

Research, Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857. Send one self-addressed adhesive label to assist that office in processing your requests. Submit written comments on the guidance to the Division of Dockets Management (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852. Submit electronic comments to <http://www.fda.gov/dockets/ecomments>. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for electronic access to the guidance document.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Oluchi Elekwachi, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (HFD-510), Food and Drug Administration, 1401 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852-1448, 301-827-6381.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

Weight-loss medications approved by FDA before the 1990s, such as phentermine and diethylpropion, are indicated for the short-term (a few weeks) treatment of obesity. The short-term indication reflects the now rejected belief that drug-induced weight loss will be maintained after the medication is stopped. In recent years, it has become clear that the successful treatment of obesity, with or without pharmacologic intervention, requires long-term, if not chronic, therapy.

In 1995, FDA's Division of Metabolic and Endocrine Drug Products convened an expert advisory panel to discuss the development of weight-loss drugs indicated for the long-term treatment of obesity. The discussions at this meeting formed the basis for a draft guidance document entitled "Guidance for the Clinical Evaluation of Weight-Control Drugs," which was made available on September 24, 1996. Two of the more important recommendations made in the draft guidance relate to the duration of the phase 3 trials and the criteria used to define efficacy.

FDA is interested in incorporating the latest scientific advances in the field of obesity and drug development into an amended obesity guidance document. Once the draft has been revised, it will be issued again for comment before finalization. To that end, interested parties are encouraged to submit comments on the 1996 draft obesity guidance.

This request for comments on the 1996 draft guidance is being issued consistent with FDA's good guidance practices (GGPs) regulation (21 CFR 10.115). The draft guidance, when finalized, will represent the agency's

current thinking on this topic. It does not create or confer any rights for or on any person and does not operate to bind FDA or the public. You can use an alternative approach if the approach satisfies the requirement of the applicable statutes and regulations.

**II. Comments**

Interested persons may submit to the Division of Dockets Management (see **ADDRESSES**) written or electronic comments regarding the draft guidance. Submit a single copy of electronic comments or two paper copies of any mailed comments, except that individuals may submit one paper copy. Comments are to be identified with the docket number found in the brackets in the heading of this document. A copy of received comments are available for public examination in the Division of Dockets Management between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**III. Electronic Access**

Persons with access to the Internet may obtain the draft guidance at either <http://www.fda.gov/cder/guidance/index.htm> or <http://www.fda.gov/ohrms/dockets/default.htm>.

Dated: January 6, 2004.

**Jeffrey Shuren,**

*Assistant Commissioner for Policy.*

[FR Doc. 04-1496 Filed 1-23-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4160-01-S**

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

[Docket No. FR-4903-N-01]

**Notice of Submission of Proposed Information Collection to OMB: Single Family Premium Collection Subsystem-Upfront**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Chief Information Officer, HUD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The proposed information collection requirement described below has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

The Single Family Premium Collection Subsystem-Upfront (SFPCS-U) is used by lenders to remit Upfront Mortgage Insurance Premiums using funds obtained from the borrower during the closing of the mortgage transaction at settlement.

**DATES:** *Comments Due Date:* February 25, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and OMB approval number (2502-0423) and should be sent to: Melanie Kadlic, OMB Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503; Fax number (202) 395-6974; E-mail [Melanie\\_Kadlic@omb.eop.gov](mailto:Melanie_Kadlic@omb.eop.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Wayne Eddins, Reports Management Officer, AYO, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, Southwest, Washington, DC 20410; e-mail [Wayne\\_Eddins@HUD.gov](mailto:Wayne_Eddins@HUD.gov); telephone (202) 708-2374. This is not a toll-free number. Copies of the proposed forms and other available documents submitted to OMB may be obtained from Mr. Eddins or on HUD's Web site at <http://www5.hud.gov:63001/po/i/icbts/collectionsearch.cfm>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

The Department has submitted the proposal for the collection of information, as described below, to OMB for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). The Notice lists the following information: (1) The title of the information collection proposal; (2) the office of the agency to collect the information; (3) the OMB approval number, if applicable; (4) the description of the need for the information and its proposed use; (5) the agency form number, if applicable; (6) what members of the public will be affected by the proposal; (7) how frequently information submissions will be required; (8) an estimate of the total number of hours needed to prepare the information submission including number of respondents, frequency of response, and hours of response; (9) whether the proposal is new, an extension, reinstatement, or revision of an information collection requirement; and (10) the name and telephone number of an agency official familiar with the proposal and of the OMB Desk Officer for the Department.

