

workers in other countries; (5) refines strategies developed for the eradication of polio and measles in the Western Hemisphere for implementation in other countries; (6) assists other countries in projects to improve surveillance for polio, measles, and other VPDs, including development of computerized systems for disease monitoring; (7) assists WHO, UNICEF, and other partner organizations in strengthening global epidemiologic and laboratory surveillance for polio, measles, and other VPDs targeted for eradication; (8) prepares articles based on findings for publication in international professional journals and presentation at international conferences; (9) provides technical training as part of division-sponsored courses for staff of CDC, WHO, UNICEF, Rotary International, and other immunization partners.

Dated: November 24, 1997.

**David Satcher,**

*Director.*

[FR Doc. 97-32256 Filed 10-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-18-M

## DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4263-N-61]

### Notice of Proposed Information, Collection for Public Comment; Technical Assistance for Community Planning and Development, Programs

**AGENCY:** Office of the Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development, HUD.

**ACTION:** Notice of Proposed Information Collection for Public Comments.

**SUMMARY:** The proposed information collection requirement for technical assistance for Community Planning and Development (CPD) programs described below will be 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.

**DATES:** Comments due: February 9, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB Control Number and should be sent to: Reports Liaison Officer, Shelia E. Jones, Department of Housing and Urban

Development, 451 7th Street, SW, Room 7230, Washington, DC 20410.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lyn T. Whitcomb, Director, Technical Assistance Division, (202) 708-3176 (this is not a toll-free number).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department will submit the proposed information collection to OMB for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35 as amended).

The Notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information to: (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 the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (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; including through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

This Notice also lists the following information:

*Title of Proposal:* Technical Assistance for Community Planning and Development Programs.

*OMB Control Number, if applicable:*

*Description of the need for the information and proposed use:*

Application information is needed to determine competition winners, i.e. those technical assistance (TA) providers best able to offer local jurisdictions an ability to shape their CPD resources and other available resources into effective, coordinated, neighborhood and community development strategies to revitalize and physically, socially and economically strengthen their communities. The application for the competition requires the completion of Standard Form (SF) 424, "Application for Federal Assistance" and SF 424B, "Assurances—Non-Construction Programs" as well as supplementary information such as a transmittal letter, identification of field offices to be served and amounts of funds requested for each field office, a statement as to the use of pass-through funds and qualification as a primarily single-State

provider, a Statement of Work, a narrative statement addressing the factors for award, a budget-by-task by field office and a summary budget for each program. After awards are made, providers are required to submit a work plan which includes a planned schedule for accomplishing each of the planned activities/tasks to be accomplished with TA funds, the amount of funds budgeted for each activity/task and the staff and other resources allocated to each activity/task. Narrative quarterly reports are required so that the provider's performance can be evaluated and measured against the work plan. Quarterly reports also require submission of the SF 269A, a financial status report. A narrative final report and final SF 269A are also required.

Previous information collection was authorized under OMB Control Number 2535-0084. Changes in administrative responsibilities for TA cooperative agreements within the Department necessitate a new request for approval. However, no substantive changes in information collection have occurred.

*Agency form numbers, if applicable:* SF 269A, SF 424 and SF 424B.

*Members of affected public:* Organizations or State and local governments equipped to provide technical assistance to recipients of CPD programs.

*Estimation of the total numbers of hours needed to prepare the information collection including number of respondents, frequency of response, and hours of response:* The previous Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for technical assistance providers for CPD programs elicited approximately 280 responses. It is anticipated that approximately the same number will respond to the upcoming NOFA. Awards were made to approximately 90 providers and it is expected that the same number will be awarded during this round of funding. The Department estimates that each applicant will require an average of forty hours to prepare an application. Winners of the competition will be required to develop a work plan, requiring approximately eight hours, submit quarterly reports needing approximately four hours each, (including a final report) and perform recordkeeping to include submission of vouchers for reimbursement, estimated at 12 hours annually. The specific numbers are as follows:

	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent frequency	Total annual responses	Hours per response	Total hours
Applications .....	280	1	280	40	11,200
Workplan Development .....	90	1	90	8	720
Quarterly Reports (including final report) .....	90	4	360	4	1,440
Recordkeeping .....	90	12	1080	1	1,080
Total .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14,440

*Status of the proposed information collection:* Publication of the Notice of Funding Availability is anticipated in January 1998. Awards are expected to be made by September 1998.

