

the format for collecting benefit data. The PBP is a data driven instrument containing options and pick lists, and a data collection tool that collects data on access to a benefit package.

The PBP was developed with the assistance of industry representatives, including the American Association of Health Plans (AAHP), United Health Care, Humana, Kaiser Permanente, Cigna, and, HCFA's regional and central office staff, and establishes a standard format for the submission of M+C organization's plan benefit packages. Outside consultation included a recent two day session with an organized group of approximately 250 Managed Care Plan representatives which worked to review the draft and to provide feedback on the PBP tool.

HCFA is requesting OMB review and approval of this collection within 30 working days with a 180-day approval period. Written comments and recommendations will be accepted from the public if received by the individuals designated below within 29 working days. During the 180-day period, we will publish a separate **Federal Register** notice announcing the initiation of an extensive 60-day agency review and public comment period on these requirements. We will submit the requirements for OMB review and an extension of this emergency approval.

*Type of Information Request:* New Collection.

*Title of Information Collection:* Managed Care Plan Benefit Package (PBP)/Adjusted Community Rate Proposal (ACRP).

*Form Number:* HCFA-R-262 (OMB approval #: 0938-NEW).

*Use:* The plan year 2000 pilot collection effort will be used to verify that the information collection instrument will produce the data HCFA needs to approve M+C plans in the future. Respondents include any M+C organization that intends to offer an M+C plan in calendar year 2000.

This collection will also allow the Agency to provide a totally automated submission and review capability, replace text with data format, establish a standard set of benefit descriptions/definitions, provide a framework to describe benefits, reduce variation in benefit descriptions, collect benefit information and Medicare Compare data with a single instrument, and eliminate the need to validate Medicare Compare data.

*Frequency:* One-time.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit, and not-for-profit institution.

*Number of Respondents:* 25 Medicare managed care organizations for plan year 2000.

*Total Annual Responses:* 75 for plan year 2000. The total annual responses is based on an estimate of an average of 3 M+C plans per M+C Organization. Each organization defines the content and number of benefit packages.

*Total Annual Hours Requested:* 150 (2 hours per PBP) for plan year 2000. This estimate was based on a Medicare managed care organization completing a paper version of the PBP. The PBP will allow plans to copy health benefit information from one plan to another.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access HCFA's WEB SITE ADDRESS at <http://www.hcfa.gov/regs/prdact95.htm>, or E-mail your request, including your address and phone number, to [Paperwork@hcfa.gov](mailto:Paperwork@hcfa.gov), or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326. To obtain access to the PBP please visit the web site at <http://www.fu.com/hpms>.

Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding the burden or any other aspect of these collections of information requirements. However, as noted above, comments on these information collection and record keeping requirements must be mailed and/or faxed to the designees referenced below within 29 working days of the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**:

Health Care Financing Administration,  
Office of Information Services,  
Security and Standards Group,  
Division of HCFA Enterprise  
Standards, Room N2-14-26, 7500  
Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD  
21244-1850. Fax Number: (410) 786-  
0262, Attn: Louis Blank HCFA-R-262  
and,

Office of Information and Regulatory  
Affairs, Office of Management and  
Budget, Room 10235, New Executive  
Office Building, Washington, DC  
20503, Fax Number: (202) 395-6974  
or (202) 395-5167, Attn: Allison  
Herron Eydt, HCFA Desk Officer.

Dated: March 8, 1999.

**John P. Burke III,**

*HCFA Reports Clearance Officer, HCFA,  
Office of Information Services, Security and  
Standards Group, Division of HCFA  
Enterprise Standards.*

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BILLING CODE 4120-03-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Office of the Secretary

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Office for Equal Opportunity, Office of the Secretary, DOI.

**ACTION:** Notice

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office for Equal Opportunity announces the proposed public information collection and seeks public comments on the provisions thereof.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by May 17, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to the Office for Equal Opportunity, Attn: Michael Dole, Department of the Interior, 1849 C St NW., Washington, DC 20240.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instrument, please write to the above address, or call Michael Dole, (202) 208-5183. The collection instrument is also available on the internet at: [http://www.doi.gov/diversity/doc/di\\_1935.pdf](http://www.doi.gov/diversity/doc/di_1935.pdf).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** DOI is below parity with the relevant Civilian Labor Force representation for many of our mission critical occupations, and has developed a 5 year Strategic Plan to improve representation and be more responsive to the changing demographics of the country. The only way to determine if there are barriers in the recruitment and selection process is to track the groups that apply and the groups at each stage of the selection process. There is no other objective way to make these determinations, and no source of this information other than directly from applicants.

The information is not provided to selecting officials and plays no part in the selection of individuals. Instead, it is used in summary form to determine trends over many selections within a given occupation or organizational area. The information is treated in a very confidential manner. No information from this form is entered into the Personnel File of the individual selected, and the records of those not selected are destroyed after the conclusion of the selection process.

