

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

September 14, 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), 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) 720-8958.

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.

Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service

Title: Select Agent Registration.

OMB Control Number: 0579-0213.

Summary of Collection: The Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 were signed into law June 12, 2002. This law is designed to prevent, prepare for and respond to bioterrorism and other public health emergencies. The law requires individuals possessing agents or toxins deemed a severe threat to animal or plant health, or to animal or plant products, to be registered with the Secretary of Agriculture unless they have been specifically exempted. The registration process entail the use of a number of separate forms designed to obtain critical information concerning individuals or facilities in possession of certain agents or toxins, as well as the specific characteristics of the agents or toxins—including name, strain, and genetic information.

Need and Use of the Information: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) will collect information to determine the biosafety level of an entity as well as the entity's biosecurity situation. The collected information will also be used to ensure that appropriate safeguard, containment, and disposal requirements commensurate with the risk of the agent or toxin are present at the entity, thus preventing access to such agents and toxins for use in domestic or international terrorism. If the information were not collected, APHIS efforts to more aggressively prevent a bioterrorism event in the United States would be compromised.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for profit; State, local and tribal government; Not-for-profit institutions

Number of Respondents: 545.

Frequency of Responses: Recordkeeping; Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 938.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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September 14, 2005.

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Rural Housing Service

Title: 7 CFR Part 3565, "Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing Program" and its Supporting Handbook.

OMB Control Number: 0575-0174.

Summary of Collection: On March 26, 1996, the Housing Opportunity Program

Extension Act of 1996 was signed. One of the provisions of the Act was the authorization of the section 538 Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing Program (GRRHP), adding the program to the Housing Act of 1949. The purpose of the GRRHP is to increase the supply of affordable rural rental housing through the use of loan guarantees that encourage partnerships between the Rural Housing Service (RHS), private lenders and public agencies. RUS will approve qualified lenders to participate and monitor lender performance to ensure program requirements are met. RHS will collect information from lenders on the eligibility cost, benefits, feasibility, and financial performance of the proposed project.

Need and Use of the Information: RHS will collect information from lenders to manage, plan, evaluate, and account for Government resources. The GRRHP regulation and handbook will provide lenders and agency staff with guidance on the origination and servicing of GRRHP loans and the approval of qualified lenders. RHS will use the information to evaluate a lender's request and make determination that the interests of the government are protected. Failure to collect information could have an adverse impact on the agency ability to monitor lenders and assess program effectiveness and effectively guarantee loans.

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

Number of Respondents: 150.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Quarterly; Monthly; Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 1,393.

Charlene Parker,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 05-069-1]

Public Meeting; National Animal Identification System

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will hold a public meeting concerning the animal movement tracking database component

for the National Animal Identification System. The purpose of the meeting is to initiate dialogue about this initiative with industry stakeholders, including representatives of national organizations that represent livestock and poultry production sectors, livestock producers, and other interested individuals. This notice provides information on the discussion topics as well as the date, time, and place of the meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 12, 2005, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Radisson Hotel & Suites Kansas City—City Center, 1301 Wyandotte Street, Kansas City, MO.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Neil Hammerschmidt, Coordinator, National Animal Identification System, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 200, Riverdale, MD 20737; phone (301) 734-0739, fax (301) 734-7963, or e-mail: Neil.E.Hammerschmidt@aphis.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Animal Identification System (NAIS) has made steady progress in 2005. Over 109,000 premises have been registered in the NAIS, setting the foundation for the animal identification components. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has reviewed over 600 comments on the draft strategic plan and draft program standards. There is significant support from the industry to move forward as proposed in the draft strategic plan, in particular, to implement a phased-in program in the proposed time frame. There was also support, especially from cattle producers, for having the animal tracking database maintained outside the Federal Government.

After considerable discussion regarding the design and administration of the animal tracking database, we have concluded that having multiple industry program databases "feed" a centralized, privately held repository with all animal movement data can be achieved and can meet the needs of our animal health programs.

To initiate the necessary dialogue with the industry, we will hold a public meeting on October 12, 2005. At the meeting, we will discuss the relationship between the industry and USDA that would have to be in place for such a system to function effectively. Among the options to be discussed is the formation of a new entity representing all sectors of the production industry to lead the effort to develop, and provide ongoing oversight

of, a private animal tracking data repository. USDA and State representatives will define the system specifications and user requirements that the animal tracking database must meet to support ongoing animal health surveillance programs and traceback investigations.

Done in Washington, DC, this 15th day of September 2005.

Kevin Shea,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 05-18760 Filed 9-19-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

National Urban & Community Forestry Advisory Council Meeting

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council will meet in Sacramento, California, October 18-20, 2005. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss emerging issues in urban and community forestry.

DATES: The meeting will be held October 18-20, 2005.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Sacramento Northeast, 5321 Date Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95841. Individuals who wish to speak at the meeting or to propose agenda items must send their names and proposals to Suzanne M. del Villar, Executive Assistant, National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council, P.O. Box 1003, Sugarloaf, CA 92386-1003. Individuals may fax their names and proposed agenda items to (909) 585-9527.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Suzanne M. del Villar, Urban and Community Forestry Staff, (909) 585-9268, or via e-mail at sdelvillar@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. Council discussion is limited to Forest Service staff and Council members; however, persons who wish to bring urban and community forestry matters to the attention of the Council may file written statements with the Council staff before or after the meeting. Public input sessions will be provided.