

Notices

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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.

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Advisory Council Meeting

AGENCY: Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation will meet on Friday, June 20, 1997. The meeting will be held in the Green Room, Third Floor, at the Ariel Rios Building, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, D.C., beginning at 8:30 a.m.

The Council was established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. Section 470) to advise the President and the Congress on matters relating to historic preservation and to comment upon Federal, federally assisted, and federally licensed undertakings having an effect upon properties listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The Council's members are the Architect of the Capitol; the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture; the heads of four designated Federal agencies; the Chairman of the National Trust for Historic Preservation; the President of the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers; a Governor; a Mayor; a Native Hawaiian; and eight non-Federal members appointed by the President.

The agenda for the meeting includes the following:

- I. Chairman's Welcome.
- II. Chairman's Report.
- III. Report of the Task Force on Regulations—Consideration of Proposed Regulation for Adoption.
- IV. Affordable Housing Policy—Presentation and Discussion.
- V. Preservation Policy Issues.
- VI. Executive Director's Report.
- VII. New Business.
- VIII. Executive Session.
- IX. Adjourn.

Note: The meetings of the Council are open to the public. If you need special accommodations due to a disability, please contact the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Room 809, Washington, D.C., 202-606-8503, at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Additional information concerning the meeting is available from the Executive Director, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., #809, Washington, DC 20004.

Dated: June 9, 1997.

John M. Fowler,

Acting Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 97-15420 Filed 6-11-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 97-045-1]

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Approved information collection extension; comment request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's intention to request approval of information collections that it uses in preventing the introduction and spread of livestock and poultry diseases through the importation into the United States of restricted and controlled materials.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by August 11, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Send comments regarding the accuracy of burden estimate, ways to minimize the burden (such as the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology), or any other aspect of this collection of information to: Docket No. 97-045-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, suite 3C03, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please send an original and three copies, and state that your comments refer to Docket 97-045-1. Comments received may be inspected at USDA, room 1141, South Building, 14th Street

and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect comments are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the comment reading room.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: For information regarding regulations to prevent the introduction and spread of livestock and poultry diseases through the importation into the United States of restricted and controlled materials, contact Dr. Gary Colgrove, Chief Staff Veterinarian, National Center for Import and Export, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road, Unit 38, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231, (301) 734-3276; or e-mail: GColgrove@aphis.usda.gov. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Ms. Cheryl Groves, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 734-5086.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Importation of Restricted and Controlled Animal and Poultry Products and Byproducts, Organisms, and Vectors into the United States.

OMB Number: 0579-0015.

Expiration Date of Approval: August 31, 1997.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The United States Department of Agriculture restricts and controls the importation of certain animal and poultry products and byproducts, organisms, and vectors to prevent the introduction and spread of livestock and poultry diseases into the United States.

To do this, we must collect information from a variety of individuals, both within and outside the United States, who are involved in handling, transporting, and importing these items. Collecting this information is critical to our mission of ensuring that these imported items do not present a disease risk to the livestock and poultry populations of the United States.

If these information collections are not conducted, the United States will be at increased risk of an exotic disease incursion. The introduction of such diseases as rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease, hog cholera, African swine fever, swine vesicular disease, and exotic Newcastle disease would have an

immeasurable impact upon the U.S. livestock and poultry industries, not only in the area of animal health, but also in the realm of international trade.

Collecting this information requires us to use a number of forms and documents, which are described below. We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of these information gathering tools.

The following forms and documents are currently in use:

VS Form 16-25 (Application for Approval or Report of Inspection of Establishments Handling Restricted Animal Byproducts or Controlled Materials) is a dual purpose form. It is an application for those establishments requesting approval to handle restricted imported animal byproducts and controlled materials. It also serves as a report of inspections of establishments to ensure that restricted and controlled imports are being handled in compliance with our requirements.

VS Form 16-26 (Agreement for Handling Restricted Imports of Animal Byproducts and Controlled Materials) is a form signed by an operator of an establishment wishing to handle restricted or controlled materials in which the operator agrees to comply with all requirements for handling the restricted and controlled materials.

