

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request**

January 3, 2005.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding (a) whether the 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 assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) 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 should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), *Pamela_Beverly_OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV* or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8681.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Rural Utilities Service

Title: 7 CFR Part 1744, Subpart B, Lien Accommodations and Subordination Policy.

OMB Control Number: 0572-0126.

Summary of Collection: Rural Utilities Service (RUS) borrowers and other organizations providing telecommunications services will undertake projects that provide new telecommunications services and other telecommunications services not ordinarily financed by RUS. RUS is

willing to consider accommodating the Government's lien on telecommunications borrowers' systems based on the financial strength of the borrowers operations. The RUS telecommunication program provides loans to borrowers at interest rates and on terms that are more favorable than those generally available from the private sector.

Need and Use of the Information: Depending on the purposes for which a lien accommodation is sought, RUS will use the information to provide approval for borrowers that meet the financial tests. These tests are designed to ensure that the financial strength of the borrower is sufficient to protect the government's loan security interests.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; Not for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents: 30.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 23.

Sondra Blakey,

*Departmental Information Collection
Clearance Officer.*

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BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service****Information Collection; Request for
Comments; Aviation Forms**

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Forest Service is seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on the reinstatement of the currently approved collection for four aviation forms that assist in the documentation of pilot and aircraft qualifications, approval, and data records. These Office of Management and Budget approved forms include (1) FS-5700-20, Airplane Pilot Qualifications and Approval Record; (2) FS-5700-20a, Helicopter Pilot Qualifications and Approval Record; (3) FS-5700-21, Airplane Data Record; and (4) FS-5700-21a, Helicopter Data Record.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing on or before March 8, 2005, to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Comments concerning this notice should be addressed to John

Nelson, Fire and Aviation Management, Mail Stop 1107, Forest Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, Washington, DC 20250-0003.

Comments also may be submitted via facsimile to (202) 205-1401 or by e-mail to: *janelson03@fs.fed.us*.

The public may inspect comments received at the Office of Fire and Aviation Management, Yates Building, 2 SW., Forest Service, USDA 201 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC, during normal business hours. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to (202) 205-0995 to facilitate entry to the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Nelson, Aviation Management Specialist at (202) 205-0995.

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 twenty-four hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Title: FS-5700-20, Airplane Pilot Qualifications and Approval Record; FS-5700-20a, Helicopter Pilot Qualifications and Approval Record; FS-5700-21, Airplane Data Record; and FS-5700-21a, Helicopter Data Record.

OMB Number: 0596-0015.

Expiration Date of Approval: January 31, 2005.

Type of Request: Reinstatement with revision to the FS-5700-20, Airplane Pilot Qualifications and Approval Record; FS-5700-20a, Helicopter Pilot Qualifications and Approval Record, including electronic versions.

Abstract: The Forest Service (FS) contracts with approximately 400 vendors for aviation services that are utilized in resource protection and project management. Total annual use of contract aircraft and pilots in recent years has exceeded 100,000 hours. Hence, in order to maintain an acceptable level of safety, mission preparedness, and cost effectiveness in aviation operations, Forest Service contracts call for rigorous qualifications for pilots and specific conditions, equipment and performance requirements for aircraft. Aviation operations are conducted under extremely adverse conditions of weather, terrain, turbulence, smoke-reduced visibility, minimally improved landing areas, and congested airspace around wildfires.

To ensure agency contracting officers that the pilots and aircraft for aviation operations meet the specific Forest Service qualifications and other requirements for aviation operations, prospective contract pilots must provide