

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**[Docket No. FR-4815-N-85]****Notice of Submission of Proposed Information Collection to OMB: Utility Allowance Adjustments****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.

Multifamily project owners are required to advise the Secretary of the need for and request approval of a new utility allowance for tenants.

DATES: *Comments Due Date:* December 8, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB approval number (2502-0352) and should be sent to: Lauren Wittenberg, OMB Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503; Fax number (202) 395-6974; E-mail Lauren_Wittenberg@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; 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.

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: Utility Allowance Adjustments.

OMB Approval Number: 2502-0352.

Form Numbers: None.

Description of the Need for the Information and Its Proposed Use: Multifamily project owners are required to advise the Secretary of the need for and request approval of a new utility allowance for tenants.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Frequency of Submission: On occasion.

Reporting Burden: Number of Respondents 1,200; Average response per respondent 1; Total annual response 1,200; Average burden per response 0.5 hrs.

Total Estimated Burden Hours: 600.

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: October 30, 2003.

Wayne Eddins,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service****Notice of Availability of the Final Recovery Plan for the Star Cactus (*Astrophytum asterias*)**

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of document availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces the availability of the Final Recovery Plan for the star cactus (*Astrophytum asterias*). Star cactus has been documented on one private land site in Starr County, Texas. Additional populations may be found in the United States in Texas, and in Tamaulipas and Nuevo Leon, Mexico.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to receive the Final Recovery Plan can obtain a

copy from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Corpus Christi Ecological Services Field Office, c/o TAMUCC, Box 338, 6300 Ocean Drive, Corpus Christi, Texas, 78412. The Final Recovery Plan will also be available through the Fish and Wildlife Region 2 Web site at: <http://southwest.fws.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Field Office Supervisor, Corpus Christi Ecological Services Field Office, at the above address; telephone (361) 994-9005, facsimile (361) 994-8262.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

The star cactus (*Astrophytum asterias*) was listed as endangered on November 17, 1993, under authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. The threats facing the survival and recovery of this species include habitat destruction through conversion of native habitat to agricultural land and increasing urbanization, competition with exotic invasive species, genetic vulnerability due to low population numbers, and collecting pressures for the cactus trade. The Final Recovery Plan includes information about the species and provides objectives and actions needed to downlist the species. Recovery activities designed to achieve downlisting objectives include: Protecting known populations; searching for additional populations; performing outreach activities to educate the general public on the need for protection; building partnerships with private landowners who are interested in voluntary conservation of the species on their land; establishing additional populations through reintroduction in the known range of the plant; formalizing a conservation strategy with Mexico; and filling information gaps to guide management decisions and provide a basis for delisting criteria. The Recovery Plan will be reviewed in five years to evaluate management direction and reconsider delisting criteria.

Restoring an endangered or threatened animal or plant to the point where it is again a secure, self-sustaining member of its ecosystem is a primary goal of the Service's endangered species program. To help guide the recovery effort, the Service is working to prepare Recovery Plans for most of the listed species native to the United States. Recovery Plans describe actions considered necessary for conservation of species, establish criteria for downlisting or delisting them, and estimate time and cost for