

2. The organization's comparability of its processes to that of State agencies, including survey frequency, and the ability to investigate and respond appropriately to complaints against accredited facilities.

3. The organization's procedures for monitoring providers or suppliers found to be out of compliance with program requirements. These monitoring procedures are used only when it identifies noncompliance. If noncompliance at the condition level is identified through validation reviews, the appropriate State survey agency monitors corrections as specified at § 488.7(b)(2).

4. The organization's ability to report deficiencies to the surveyed facilities and respond to the facility's plan of correction in a timely manner.

- The organization's ability to provide us with electronic data in ASCII comparable code and reports necessary for effective validation and assessment of its survey process.

- The adequacy of staff and other resources, and its financial viability.

- The organization's ability to provide adequate funding for performing required surveys.

- The organization's policies with respect to whether surveys are announced or unannounced.

- The organization's agreement to provide us with a copy of the most current accreditation survey together with any other information related to the survey as we may require (including corrective action plans).

#### IV. Notice of Evaluation

Upon completion of our evaluation, including the evaluation of public comments received as a result of this notice, we will publish a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing the result of our evaluation.

#### V. Response to Public Comments

Because of the large number of comments we normally receive on **Federal Register** documents published for comment, we are not able to acknowledge or respond to them individually. We will consider all comments we receive by the date and time specified in the **DATES** section of this preamble and will respond to them in a forthcoming notice document.

**Authority:** Section 1865 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395bb). (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.778, Medical Assistance Program; No. 93.773 Medicare—Hospital Insurance Program; and No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplementary Medical Insurance Program)

Dated: November 30, 1998.

**Nancy-Ann Min DeParle,**

*Administrator, Health Care Financing Administration.*

[FR Doc. 98-34063 Filed 12-23-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4120-01-P

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

##### Indian Health Service

##### Request for Public Comment: 60-day Proposed Collection: IHS Registered Nurses Recruitment and Retention Survey

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, which requires the provision of a 60-day advance opportunity for public comment on proposed information collection projects, the Indian Health Service (IHS) is publishing for comment a summary of a proposed information collection to be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for review.

#### Proposed Collection

**Title:** 09-17-NEW, "IHS Registered Nurses Recruitment and Retention Survey." **Type of Information Collection Request:** New collection. **Form Number:** No reporting forms required. **Need and Use of Information Collection:** The information collected in the proposed survey will be used to determine which improvements made since 1984 have worked and what additional changes need to be made to continue to attract and retain Registered Nurses in the IHS, tribal and urban (I/T/U) programs. The information collected in the survey will help to determine (1) the factors that lead to the initial decision to work in the Indian health program; (2) what aspects of the job do/did these employees like or dislike and why; (3) how environmental and personal factors, such as living on or near reservations, local government housing, distance to shopping, schools (pre-school, elementary, and high), social activities, child care facilities, location and size of non-Indian community, sex and race differences, etc., affect their decision to continue with or terminate IHS employment; and (4) how work related issues and current changes, such as Indian preference, quality of other health care staff, local health care management practices, managed care, Tribal Self-Governance and Self-Determination, etc., affect their decision to stay with or leave IHS employment. **Affected Public:** Individuals, **Type of Respondents:** Current I/T/U Registered Nurses.

Table 1 below provides the following information: types of data collection instruments, estimated number of respondents, number of responses per respondent, annual number of responses, average burden hour per response, and total annual burden hour.

TABLE 1

Data collection instruments	Estimated number of respondents	Responses per respondent	Annual number of responses	Average burden hr per response*	Total annual burden hours
Nursing Survey .....	600	1	600	1.00 (60 Mins)	600
Total .....	600	1	600	1.00 (60 mins)	600

For ease of understanding, burden hours are also provided in actual minutes.

There are no Capital Costs, Operating Costs, and/or Maintenance Costs to report.

#### Request for Comments

Your written comments and/or suggestions are invited on one or more of the following points: (a) Whether the information collection activity is

necessary to carry out an agency function; (b) whether the agency processes the information collected in a useful and timely fashion; (c) the accuracy of public burden estimate (the estimated amount of time needed for individual respondents to provide the requested information); (d) whether the methodology and assumptions used to

determine the estimate are logical; (e) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information being collected; and (f) ways to minimize the public burden through the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Send Comments and Requests For Further Information: Send your written comments, requests for more information on the proposed collection, or requests to obtain a copy of the data collection instrument(s) and instructions to: Mr. Lance Hodahkwen, Sr., M.P.H., IHS Reports Clearance Officer, 12300 Twinbrook Parkway, Suite 450, Rockville, MD 20852-1601, call non-toll free (301) 443-5938, send via fax to (301) 443-1522, or send your e-mail requests, comments, and return address to: lhodahkw@hqe.ihs.gov.

