for the reading equipment
 - ❖ PC for onsite data storage to support communications with Animal Tracking Databases
3. Communication Interfaces
 - Development, testing, and deployment of communication interfaces with an Animal Tracking Database and the AIN Distribution Database

NAIS-approved official animal identification tags/devices cannot be purchased with FY2007 NAIS Implementation Cooperative Agreement funding. States/Tribes/Territories may, however, purchase NAIS-approved official animal identification tags/devices for use in advancing NAIS implementation with non-federal NAIS-implementation monies. Purchased NAIS-approved animal identification tags/devices cannot be used as part of the cost matching requirement. If NAIS-approved official animal identification tags/devices are purchased by States/Tribe/Territories to develop or evaluate animal tracking programs, the amount used cannot be part of the cost matching requirement.

Incentives

It is anticipated that some States/Tribes/Territories may request Federal funds, or allowance for matching funds, to utilize varying types of incentive efforts to encourage producers to adopt or implement portions of the NAIS. For purposes of these guidelines, “incentive(s)” in this context refers to giveaways, including promotional items. The purpose of incentive(s) is to boost or accelerate premises registration participation within a State/Tribe/Territory.

USDA/APHIS can use appropriated funds for incentives to promote/increase participation in the NAIS. Incentive costs associated with participation in the NAIS are allowable costs for the purposes of this cooperative agreement.

The following guidelines regarding incentive(s) should be followed:

- For FY2007 NAIS activities with increased premises registration as a primary objective, no more than 10 percent of total project funding intended for outreach and education activities, including both base and plus amounts, can be used for incentive purposes. Producers/owners can receive only one incentive per premises registered and States/Tribes/Territories wishing to utilize incentives to increase premises registration must be able to document such.
- The most important aspect of the workplan or application for funds with regard to premises registration incentive(s) is the applicant’s description and justification for the proposed approach. The justification and support should include terms of cost per item, intended use, and measurable outcomes. Maximum allowance for individual items is \$12.00 per item.
- Applicants are limited to making incentives available only to producers/owners who register their premises during the funding period. In anticipation of potential producers/owners voicing concerns regarding registering their premises without receiving an incentive, applicants must describe their intended response.

- In general, applicants must be able to provide evidence that only premises registered by owners/producers within the funding period were provided the incentive once and only once. Each quarterly accomplishment report must contain an accounting of incentive efforts to date if this option is described in the work plan.
- Competitive incentive plan programs designed to reward groups or organizations with “prize” money are not allowed. Allocation of monies for incentive purposes of registering premises are to be aligned solely with registration of a premises.
- Promotional items not intended for use as a specific reward for registering a premises are required to have information imprinted on the item that can direct recipients to further contact information associated with registering a premises in that State/Tribe/Territory.
- Items that are provided as a specific reward only to people who sign up for NAIS premises registration must be identified or associated with the State/Tribe/Territory animal identification effort or the NAIS. This can be an associated thank-you note provided along with the intended item documenting the connection of the reward with registration of a premises. The item itself may be imprinted with the NAIS or State/Tribe/Territory animal identification logo; or the logo can be imprinted on one portion of the item such as a holster associated with a selected tool item; or an attached item imprinted with an appropriate logo such as a “tag” attached to a rope halter. At a minimum, the language or logos must somehow show or detail the Federal-State cooperative effort.

Twenty percent cost sharing² is required, demonstrated by the applicant’s cash contributions³, or third-party in-kind contributions⁴. The eligibility of specific items of cost is outlined in OMB Circular A-87 regardless of the origin of the funds.

States that have achieved greater than 25 percent of premises registered (DE, ID, IN, MA, MI, MN, NE, NV, NY, ND, PA, UT, WV and WI) may apply for an amount up to the total reserved amount as listed in Appendix B. Of the reserved amount for these States, a minimum of 60% of the applied funds must be expended on outreach and premises registration activities and up to a maximum of 40% of the applied funds can be directed for animal movement data collection infrastructure support. The amount applied for can be used for the entire funding period without any base-plus approach requiring a mid-year assessment by the ADODR.

States that have less than \$82,000 reserved (AK, CT, DE, HI, ME, MD, MA, NV, NH, NJ, RI, and VT) will not be subject to a base-plus administration of funding. They may apply for an amount up to the total reserved amount as listed in Appendix B. The amount applied for can be used for the entire funding period without any base-plus approach requiring a mid-year assessment by the ADODR. They will, however, be subject to the amount of funds required for outreach and premises registration efforts and allowable for animal movement data collection infrastructure support as based upon percent premises registration achieved. DE, MA, and NV must allocate a minimum of 60% of the applied funds on outreach and premises registration

² As defined by 7 CFR 3016.3 *Cost Sharing or Cost Matching* means the value of the third party in-kind contributions and the portion of the costs of a federally assisted project or program not borne by the Federal Government.