**Authority:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended.

Dated: December 2, 1997.

**Saul N. Ramirez, Jr.,**  
Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development.

[FR Doc. 97-32248 Filed 12-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-29-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Geological Survey

#### Species at Risk Program

**AGENCY:** Biological Resources Division, U.S. Geological Survey; Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Biological Resources Division (BRD) is announcing the availability of funds through the Species at Risk Program (SAR). The basic purpose of SAR is to fund short-term research and assessment projects to generate information that allows development of conservation agreements, action plans, and management alternatives that provide for the protection of flora and fauna and their habitats and thereby reduce the need for listing species as threatened or endangered.

**DATES:** Information packages describing requirements for participation in this program will be available upon request until December 31, 1997. Pre-proposals are due to the address below by January 2, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Parties interested in this program should request an information package from: Species at Risk Program, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 300, Reston, VA 20192 ATTN: Dr. Nancy Milton.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Nancy Milton, Species at Risk Program, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive,

MS 300, Reston, VA 20192, nancy\_m\_milton@nbs.gov; or 703-648-4074.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### A. Purpose

Species at Risk (SAR) is a program that develops scientific information on the status of sensitive species or group of species, particularly with respect to the relationship of species abundance and distribution to habitat conditions and stresses. The basic purpose of SAR is to generate information that allows the development of conservation agreements, action plans, management alternatives, etc., that provide for the protection of species and their habitats and thereby preclude the need for listing species as threatened or endangered.

The initiative provides an opportunity for scientists to participate through survey and research activities. Projects are specifically intended to be of short duration and should seek to optimize partnerships with Federal agencies, states, universities, and the private sector. Successful SAR projects are often conducted by investigators who have identified key, small but critical gaps in our biological knowledge. Projects then fill these gaps and provide resource managers, regulators, and private landowners with usable information from which prudent resource management decisions can be made.

This initiative is designed to develop strategies that will assure long-term, population stability for targeted species and reduce the likelihood they will have to be dealt with through the regulatory processes. Projects should fit into one of two categories:

1. Projects should focus on species or groups of species for which their is concern but limited information on their abundance, distribution, and/or status. Projects should identify or develop new information that will reduce the need for a formal listing under the Endangered Species Act. Regional offices of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have provided a list of species of particular concern. Projects should

focus on these species. Principal investigators are encouraged to communicate directly with USFWS regional contacts before project submission.

or  
2. Projects submitted should focus on providing critical habitat information and should demonstrate how study results will strongly support management and conservation applications. Projects that focus on multiple species of concern within the same critical habitat or ecosystem are especially encouraged. Multiple species might include both those having formal listed status with USFWS and those not formally listed. Research efforts should provide information needed by Federal agencies to meet requirements for recovery plan implementation, multi-species conservation plans, habitat reserve agreements, or other conservation-oriented plans.

In addition, projects funded in the FY 1998 cycle will be expected to focus in geographic areas of particular current importance to the DOI and its bureaus. Those areas of concern are: Arizona and New Mexico (in support of the Secretary's Southwestern Initiative); San Francisco Bay Delta (also a Secretarial initiative); southeastern aquatic habitats; California's Mojave Desert and Central Valley; South Florida; Colorado plateau; and Hawaii.

This program is conducted in furtherance of the Secretary's obligations under the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 USC 742a-742j, as amended) and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661-667e, as amended).

##### B. Background

The Biological Resources Division (BRD) of the U.S. Geological Survey gathers and analyzes biological information and services as an information clearinghouse, providing broad access to the widest possible range of factual data on the status and trends of the Nation's biota and the potential effects of land management choices. This information serves public and private landowners who are