Comment Due Date: Your comments regarding this information collection are best assured of having their full effect if received within 60 days of the date of this publication.

Dated: December 16, 1998.

**Michael H. Trujillo,**

*Assistant Surgeon General, Director.*

[FR Doc. 98-34071 Filed 12-23-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-16-M

## DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4341-N-41]

### Federal Property Suitable as Facilities to Assist the Homeless

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This Notice identifies unutilized, underutilized, excess, and surplus Federal property reviewed by HUD for suitability for possible use to assist the homeless.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** December 24, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mark Johnston, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Room 7256, 451 Seventh Street SW, Washington, DC 20410; telephone (202) 708-1226; TTY number for the hearing- and speech-impaired (202) 708-2565, (these telephone numbers are not toll-free), or call the toll-free Title V information line at 1-800-927-7588.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with the December 12, 1988 court order in *National Coalition for the Homeless v. Veterans Administration*, No. 88-2503-OG (D.D.C.), HUD publishes a Notice, on a weekly basis, identifying unutilized, underutilized, excess and surplus Federal buildings and real property that HUD has reviewed for suitability for use to assist the homeless. Today's Notice is for the purpose of announcing that no additional properties have been

determined suitable or unsuitable this week.

Dated: December 17, 1998.

**Fred Karnas, Jr.,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Development.*

[FR Doc. 98-33875 Filed 12-23-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4219-29-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Office of the Secretary

#### Alaska Land Managers Forum

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary.

**ACTION:** Notice, reestablishment of Advisory Committee.

**SUMMARY:** This notice is published in accordance with section 9(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App. 2 (1988) and 41 CFR 101.6-1015(a). Following consultation with the General Services Administration and the Office of Management and Budget, notice is hereby given that the Secretary of the Interior is administratively reestablishing an advisory committee known as the Alaska Land Managers Forum. The purpose of the committee is to advise the Secretary on Alaska land and resources issues.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Deborah L. Williams, Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior for Alaska, Office of the Secretary, Department of the Interior, 1689 C Street, Suite 100, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-5151, (907) 271-5485.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In the 40 years since Statehood, land ownership and management in Alaska has undergone a massive change. In 1959, nearly all of Alaska (99.8 percent) was owned by the Federal Government, and most of this land (365 million acres) was public domain under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management. Today, the State has received title to 90 million acres of a 104.5 million acre entitlement. Alaska Natives, through village and regional corporations established under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971, have become major land holders (37 million acres interim conveyed or patented) with the eventual ownership of 45.5 million acres. Finally, over 145 million acres in Federal ownership are in national forests, parks, and wildlife refuges. These changes in land status have, in turn, generated changes in the roles and relationships of the State and Federal agencies in Alaska. Also, Native corporations, as owners of 12 percent of

the State's land area, have become major participants in the complexities of land and resource management.

Since Statehood, there have been several different types of cooperative planning entities charged with making an overview of Alaska issues and developing comprehensive recommendations to the State and Federal Governments. None of these planning entities exist today. The Secretary of the Interior is reestablishing the Alaska Land Managers Forum Advisory Committee in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (5 U.S.C. App.), for the purpose of advising him on land and resource issues in Alaska.

Membership on the Forum consists of individuals appointed by the Secretary of the Interior. Appointed as cochairs are the Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior for Alaska as the Federal Cochair, the Lt. Governor of the State of Alaska as the State Cochair, and the President of the Alaska Federation of Natives (or designee) as the Alaska Native Cochair. In addition, the charter provides for appointing the commissioners or directors of specified State agencies, the State directors of specified Federal land management agencies, and the heads of two Alaska Native organizations.

Administrative establishment of the Alaska Land Managers Forum is necessary and in the public interest.

Dated: September 16, 1998.

**Bruce Babbitt,**

*Secretary of the Interior.*

#### Certification

I hereby certify that the administrative reestablishment of the Alaska Land Managers Forum Advisory Committee is necessary and in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Department of the Interior by the several acts which regulate management of Federal lands in Alaska.

Dated: September 16, 1998.

**Bruce Babbitt,**

*Secretary of the Interior.*

[FR Doc. 98-34155 Filed 12-23-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-RP-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish And Wildlife Service

#### Comprehensive Conservation Plans; Michigan and Minnesota

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to Prepare Comprehensive Conservation Plans and Associated Environmental Documents.

**SUMMARY:** This notice advises the public that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service