³ As defined by 7 CFR 3016.3 *Cash Contributions* means the grantee’s (recipients) cash outlay, including the outlay of money contributed to the grantee or subgrantee by other public agencies and institution, and private organization and individuals.

⁴ As defined by 7 CFR 3016.3 *Third Party in-kind contributions* means property or services which benefit a federally assisted project or program and which are contributed by non-Federal parties without charge to the grantee, or a cost type contractor under the grant agreement.

activities and up to a maximum of 40% of the applied funds can be directed for animal movement data collection infrastructure support. HI, MD, and NJ must allocate a minimum of 70% of the applied funds on outreach and premises registration activities and up to a maximum of 30% of the applied funds can be directed for animal movement data collection infrastructure support. AK and ME must allocate a minimum of 80% of the applied funds on outreach and premises registration activities and up to a maximum of 20% of the applied funds can be directed for animal movement data collection infrastructure support. CT, NH, RI, and VT are restricted in using applied funds only for outreach and premises registration activities.

The states below are being funded on a base-plus approach. They must submit an SF-424 and SF-424A for the initial 90% of the total funding indicated in Appendix B. The detailed budget that accompanies the workplan should reflect the initial 90% funding with a separate itemized budget for the additional 10%, included as a separate breakout on the same financial plan.

States that have achieved between 11 percent and 25 percent of premises registered and have greater than \$82,000 reserved (AZ, AR, CA, CO, FL, IL, IA, KS, KY, MO, NC, SC, SD, TN, and TX) are subject to a 90 percent base-10 percent plus administration of funding. Only 90 percent of the full reserved amount can be approved for expenditures for the entire duration of the funding period. Any amounts applied for above the 90 percent of the total reserved amount will be approved by the ADODR for use only after assessment of achieving the measurable outcomes stated in the work plan following submission of the second quarterly report prior to July 1, 2007. States that have achieved between 11 percent and 25 percent of premises registered must subject a work plan with a minimum of 70 percent directed to outreach and premises registration efforts and up to a maximum of 30 percent directed to animal movement infrastructure requests.

States that have achieved between 6 percent and 10 percent of premises registered and have more than \$82,000 reserved (AL, GA, NM, OR, VA, and WY) are subject to a 90 percent base-10 percent plus administration of funding. Only 90 percent of the full reserved amount can be approved for expenditures for the entire duration of the funding period. Any amounts applied for above the 90 percent of the total reserved amount will be approved by the ADODR for use only after assessment of achieving the measurable outcomes stated in the work plan following submission of the second quarterly report prior to July 1, 2007. States that have achieved between 6 percent and 10 percent of premises registered must subject a work plan with a minimum of 80 percent directed to outreach and premises registration efforts and up to a maximum of 20 percent directed to animal movement infrastructure requests.

States that have achieved less than 6 percent of premises registered and have more than \$82,000 reserved (LA, MS, MT, OH, OK, and WA) are subject to a 90 percent base-10 percent plus administration of funding. Only 90 percent of the full reserved amount can be approved for expenditures for the entire duration of the funding period. Any amounts applied for above the 90 percent of the total reserved amount will be approved by the ADODR for use only after assessment of achieving the measurable outcomes stated in the work plan following submission of the second quarterly report prior to July 1, 2007. States that have achieved less than 6 percent of premises registered can only apply for funds to support outreach and premises registration activities.

C. Project Criteria

The cooperative agreements will support the continued implementation and maintenance of the national premises registration effort within the area the projects are administered. Funds should support premises identification and animal movement data collection infrastructure within the limits described above.

The USDA has established the primary data standards for the NAIS. The integration of these data standards in information systems at the State level is critical and a requirement for these cooperative agreements. USDA will support projects, to the extent possible, that:

- Include a plan for continuing the registration of premises in the State(s), reservations (including the Native American Standardized Premises Registration System), etc., in which the project is based;
- Utilize systems that integrate with and establish the necessary data interfaces with the premises allocator and national premises information repository.
- Contain an outreach program plan for stakeholders based upon the Community Outreach Event materials presented by USDA on October 31, 2006. The outreach program's goal should be for stakeholders to learn more about the identification system and offer a plan to share experiences and feedback from stakeholders with USDA.

