



Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

Food Package Review Work Group

September 25, 2019

Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Food Package Review Work Group

Meeting Dates: September 25, 2019

Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Voting Members

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Benita Lewis (WR VP) | | Joe Van Alstine (MWR VP) | |
| Charles "Red" Gates (MPR VP) | x | Julie Skolmowski (HQ FNS Nutritionist) | x |
| Connie Black (SWR Nutritionist) | x | Lorraine Davis (WR) | x |
| Connie Martinez (SWR) | x | Mara Yborra (MPR Nutritionist) | |
| Gloria Goodwin (MWR) | x | Marisa Fuller (NAFDPIR Secretary) | |
| Graydon Yatabe (CDC Nutritionist) | x | Mary Greene-Trottier (NAFDPIR President) | x |
| Jaime Prouty (NAFDPIR Treasurer) | x | Rex Hailey (NAFDPIR Parliamentarian) | x |
| Jerry Tonubbee (SW VP) | x | Scott Kruger (MWR Nutritionist) | x |
| TBD (WR Nutritionist) | | TBD (MPR) | |

Non-Voting Members

Support Staff

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| Barbara Lopez (HQ FNS) | x | Blair Tucker-Gruchala | x |
| Katie Clifford (WR FNS) | x | Christina Riley | x |
| Katrina Westphal (MPR FNS) | x | Gregory Walton | x |
| Richard Burley (SWR FNS) | x | Hunjin Lee | x |
| Samia Hamdan (MWR FNS) | | Janell Walker | x |
| | | Janice Fitzgerald | x |
| | | Kathy Staley | x |
| | | Laura Castro | x |
| | | Matthew Martin | x |

Discussion Items

I. Introductions & Welcome

II. USDA DoD Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program

- a. Work Group members discussed and reviewed feedback received from FDPIR ITOs for the FDPIR USDA DoD Fresh Fruit and Vegetable List. The discussion provided a recap on the variation that exists among the twenty-five different vendor catalogs in

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- FFAVORS and the goal to standardize produce options and pack sizes to have one FDPIR USDA DoD Fresh Fruit and Vegetable list.
- b. The final list includes feedback received from FDPIR program directors and from survey results conducted by the NAFDPIR Board. Pack size additions include: 3 lb. bag of oranges; 5 lb. bag of red apples; 5 lb. bag of green apples; and 3 lb. bag of yellow onions.
 - c. Incorporating the feedback received, the final FDPIR USDA DoD Fresh Fruit and Vegetable List will be shared with all USDA DoD vendors that support FDPIR. Vendors will be required to use the final standardized list beginning October 1, 2019. The final list will also be shared with all FDPIR program sites.
 - d. Work Group members agreed to have a longer discussion on other fresh produce issues at the next face-to-face meeting schedule in November 2019.

III. USDA Foods Update

- a. Frozen Peas – FNS shared recent activity of procuring frozen peas for the FDPIR program. The tentative delivery date is October 2019 to the national warehouses. The frozen peas will come in a 2 ½ lb. bag and count as 3 units towards the total vegetable guide rate.
 - Work Group members asked to explore smaller pack sizes for the frozen peas and shared concerns they are seeing with the take-rate for frozen blueberries, which also come in a 2 ½ lb. bag. The concern is that the pack size is too big for smaller household sizes and counts as 3 units towards your total maximum take-rate.
 - Work Group members shared concerns about households having too much product at once when they thaw the entire 2 ½ pound package. FNS explained that the product is individually quick frozen, meaning that participants can open the package, take out what they need to thaw, and put the rest back in the freezer. FNS will recirculate the frozen blueberry fact sheet with this information.
 - FNS will review the feasibility of smaller pack sizes and any other alternatives available for the frozen items.
- b. Canned Sweet Potatoes – FNS shared that the seasonal item of canned sweet potatoes is currently available in both national warehouses and available for ordering.
- c. Holiday Ham – The procurement for the holiday ham, which is a seasonal item offered above the guide rate, has been made to allow for a full distribution of the product. The tentative delivery date for the holiday ham in the national warehouses is December 2019; however, FNS shared that delays could occur.

IV. Traditional Foods

- a. Wild Salmon – FNS shared the current fair share run of wild salmon from September 30 through October 31, 2019. The wild salmon is from the same vendor as last year, Ocean Beauty. The product is shipped 40/1-lb. units to a case and may be distributed to participants above the guide rate.



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V. Trade Mitigation Program

- a. Under trade mitigation, FDPIR received two products, frozen strawberries and frozen pulled pork, both distributed above the guide rate. Work Group members shared positive feedback for both products. FNS also shared that a second distribution for both products is currently being planned.

VI. Next Meeting

- a. Work Group members discussed the dates and location of the next face-to-face meeting.
- b. Dates: week of November 18, 2019.
- c. Location: FNS explored an offsite location in the Phoenix, Arizona area, but due to travel constraints arising from the relatively short first continuing resolution for FY20, a meeting location in the Washington D.C. area has been determined.
- d. The NAFDPIR Board raised concerns with the location and requested for the November face-to-face meeting to be held offsite and in Phoenix.
- e. FNS shared that at this time, FNS work group staff and support staff could not receive approval to travel and would not be able to attend a meeting in Phoenix. However, a suggestion was made that during the November meeting in Washington, D.C., an alternate schedule be discussed to move the annual November meeting to another month as budget constraints at the beginning of each new fiscal year are increasingly more common.

VII. Other Business

VIII. Meeting Adjourned