This Notice also lists the following information:

*Title of Proposal:* Single Family Premium Collection Subsystem-Upfront.

*OMB Approval Number:* 2502-0423.

*Form Numbers:* None.

*Description of the Need for the Information and Its Proposed Use:* The Single Family Premium Collection Subsystem-Upfront (SFPCS-U) is used by lenders to remit Upfront Mortgage Insurance Premiums using funds obtained from the borrower during the closing of the mortgage transaction at settlement.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit.

*Frequency of Submission:* On occasion.

	Number of respondents	Annual responses	×	Hours per response	=	Burden hours
Reporting Burden .....	9,939	135		0.82		111,990

*Total Estimated Burden Hours:* 111,990.

*Status:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

**Authority:** Section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 35, as amended.

Dated: January 16, 2004.

**Wayne Eddins,**

*Departmental Reports Management Officer,  
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 04-1579 Filed 1-23-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4210-72-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of the Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan/Environmental Assessment for Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge, located in Martin County, Florida.

**SUMMARY:** The Fish and Wildlife Service announces that a Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan/Environmental Assessment for Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge is available for review and comment. This document has been prepared pursuant to the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. It describes the Service's proposal for managing the refuge over the next 15 years.

**DATES:** A public meeting will be held to present the plan and obtain comments. The date, time, and location of this meeting will be announced via the local media and by special mailings. For information concerning the meeting, contact the Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge at 772/546-6141.

Comments regarding the draft plan must be received within 45 days following the date of this notice. Comments should be sent to David Erickson, Fish and Wildlife Service, 1875 Century Boulevard, Suite 420, Atlanta, GA 30345, or you may send your comments by electronic mail to *david\_erickson@fws.gov*, with a subject line, "Comments: HSNWR." Please include your name and return address in the message.

**ADDRESSES:** You may request a copy of the draft plan by writing Mr. Erickson at the above address or by calling 404/679-7176. The draft plan/environmental assessment may also be accessed and downloaded from the Service's Internet Web site: *http://southeast.fws.gov/planning*. If you wish to be placed on the mailing list to receive future information about the plan, we must have your written permission, since under the Freedom of Information Act of 1974, Federal government mailing lists must be released to the public upon request.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Margo Stahl, Refuge Manager, Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 645, Hobe Sound, FL 33475-0645; Telephone: 772/546-6141.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The 1,160-acre Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge is important for the conservation of threatened and endangered species, namely nesting loggerhead, green, and leatherback sea turtles on the Jupiter Island portion of the refuge, as well as more than 40 other rare species including the gopher tortoise, scrub jay, and eastern indigo snake; and wildlife and plants associated with the sand pine scrub community on the mainland portion of the refuge. The West Indian manatee and other aquatic species are associated with the Indian River Lagoon, a national estuary that bisects the refuge.

The environmental assessment evaluated four alternatives for addressing key management issues at the refuge: Alternative 1, Maintain Current Management; Alternative 2, Ecosystem Emphasis; Alternative 3, Biological Emphasis; and Alternative 4, Public Use Emphasis. Alternative 2, Ecosystem Emphasis, is the proposed action for managing the refuge.

Among the many benefits to threatened and/or endangered species described in the proposed action are the restoration of sand pine scrub; the restoration of Atlantic coastal dune and mangrove and hammock systems; the reduction of sea turtle predation to significantly improve hatchling survival; and the inventorying and monitoring of federal trust and state-listed species. Key to plan implementation is the development of

partnerships with agencies and organizations; the addition of staff and new administrative facilities; the expansion of educational programs at the Hobe Sound Nature Center; and the development of wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities—all in keeping with a wildlife conservation mandate.

**Authority:** This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, Public Law 105-57.

Dated: October 28, 2003.

**J. Mitch King,**

*Acting Regional Director.*

[FR Doc. 04-1558 Filed 1-23-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-M**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

**Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of permit applications.

**SUMMARY:** The following applicants have applied for a scientific research permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ("we") solicits review and comment from local, State, and Federal agencies, and the public on the following permit requests.

**DATES:** Comments on these permit applications must be received on or before February 25, 2004, to receive our consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Written data or comments should be submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Chief, Endangered Species, Ecological Services, 911 NE. 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232-4181 (fax: 503-231-6243). Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when submitting comments. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the official administrative record and may be made available to the public.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Documents and other information