Additionally, projects should:

- Have contributing funds, cost-shared (20 percent) by the applicant and/or third party in-kind contributions (as described on Page 2 of this announcement); and
- Involve premises and animal identification of multiple species and in multiple sectors of the industry.

Projects may include:

- An option that provides for the successful integration of premises data from existing databases

Projects must focus on implementation of premises and animal identification methods according to the standards defined in the NAIS Draft Program Standards. This funding opportunity does NOT include funds for conducting research to develop or test potential solutions for animal identification and animal movement data collection.

USDA WILL NOT provide funding for:

- Development of software/system applications/computer programs, including premises registration and animal identification/tracking
- Hardware for state or privately based compliant systems including servers, data storage,
- Maintenance and operational costs of such compliant systems.
- Cleansing of the data (for example, fixing duplicate records) to meet the requirements of premises registration system.
- The interfacing of internal systems. For example, if a state needs to interface their Compliant Premises Registration System (CPRS) with a permitting system, such interface is not supported (pulling records from the CPRS or State Premises Registration

System (SPRS)) to support other State systems. Similarly, the interfaces of other systems (two systems that are independent of the CPRS) are not supported.

USDA WILL provide funding for:

- Establishing the interface of a CPRS with the premises allocator and national premises repository. The NAIS IT Team in Ft Collins will provide the technical specifications and communication protocols that are necessary for this interface, but will provide no programming for a private or State system. The normal time requirement for the coding/developing both interfaces is 3 days (24 hrs) and typically in the neighborhood of \$2400.
- The Integration of existing State systems with the SPRS or a CPRS. This “pulling” of data from existing databases that already contain premises related information seems to be a prudent and cost effective method in many cases. States must carefully consider whether this type of data integration to register livestock premises under NAIS would be interpreted as “voluntary” and if this would create any problems for premises registration in the long term.
- Consideration will be given for the development of systems to automate and/or support the collection of data needed for premises registration. Such systems must be developed to allow their integration with all CPRS and SPRS. Under the terms of the cooperative agreements, USDA has the right to use the products developed with the funds provided and to let others use them as well. For this reason, the development of products that are State specific or proprietary in nature are outside the scope of funding.
- Outreach and education including hiring of outside contractors, and demonstration or display items.
- Transportation costs related to NAIS implementation including attendance at national NAIS training and coordination meetings for officially recognized NAIS State/Tribe/Territory administrators/coordinators or their substitutes.
- Equipment necessary for the implementation of NAIS premises registration including, but not limited to, such things as laptop computers, wireless aircards, high speed internet connection for sites where NAIS administrators register premises online a large portion of the time (not private residences), GPS devices, and off-the-shelf mapping software such as Street Atlas USA. Quarterly reports should include the measurable outcomes associated with these equipment purchases.

II. Award Information

A. Total Available Funds: \$14,454,000

B. Anticipated Number of Awards: 80

C. Expected Amounts of Individual Awards: Approx. \$272,111/State; \$12,213/Tribe

D. Average funding per award in 2006: \$204,077

E. Anticipated Start Date: January 1, 2007

F. Period of Performance: To be completed by December 31, 2007

G. Renewal/Supplemental: Applicants who received funding in 2005/2006 to implement the NAIS may apply for funding to continue implementation in 2007. Applicants who received

funding in 2004 or 2005 to conduct field trials/research associated with NAIS are not eligible to apply to continue funding for those projects under this announcement.

H. Assistance Instrument: Cooperative Agreement

III. APHIS Role

APHIS Veterinary Services will administer the Cooperative Agreements and will provide advice to the project administrator, track funding, receive and review progress reports, offer comments and suggestions, and will track project performance.

APHIS personnel will meet with cooperators as often as necessary to ensure progress in accomplishing the goals of the project, identifying obstacles, and resolving concerns.

APHIS will provide the systems for allocating premises and animal identification numbers, the national premises repositories, the standardized premises registration system, and animal identification number management system.

APHIS will work closely with cooperators to develop the necessary interfaces with the national premises allocator and the national animal identification database.

APHIS will provide extensive information regarding NAIS on their Web site and will provide materials to support the outreach efforts of the States and Tribes.

IV. Eligibility Information

A. Eligible Applicants:

The State Animal Health Authorities and Native American Tribal governments may submit an application. In the event multiple States or Tribes work cooperatively as one project, one person from either a State or Tribe involved in the project must be responsible for the application for and administration of the agreement. This person will be referred to as the Project Administrator and will be the primary contact for the USDA. This person will also be the duly authorized representative who will sign the cooperative agreement application. The Project Administrator must submit an application package and the workplan in the format described in section V.B.