VS Form 16-3 (Application for Permit to Import Controlled Materials/Import or Transport Organisms or Vectors) is the application and agreement form used by individuals seeking a permit.

Certain sections of 9 CFR parts 94 and 95 specify that various categories of animal products, byproducts, and controlled materials may be imported into the United States if authorization for such importation has been granted by the Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). Such permission is given only when the Administrator is satisfied that the importation will not constitute an undue risk to U.S. livestock and poultry.

9 CFR part 122 specifies that organisms that present a disease risk to animals or poultry, or vectors of such disease agents, may not be imported or moved interstate without a permit issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Part 122 specifies that importers must obtain such permits prior to the importation or interstate transport of the organism or vector.

Prospective importers make application for import authorization by completing the appropriate sections of VS Form 16-3. APHIS personnel must have the essential data concerning the proposed importation in order to evaluate the request and determine what safeguard measures are appropriate in

each case and to advise APHIS port and border personnel regarding clearance of arriving shipments.

Certificates. Under 9 CFR parts 94, 95, and 96, certain animal and poultry products must have a certificate from the national government of the exporting country to be eligible for importation into the United States. These certificates are required to verify that the animal or poultry products meet the sanitary requirements of our regulations (e.g., originated from disease-free animals and from animals native to the country of origin, or were prepared in a certain manner in an approved establishment).

The certificate accompanies each shipment to the United States. Upon arrival of the shipment, the certificate is presented to APHIS port inspectors who evaluate the information according to the permission authorization and 9 CFR parts 94, 95, and 96.

The certificate, signed by a full-time salaried veterinary official from the country of origin, or other authorized person, provides us with information that enables us to determine whether an article meets our requirements for importation.

Seals. Certain animal or poultry products and byproducts must be shipped in sealed containers or holds to ensure that the integrity of the shipment is not violated. The seals must be numbered, the numbers of the seals must be recorded on the government certificate that accompanies the shipment, and the seals must not have been tampered with. USDA inspectors at the port of entry inspect the seals and verify that the seals are intact and that the numbers match those on the certificates.

Compliance agreement, recordkeeping requirements. Certain animal or poultry products and byproducts are required to be processed in a certain manner in an establishment in a foreign country before being exported to the United States. We require an official of the processing plant to sign a written agreement prepared by APHIS. By signing this agreement, this official certifies that the animal products being exported to the United States have been processed in a manner approved by USDA, and that adequate records of these exports are being maintained.

Marking requirements. Before certain animal products may enter the United States, they must be marked, with an ink stamp or brand, to indicate that the products have originated from an approved meat processing establishment and have been inspected by appropriate veterinary authorities. The mark is

applied to the meat product by processing plant personnel.

The following forms and documents were proposed for use in APHIS Docket No. 94-106-1, "Importation of Animals and Animal Products" (61 FR 16978-17105), and were given preliminary approval under OMB control number 0579-0015. Although these requirements may change (a final rule has not yet been published), we are seeking a continuation of the preliminary approval.

Foreign meat inspection certificate for importation of fresh meat from FMD or rinderpest, risk class R2 regions. This certificate, completed by a veterinary official of the exporting region, certifies that the meat product has originated from a region that has been assigned to an R2 risk class.

Foreign meat inspection certificate for importation of fresh meat from FMD or Rinderpest, risk class R3 regions. This certificate, completed by a veterinary official of the exporting region, certifies that the meat product has originated from a region that has been assigned to an R3 risk class.

Certification of a national government for importation of pork or pork products from a swine vesicular disease-free region. This is a statement, completed by a government official of an exporting region, certifying the U.S. destined pork or pork products originated in a region that is free from swine vesicular disease.

Cleaning and disinfecting methods. This is a letter from veterinary officials of an exporting region stating that appropriate cleaning and disinfecting methods have been applied to trucks, railroad cars, or other means of conveyance used to transport certain animal products destined for the United States.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning these information collection activities. We need this outside input to help us accomplish the following:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as

appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .45176 hours per response.

Respondents: Importers, shippers, foreign animal health authorities.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 8,955.

Estimated Numbers of Responses per Respondent: 11.63.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 47,049 hours.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Done in Washington, DC, this 5th day of June 1997.

