



Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

Food Package Review Work Group

October 6, 2020

Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Food Package Review Workgroup

Meeting Date: October 6, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Voting Members			
AC Sanchez (WR VP)	X	Janell Walker (HQ FNS Nutritionist)	
Blake Garrison (MPR)	X	Joe Van Alstine (MWR VP)	X
Carla Patterson (WR Nutritionist)	X	Lorraine Davis (WR)	
Charles "Red" Gates (MPR VP)		Mara Yborra (MPR Nutritionist)	X
Connie Black (SWR Nutritionist)	X	Marisa Fuller (NAFDPIR Secretary)	
Connie Martinez (SWR)	X	Mary Greene-Trottier (NAFDPIR President)	X
Gloria Goodwin (MWR)	X	Rex Hailey (NAFDPIR Parliamentarian)	X
Graydon Yatabe (CDC Nutritionist)	X	Scott Kruger (MWR Nutritionist)	X
Jaime Prouty (NAFDPIR Treasurer)	X	TBD (SW VP)	

Non-Voting Members		FNS Support Staff	
Barbara Lopez (HQ FNS)	X	Blair Tucker-Gruchala	X
Katie Clifford (WR FNS)	X	Christina Riley	X
Gina O'Brian (MPR FNS)	X	Danielle Ziegler	X
Richard Burley (SWR FNS)	X	Elizabeth Dawson	X
Samia Hamdan (MWR FNS)	X	Erica Antonson	X
		Julie Skolmowski	X
		Kathy Staley	X
		Laura Castro	X
		Matthew Martin	X
		Michael Baker	X
		Shenique Bridges	X

Discussion Items

I. Welcome & Introductions

- a. Work Group facilitator welcomed all members and briefly reviewed handouts provided for the meeting.

II. Walleye Market Research Discussion and Vote

- a. A detailed handout and summary were provided to Work Group members on information received from FNS' procurement partner, the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), on opportunities to purchase walleye and/or other lake fish for the FDPIR food package.



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- b. Vendor #1:
 - Can supply boneless, skin-on walleye fillets between 4 – 10 oz. in a 1 lb. pack size.
 - Can supply preskinned walleye fingers (1.5 – 3.0 oz.) at a later date.
 - Availability is year-round except for a 4-6 week break for ice-in/ice-out in the fall and spring.
- c. Vendor #2
 - Does not have sufficient quantities to supply walleye or lake trout.
 - Can supply skinned whitefish fillets and herring fillets between 6 – 10 oz.
 - Availability is year-round except for a 4-6 week break for ice-in/ice-out in the fall and spring.
- d. Work Group members discussed the market research and voted for FNS to move forward with purchasing walleye for the FDPIR food package. See Attachment A – Voting Tally Results – Lake Fish for results.
- e. As a follow-up, Work Group members asked how many tribes were contacted by AMS through IAC, the Intertribal Agriculture Council. FNS will reach out to AMS to provide the information.

III. FDPIR Bonus Food Package

- a. A revised bonus food package proposal was shared and discussed with Work Group members. The proposal included the following high-level changes:
 - i. Distribution of the bonus food package is optional. If a FDPIR program chooses to offer a bonus food package, then it must be offered to all participants.
 - ii. FDPIR programs may also choose which foods and how many within established limits to offer as part of their bonus food package distribution.
 - iii. FDPIR programs can choose when to start distribution of the bonus food package and for how long during FY 2021.
 - iv. Tracking of foods used for the bonus food package continues to be in AIS/IFMS as a redonation (transfer out). However, each program can choose how to track their foods distributed at the household level and the frequency of entering the data into AIS/IFMS. Frequency can be daily, weekly, or monthly as long as the information is entered before submitting the FNS-152 for the report month. The CARES Act report will no longer be required.
 - v. FDPIR programs interested in distributing a bonus food package must submit an application to FNS using a template to describe the food categories, quantities, and distribution timeframe (i.e., number of months) they are interested in providing a bonus food package.
- b. Work Group members provided the following comments and/or suggestions for the bonus food package:
 - i. Provide a template to assist programs with ordering additional foods as part of the bonus food package.
 - ii. Provide further clarification between number of units vs. number of items.
 - iii. Provide clarification if the FDPIR Guide Ride (Exhibit O) would need to be followed if cheese is selected, which skips a month for a household of 1.
 - iv. Provide clarification on bonus food package distributions and limits being based on per person/per month vs. per household/per month.
 - v. Review 3-unit limit on milk for households of 1. Note: one 12.8 oz. of NFD milk, under the Guide Rate, counts as 4 units.



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- vi. Clarify and provide additional language in template that FDPIR programs do not need to provide all categories nor up to the maximum limit of food items. Each program can choose which categories and how much food they would like to provide without exceeding the limit.
 - vii. Provide information that programs, at their own discretion, may limit which specific food(s) they would like to distribute as part of the bonus food package.
 - viii. Explore AIS updates that can be done timely to assist with tracking at the household level instead of the inventory level.
- c. FNS will review all comments and suggestions and provide a revised proposal to Work Group members for review.

IV. Workgroup Meeting Schedule – Next Meeting

- a. Strategic Planning Meeting: FNS presented options to host its annual strategic meeting with Work Group members in November 2020. FNS proposed to host virtual meetings across several days for 2 – 2 ½ hours each day. Specific topics would be discussed during each timeslot.
- b. Work Group members agreed to this format and recommended the following days:
 - i. November 9 – 10; afternoon Eastern Time (2.5 hours each day)
 - ii. November 16 – 17; afternoon Eastern Time (2.5 hours each day)

V. Updates

- a. FNS provided an update on additional foods being offered in FDPIR during FY 2021, which include:
 - Cherries
 - Frozen strawberries
 - Wild salmon
 - Pulled Pork
 - Pork Patties
 - Orange Juice Cups
 - Wild Rice
 - Catfish
- b. FNS also provided an update on the holiday ham which FNS was unsuccessful in purchasing this year in time for a November/December delivery. No vendors bid on the solicitation to provide the product. FNS will be adding the holiday ham as an agenda item during the November strategic planning meeting to discuss alternatives for next year.

VI. Meeting Adjourned