Project Administrators whose projects are considered for funding on an individual basis will be required to complete the application package and workplan for the official award of the cooperative agreement.

Please note funding restrictions in section I.C. Applications involving a request for funds for a use that is restricted will be returned to the cooperator and will not be eligible for award. The cooperator must resubmit an application which does not involve a request for funds for restricted use in order to be considered eligible for award.

B. Cost Sharing or Matching

USDA requires that projects demonstrate 20 percent contributing funds, cost-shared by the applicant or in-kind contributions, including third-party in-kind contributions.

C. Other Eligibility Criteria

An Applicant may submit only one application and/or be a subrecipient or subcontractor in an application submitted by another State or Tribal government.

V. Application and Submission Information

A. Address to Request Application Package

(V.B., “Content and Form of Application Submission” contains the project workplan which outlines the format applicants need to use when applying. Paper copies of the other required application forms [SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance; SF-424A, Budget Information – Non Construction Programs; SF-424B, Assurances – Non-Construction Programs; SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (required for Federal Assistance greater than \$100,000); and Certification Regarding Lobbying can be requested from the following address:

USDA, APHIS, MRPBS, Agreements Services Center
Eileen Berke
4700 River Road, Unit 55, Station 3B-06.3
Riverdale, MD 20737

They can also be retrieved from the APHIS website at the following address:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/mrpbs/forms/grantforms.html>

If an applicant chooses to apply through Grants.gov, the SF-424, SF-424A and B, and SF-LLL (required for Federal Assistance greater than \$100,000), can be filled out and submitted online. The work plan format described in V.B, “Content and Form of Application Submission” should then be submitted as an attachment.

B. Content and Form of Application Submission

**National Animal Identification System (NAIS)
Implementation**

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0579-0259. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 20 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

WORK PLAN FORMAT

Cover Page

Plan Administrator:
Name of State or Tribal Government:
Address:
City, State, Zip:
Office Phone:
Cell Phone:
Fax:
Email address (Plan Administrator):

List additional State departments, Tribes, etc. that have confirmed participating in the plan (complete name, address, etc.)

These funds may only be used for the implementation and administration of premises registration in accordance with the NAIS and support of outreach efforts pertaining to all activities that promote the NAIS implementation plan for achieving full participation by 2009. Special field trials and research projects which attempt to address problems or questions about NAIS implementation must be funded through a separate application to the announcement specific for that funding.

Signature of Plan Administrator: _____

Date: _____

Please complete each section explained on the following pages and maintain the format on your application. Section V, "Application and Submission Information" provides more details on the information requested and how it will be used to evaluate applications for funding.

Objectives and Need for the Assistance

This section should include a narrative on how the financial assistance will facilitate the cooperator in carrying out the implementation of the NAIS. Clearly and thoroughly explain the objectives and purpose of the plan. Explain why this work is critical to the successful implementation of the NAIS in your area.

Results or Benefits Expected

Identify the results to be accomplished through assistance.

- What do you hope to achieve through this work?
- How will the results of this work be of merit to the overall implementation of NAIS?
- Explain how the applicant and industry will benefit from the work.

Approach

This section should discuss the overall plan of action and outline the roles and responsibilities that are mutual, those of the cooperator, and those of APHIS in terms of work to be performed, expected accomplishments by each party, and resources to be contributed by each.

Outline a Plan of Action

Provide a brief overview of the work to be performed and how the plan builds upon the 2005 or 2006 cooperative agreement plan. Also, explain how this plan will support the timelines for full implementation of NAIS as outlined in the draft strategic plan.

Detail work to be accomplished.

Indicate what components of the NAIS will be addressed within this plan and explain how the components will be implemented through the plan.

Premises Identification (required)

- Explain what system will be used (Standard or Compliant)
- Identify how many and what percent of estimated premises have been registered to date overall and by species
- Plan (logistics) for the registration of premises
- Plan for successful integration of premises data from existing databases (if applicable)
- Explain how this work will support eventual registration of all premises in the area.

Stakeholder Participation

Please provide a description of the NAIS coordinating group/committee/organization in the State/Tribe listing the names of members and explaining their role/involvement:

1. Producer, processor/marketing organizations
2. Government
3. Academia and/or Extension
4. Service providers (companies that provide services to producers)
5. Other

Please also provide

1. A schedule of when and where the NAIS coordinating group/committee/organization will meet.
2. A plan for preparing agendas, recording minutes, taking attendance, and other administrative duties necessary for the proper functioning of the group/committee/organization.