The format of the questions on ethnicity and race are compliant with the new OMB requirements, and are

identical to those which will be used in the year 2000 census. This form is a simplification and update of a similar applicant background survey used by DOI for many years. In light of this long term routine use and the need to quickly move to the new format, OMB has granted a 6 month emergency approval of the form to allow its use during the period for public comment.

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

*Title, Associated Form, and OMB Number:* Applicant Background Survey, DI form 1935; OMB Control No.: 1091-0001.

*Needs and Uses:* This form is used to obtain source of recruitment, ethnicity, race, and disability data on job applicants to determine if the recruitment is effectively reaching all aspects of the relevant labor pool and to determine if there are proportionate acceptance rates at various stages of the recruitment process. Response is optional. The information is used for evaluating recruitment only, and plays no part in the selection of who is hired.

*Affected Public:* Applicants for DOI jobs.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 9,960.

*Number of Respondents:* 120,000.

*Responses Per Respondent:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* no more than 5 minutes.

*Frequency:* 1 per application.

Dated: March 8, 1999.

**Michael Dole,**

*Affirmative Employment Program Administrator, Department of the Interior.*

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BILLING CODE 4310-10-P

## DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

### Office of the Secretary

#### Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commissions; Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 552b of Title 5, United States Code, that a meeting of the Blackstone River Valley National

Heritage Corridor Commission will be held on Thursday, April 15, 1999.

The Commission was established pursuant to Public Law 99-647. The purpose of the Commission is to assist federal, state and local authorities in the development and implementation of an integrated resource management plan for those lands and waters within the Corridor.

The meeting will convene at 7:00 PM at the Worcester Historical Museum, 30 Elm Street, Worcester, MA for the following reasons:

1. Approval of Minutes
2. Executive Director's Report
3. Commission's Chair Report
4. Public Input

It is anticipated that about twenty people will be able to attend the session in addition to the Commission members.

Interested persons may make oral or written presentations to the Commission or file written statements. Such requests should be made prior to the meeting to: Michael Creasey, Executive Director, Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission, One Depot Square, Woonsocket, RI 02895, Tel: (401) 762-0250.

Further information concerning this meeting may be obtained from Michael Creasey, Executive Director of the Commission at the aforementioned address:

**Michael Creasey,**

*Executive Director BRVNHCC.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Recreation Lakes Study Commission

**AGENCY:** National Recreation Lakes Study Commission, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of draft recommendations and themes.

**SUMMARY:** The Omnibus Parks and Public Land Management Act of 1996 authorizes a presidential commission to review the demand for recreation at Federal lakes, and to develop alternatives for enhanced recreation uses, primarily through innovative public/private partnerships.

The following draft recommendations by themes were approved by the Commission at the Commission Meeting on March 3, 1999. It is also available on the web at [www.doi.gov/nrls/](http://www.doi.gov/nrls/) or if you would like a hard copy, please write to us at: National Recreation Lakes Study Office, 1951 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room 320, Washington, DC 20240.

### Federal Lakes Recreation Leadership Council

- Commit resources and establish an interagency Federal Lakes Recreation Leadership Council to coordinate recommendations of the National Recreation Lakes Study Commission.

### Reinvention Laboratory and Demonstration Program

- Develop a National Recreation Lakes Demonstration Program and apply for Reinvention Laboratory status for the Program.

### Environment for Success

- Operate Federal lakes to optimize water use for all beneficial purposes, including recreation and environmental values, consistent with Congressionally authorized purposes.

- The Federal lakes leadership council shall review current guidelines regarding recreation activities for all Federal lakes and develop policy recommendations which will include best business practices to encourage private sector investment in needed recreation facilities.

- Include the Bureau of Reclamation and the Corps of Engineers in the Recreational Fees Demonstration Program and allow fee revenues to be retained at the management unit where collected and used for capital improvements and operations and maintenance costs.

- Encourage partnerships with non-Federal entities. Specifically, change Bureau of Reclamation and Corps of Engineers policies to allow them to cost-share with their non-Federal governmental partners for rehabilitation of recreation facilities developed in conjunction with States and local governments and Tribes.

- Amend Federal grant-in-aid programs to eliminate the requirement for State matching funds when projects benefit Federal lakes.

- Develop and implement aggressive public information programs to communicate the services and facilities available to the public as well as the mission and management of the lakes, and interpretive programs to provide learning opportunities and experiences which help visitors and local residents learn about the natural and cultural history of the lake area leading to understanding of their important role as stewards of public lands and lakes.

- Amend Public Law 89-72 to repeal the requirement that Federal entities can only develop new recreation facilities through cost sharing agreements with non-Federal governmental entities.