Bobby R. Acord,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 97-15437 Filed 6-11-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID918-1610-00-UCRB]

Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project

AGENCIES: Forest Service, USDA; Bureau of Land Management, USDI.

ACTION: Notice of availability of draft environmental impact statements.

SUMMARY: The USDA, Forest Service and USDI, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) have prepared two draft environmental impact statements (EISs) (the Eastside Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the Upper Columbia River Basin Draft Environmental Impact Statement) as part of the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project (Project). The proposed action of the Project is to develop a scientifically sound, ecosystem-based strategy for management of the lands under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service and BLM in the Project area. The Project area includes lands east of the crest of the Cascade Mountains within the Columbia River basin (with the exception of those National Forest System lands within the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem) and the Klamath and Great Basins within the

State of Oregon. The Eastside Draft EIS applies to approximately 30 million acres of Forest Service- and BLM-administered lands within Oregon and Washington. The Upper Columbia River Basin Draft EIS applies to approximately 42 million acres of Forest Service- and BLM-administered lands within the Columbia River basin in Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, and Nevada. These draft EISs are based, in part, on the work of the Science Integration Team of the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project, summarized in the *Integrated Scientific Assessment for Ecosystem Management in the Interior Columbia Basin and Portions of the Klamath and Great Basins*, USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station, Portland, OR, September, 1996.

Both draft EISs describe and analyze two "no action" alternatives and five "action" alternative intended to respond to the statement of purpose of, and need for, the Project and to the issues identified through public scoping.

The Record of Decision that will eventually complete the National Environmental Policy Act process of which these two draft EISs are a part, may amend Forest Service Regional Guides and is expected to amend existing Forest Service Land and Resource Management Plans and BLM Resource Management Plans and Management Framework Plans in the Project area by the adoption of an ecosystem-based management strategy. **DATES:** A 120-day comment period begins with the publication in the **Federal Register** of the Environmental Protection Agency's notice of the filing of these two draft EISs. Comments on the draft EISs must be submitted or postmarked no later than October 6, 1997. Those who do not comment on one or both of the draft EISs or otherwise participate in this EIS process may have limited options to appeal or protest the final decision. Public outreach to explain the draft EISs and to assist the public with commenting on the two draft documents will be conducted throughout the Project area during the comment period. Notice of dates and locations of these efforts will be given through mailings and local media.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Eastside Draft EIS may be obtained from ICBEMP, 112 E. Poplar Street, Walla Walla, WA 99362 or by calling (509) 522-4030. Copies of the Upper Columbia River Basin Draft EIS may be obtained from ICBEMP, 304 N. 8th Street, Room 250, Boise, ID 83702 or by calling (208) 334-1770, ext. 123. The Draft EISs will also be available in

late June via the internet (<http://www.icbemp.gov>).

Comments on the Eastside draft EIS should be submitted in writing to ICBEMP, 112 East Poplar Street, P.O. Box 2076, Walla Walla, WA 99362. Comments on the Upper Columbia River Basin draft EIS should be submitted in writing to ICBEMP, 304 N. 8th Street, Room 250, Boise, ID 83702. If your comments are in regard to both draft EISs, they may be sent to either office. Comments may also be made electronically by accessing the Project home page (<http://www.icbemp.gov>), where a comment form will be available by late June for submitting comments.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the above addresses during regular business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Walla Walla and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Boise, Monday through Friday, except holidays), and may be published as part of the final environmental impact statement. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments may not have standing to appeal the decision under 36 CFR 217 (Forest Service) or standing to protest the proposed decision under 43 CFR 1610.5-2 (Bureau of Land Management).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

EIS Team Leader Jeff Walter, 304 N. 8th Street, Room 250, Boise, ID 83702, telephone (208) 334-1770 or EIS Deputy Team Leader Cathy Humphrey, 112 East Poplar Street, P.O. Box 2076, Walla Walla, WA 99362, telephone (509) 522-4030.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The statement of the purpose of, and need for, the proposed action (development of a scientifically sound, ecosystem-based management strategy) is key information. The purpose and need, along with the issues identified through public scoping, framed the alternative management strategies considered in these two Draft EISs. The purpose and