Industry Focus

1. List the livestock types that will be a significant part of the project. Include an estimated count of the number of eligible premises for each species and an estimated count of the number of eligible animals in each species.

Beef: Dairy: Pigs: Sheep:
Other (list):

2. List the sectors of the production/marketing/processing industry involved and explain their involvement. Include an approximate number of eligible premises from each and an approximate number participating from each:

Producers: Markets: Order Buyers:
Feed Lots: Transportation: Packing Plants:
Other (list):

Communication Plan

1. Explain how this plan supports the outreach efforts of USDA, APHIS.
2. Explain how the industry will gain a better understanding of NAIS.
3. Explain how the communication efforts will be coordinated in the state/region.
4. Explain how this plan will work with key producer contacts to disseminate information (i.e., livestock markets, feed stores, and veterinarians).
5. Explain how you will obtain feedback from stakeholders and share this feedback with USDA, APHIS.

Describe how each activity is to be accomplished.

Describe any unusual features of the plan.

Resources Required

Number and Type of Personnel:

1. Are they currently employed or will employees have to be hired? Identify mechanism to be used to hire any new employees for this plan.
2. Will employees work on this plan full-time or part-time? If part time, list the number of employees working on this plan, the percentage of time each will spend on this plan and the number of full time equivalents for this plan.
3. Identify any other issues surrounding staff resources that may need to be covered.

Note: Personnel involved in data entry, education, etc. are eligible for funding. Personnel involved in software development, computer programming, etc. are not eligible for funding.

Equipment Needed:

1. What equipment will be provided by the cooperator?
2. What equipment will be provided by APHIS?
3. What equipment will be provided through APHIS funds?
4. Identify any major purchase needs and the use of the equipment to be purchased.
5. Identify the method of procurement to be used.
6. Identify the method of disposition of equipment to be used.

Note: Equipment eligible for funding would include PCs for data entry, etc. Equipment such as servers, data storage, etc. are not eligible for funding.

Travel Needs:

1. Method of payments
2. Rate of payments for travel and per diem
3. Approving official
4. Type of travel to be authorized
5. Number of trips to be authorized

Supplies:

1. Special supplies
2. Method of procurement

Other Resource Needs

Detail resource needs that do not fit the categories above.

Accomplishments to be achieved

Identify each activity or function which is to be a part of this plan. Be sure to include the required activities listed here.

Premises registration (required)

Prepare an accomplishment plan involving the variety of species to be involved within each reporting period and the number of premises registered for each species type reported to the National Premises Information Repository as a raw number and as a percentage of the total estimated, qualified premises holding that species in the State or Tribal area.

Prepare an accomplishment plan involving the variety of sectors of the industry to be registered and the number of premises registered in each sector of the industry as a raw number and as a percentage of the total estimated, qualified premises to be registered in that sector.

Animal Identification (Not supported with Federal funds, but to be reported, if appropriate)

If individual animal identification is planned, prepare an accomplishment plan for the activity.

Include in the plan how data will be gathered to provide in the quarterly reports the number and percentage of animals identified for each species. Also include a similar plan for estimating the number and percentage of Group/Lot identification used within the State or Tribe.

Animal Tracking (Not supported with Federal funds, but to be reported, if appropriate)

Although the animal tracking databases are operated and maintained by the private sector and/or States/Tribes, it is important to document how the effectiveness of system(s) is/are functioning in each State or Tribe. If tracking of animal movements is planned, prepare an accomplishment plan for that activity.

Measure the number of animal movement transactions in each species reported to private or State/Tribal Animal Tracking/Tracing databases as a raw number and a percentage of total eligible transactions.

Outreach/Education (required)

Prepare an accomplishment plan involving the number of stakeholders to be educated regarding NAIS.

Identify the number of groups/organizations and businesses to be contacted in the various stakeholder sectors as a raw number and as a percentage of the total number of groups/organizations available in the area. Specific target areas should be identified (livestock markets, feed stores and veterinarians, etc.). Number and percentage of the targeted areas that actually displayed and supported the distribution of NAIS information (requires follow-up to ensure the information is being disseminated).

Identify the number of contacts made with individual stakeholders as a raw number; for example, the number of stakeholders that participated in informational meetings.

Prepare an accomplishment plan for retrieving feedback from stakeholders.

Legislation Implemented

Indicate what current legislative aspects associated with NAIS, or impacting NAIS, currently exists in the State or Tribal entity regarding premises registration, animal identification, and animal movement activities.

Prepare an accomplishment plan around determining the need for and addressing any legislative changes needed to participate in the NAIS.

Other

Develop other plans for accomplishments that fit the specifics of your work plan.

Using the format provided in Appendix A as a guide, please summarize each accomplishment expected within each activity or function. For States that are subject to the 90 percent base-10 percent plus mid-year assessment, the due date for this quarterly report is June 15, 2007. Plus amounts will not be determined for allocation without this acceptable quarterly report.

For quantitative accomplishments, list what portion of that accomplishment you expect to be able to achieve in each quarter.

For accomplishments that can not be quantified, list in chronological order with a target date for completion of each.

Identify what criteria will be used to evaluate the results/success of the plan.

Budget

Provide budget details that reflect the expenditures for the plan presented for the entire funding period, including the base and plus amounts , broken out separately, if appropriate (or that will be presented) on Standard Form 424A.

The budget should include the detail for the budget object class categories reflected on the SF-424A Section B, including indirect costs. The total costs of the project should then be distributed to APHIS and the applicant, based on the 80/20 cost share ratio.

Note: The plan funds are to be obligated by APHIS during FY 2007 and will be available for cooperator expenditure through December 31, 2007.

The following forms must be submitted with the “NAIS Implementation” Work Plan (above):

- **Application for Federal Assistance:** Standard Form 424
- **Budget Information:** Standard Form 424A
- **Assurances – Non-construction Programs:** Standard Form 424B
- **Disclosure of Lobbying Activities:** SF-LLL (required for Federal Assistance greater than \$100,000)
- **Certification Regarding Lobbying (required for Federal Assistance greater than \$100,000)**
- **Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if claiming indirect costs)**

Note: The Certification Regarding Lobbying and Indirect Cost Rate Agreement cannot be submitted through grants.gov. If you are applying through grants.gov, these items will be requested at the time of award.

VI. Submission Dates and Times:

- **Deadline:** 4:30 EST, December 18, 2006
Applications received after the deadline will not be reviewed or considered.
- **Evaluation and Selection**
The evaluation of applications will be conducted within approximately 30 days after the application deadline. Following the selection process, all applicants will be notified of the amount of the available funds that have been reserved to support their plan and any changes to the work plan that are needed to justify the reserved amount.
- **Allocation of Funds**
Funds will be awarded for the period beginning on the date indicated in the Notice of Award and continuing until December 31, 2007.

VII. Intergovernmental Review

CFDA 10.025 is subject to Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs" in the States of: Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada*, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, and West Virginia. Awards will not be made until this process has been completed in the applicable States. Names and addresses of States' Single Points of Contact (SPOC) are listed in the Office of Management and Budget's home page at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants/spoc.html>. For those applicants that have this process in their State, submit your application to the SPOC simultaneously to submitting to APHIS. Failure to meet with this requirement will result in a rejection of your application. A copy of the SPOC receipt and approval letter will be required at the time the award is made.

*Nevada only requires a copy of the SF-424 be mailed to them for information. Check "Not selected for Review" on Block 16 of the SF-424.

VIII. Funding Restrictions

Plan funds must be obligated by the recipient by December 31, 2007. Extensions of time to complete projects beyond this date may be granted on a case-by-case basis. Construction, including renovations of real property, is not authorized.

Plan funds may not be used for certain types of personnel, including computer software developers and programmers. The types of personnel who may be funded under these plans would include data entry clerks and program delivery personnel.

Plan funds may not be used for certain types of equipment, including servers and data storage devices. Types of equipment which may be funded under these plans would include PCs for data entry.

Plan funds granted under this announcement may not be used for field trials or research. These funds may only be used for the implementation and maintenance of the NAIS.

The applicant must submit a copy of its fully executed current Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement, negotiated by its cognizant Federal agency, when indirect costs are assessed in the budget. Each Native American Tribal government desiring reimbursement of indirect costs must submit its indirect cost proposal to the Department of the Interior (its cognizant Federal agency).

IX. Other Submission Requirements

Applicants can apply to this funding opportunity through <http://grants.gov>. First time users should go to the “Get Registered” tab on the Web site and carefully read and follow the steps listed in order to apply. Your organization will need to be registered with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR). In order to register with the CCR, a requirement for registering with grants.gov, your organization will need a Data Universal Number System (DUNS) Number . A DUNS number is a unique nine-character identification number provided by the commercial company, Dun & Bradstreet (D&B). To investigate if your organization already has a DUNS number or to obtain a DUNS number, contact Dun & Bradstreet at 1-866-705-5711. Be sure to complete the Marketing Partner ID (MPIN) and Electronic Business Primary Point of Contact fields during the CCR registration process. These are mandatory fields that are required when submitting grant applications through Grants.gov.

Please note: The DUNS and CCR requirements described above are applicable to all applicants whether you choose to apply through grants.gov or submit a paper application package.

Applications must be received through grants.gov or at the address below by close of business on the closing date indicated in V.I. “Submission Dates and Times”.

Applications may be submitted electronically in MS Word , PDF format (email or delivered electronic media), or one original paper application package to the Area Veterinarian in Charge covering the Area in which the applicant is located. The name and contact information for these people may be found at: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/area_offices.htm

If you experience difficulty in getting your application to the Area Veterinarian In Charge in your area, you may contact:

USDA APHIS VS
c/o Deborah L. Sweitzer, NAIS Program
National Center for Animal Health Programs
4100 River Road – 3A70
Riverdale, MD 20737
Deborah.L.Sweitzer@aphis.usda.gov
(301) 734-5791

X. Application Review Information

A. Criteria

1. States

Of the total available funds for plans involving the continued implementation of the NAIS, \$13,609,000 will be set aside for use by States. Each State will be eligible for funding in an amount up to the reserved amount shown in Appendix B. However, the work plan must clearly justify the funding requested at the 90% level, but also include those activities that would be conducted with 100% funding, indicating those that would be completed only if the additional 10% funding is awarded. If the work plan does not justify the entire reserved amount, the State will be awarded the amount justified in the work plan.

2. Tribes

Of the total available funds for plans involving the continued implementation of the NAIS, \$845,000 will be set aside for use by Tribes. Each Tribe will be eligible for funding in an amount up to the reserved amount shown in Appendix C. However, the work plan must clearly justify the funding requested. If the work plan does not justify the entire reserved amount, the Tribe will be awarded the amount justified in the work plan.

3. Other Criteria

Cost sharing is required.

4. Multi-State/Tribe applications

States and Tribes may wish to submit an application for the amount equal to the combined amounts reserved for the individual participating States and Tribes. For multi-State/Tribe applications, a single State or Tribe will be deemed the cooperator with USDA and will be responsible for distributing the funds to the participating States/Tribes, for coordinating the performance of each participating State/Tribe, and for submitting required reports and fulfilling the terms of the agreement

B. Review and Selection Process

USDA, APHIS, VS is responsible for the allocation of funds to support the implementation plans that will be funded through cooperative agreements. The work plan will be reviewed by the Area Veterinarian in Charge for consistency with national standards. Once the Area Veterinarian in Charge is satisfied that the work plan and accompanying supporting information is accurate, the package will be forwarded to the appropriate USDA, APHIS, VS Regional Office. Staff within the Regional Office will review the package and submit it for final approval. If the Area Veterinarian in Charge or Regional Office Staff encounter areas of the work plan which need adjustments, they will contact the applicant to discuss these issues. VS has final authority in determining the amount of available funds that will be allocated to each implementation plan.

XI. Award Administration Information

A. Award Notice

Applications selected for funding will be notified by email or phone after the selection process is complete (late December, 2006). Approximately 10 days after the email notification, APHIS will prepare and submit a Notice of Award to the cooperator for signature. Once the Notice of Award is signed and returned to APHIS for final signature, the agreement will become effective. A letter will be mailed to any unsuccessful applicants on approximately the same date the selected applicants are first notified.

B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Access privileges to national databases provided to cooperators by APHIS will be given only to specific individuals specified in the agreements and must not be shared with any other individual, organization, company, or other entity. Animal health data specified under the agreement that are collected under the terms of the agreement are to be provided to APHIS in accordance with the data transfer protocols required by the national databases.

Successful applicants must comply with the requirements contained in the United States Department of Agriculture "Uniform Federal Assistance Regulations", 7 CFR 3015; "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments", 7 CFR 3016; in addition to "Government wide Debarment and Suspension (Non-Procurement)", 7 CFR 3017; "Government wide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace", 7 CFR 3021; "New Restrictions on Lobbying," 7 CFR 3018; and Office of Management and Budget regulations governing "Controlling Paperwork Burdens on the Public", 5 CFR 1320.

XII. Reporting

The Plan Administrator will provide to the APHIS authorized representative **quarterly** accomplishment reports on program activities outlined in the work plan. It is suggested that these reports be submitted in the format illustrated in Appendix A. The reports will be used by APHIS to verify compliance with provisions of this **Agreement**. These reports are due **no later than 30 days** after the end of each Federal fiscal quarter except the final report which is due **no later than 90 days** after the **Agreement** expires or terminates.

The Plan Administrator will provide to the APHIS authorized representative a properly certified **quarterly** Financial Status Report, SF-269, **no later than 30 days** after the end of each Federal fiscal quarter and a final SF-269 **no later than 90 days** after the **Agreement** expires or terminates. Any requests for an extension of time to submit the SF-269 must be made in writing to APHIS' authorized representative before expiration of the initial 30 or 90 day period allowed for submitting the report. Extensions of time to submit the SF-269 are subject to the discretion of APHIS' authorized representative and, if allowed, shall be provided by the authorized representative in writing.

XIII. Agency Contacts

For questions of programmatic content, please contact:

David L. Morris

APHIS, Veterinary Services
Ph. 970-494-7375
Fax 970-494-7369
David.L.Morris@aphis.usda.gov

For administrative questions, please contact:

Eileen Berke
APHIS, Agreements Services Center
Ph. 301-734-8330
Fax 301-734-8064
Eileen.M.Berke@aphis.usda.gov

XIV. Other Information

It is anticipated that the FY 2007 Federal budget will contain funds for additional Cooperative Agreements that will follow requirements similar to this Request for Applications. The USDA is not obligated to make any award as a result of this announcement. Only the APHIS Authorized Departmental Officer (ADO) can bind the Government to expenditure of funds.

XV. Appendix A: Accomplishment Report Summary Format

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT ACCOMPLISHMENT PLAN AND REPORT

07-9XX-0XXXCA

Program: NAIS

Quarter Completed:		Report Date:	Contact Person:	
Activity	Planned Accomplishment – List Specific Performance Measures	Performance Measures - Achievements -	If Objectives Have Not Been Met, Explain Below:	Work Site Visited Dates:
Activity 1	Enter planned accomplishment: Explain planned accomplishment:	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES		
Activity 2	Enter planned accomplishment: Explain planned accomplishment:	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES		
Activity 3	Enter planned accomplishment: Explain planned accomplishment:	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES		
Activity 4	Enter planned accomplishment: Explain planned accomplishment:	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES		

XVI. Appendix B: Reserved Allocations to States (FY2007 NAIS Implementation)**Distribution by States**

Alabama	\$276,000	Montana	\$279,000
Alaska	\$80,000	Nebraska	\$672,000
Arizona	\$178,000	Nevada	\$82,000
Arkansas	\$277,000	New Jersey	\$80,000
California	\$575,000	New Hampshire	\$80,000
Colorado	\$376,000	New Mexico	\$276,000
Connecticut	\$80,000	New York	\$276,000
Delaware	\$80,000	North Carolina	\$179,000
Florida	\$277,000	North Dakota	\$277,000
Georgia	\$180,000	Ohio	\$276,000
Hawaii	\$81,000	Oklahoma	\$575,000
Idaho	\$278,000	Oregon	\$276,000
Illinois	\$180,000	Pennsylvania	\$277,000
Indiana	\$179,000	Rhode Island	\$80,000
Iowa	\$474,000	South Carolina	\$177,000
Kansas	\$673,000	South Dakota	\$474,000
Kentucky	\$375,000	Tennessee	\$279,000
Louisiana	\$178,000	Texas	\$1,200,000
Maine	\$80,000	Utah	\$179,000
Maryland	\$81,000	Vermont	\$81,000
Massachusetts	\$80,000	Virginia	\$277,000
Michigan	\$179,000	Washington	\$179,000
Minnesota	\$279,000	West Virginia	\$177,000
Mississippi	\$179,000	Wisconsin	\$378,000
Missouri	\$572,000	Wyoming	\$276,000

XVII. Appendix C: Reserved Allocations to Tribes (FY2007 NAIS Implementation)

\$845,000 is reserved for Native American Tribal governments. Each entity may apply for Federal funding associated with this announcement, or combine each entity's allocation into a collaborative effort. Native American Tribes that have received previous funding associated with NAIS implementation are eligible up to \$10,000 per entity. Native American Tribes that have not received previous funding associated with NAIS implementation are eligible up to \$18,000 per entity.

Coordination of Native American Tribal governments relative to NAIS implementation is being accomplished by:

Terry W. Clark
USDA/APHIS/VS
Native American Program Coordinator
920 Main Campus Drive
Suite 200, 4th Floor
Raleigh, NC 27606
(919) 855-7167

All Native American Tribal government applications will be directed to the appropriate Regional Office following initial discussion, coordination, and direction from Terry Clark.