

animals to be exported to the United States, as well as information concerning the origin, intended date and location of arrival, routes of travel, and destination of the animals. APHIS will also collect information that certified that the herd in which the cattle was born and raised has tested TB-negative to a whole herd test. Failure to collect this information would make it impossible for APHIS to effectively evaluate the TB risks associated with cattle importation from Mexico, thereby increasing the likelihood that healthy cattle and bison throughout the United States will be exposed to tuberculosis.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; Farms.

Number of Respondents: 100.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 15,000.

Food Safety and Inspection Service

Title: Registration Requirements.

OMB Control Number: 0583-NEW.

Summary of Collection: This information collection requests new burden hours for regulatory reporting requirements associated with the registration of meat brokers, poultry products brokers, renderers, animal food manufacturers, wholesalers, warehousemen, and persons that engage in the business of buying, selling, transporting in commerce, or importing, any dead, dying, disabled, or diseased livestock or poultry, or parts of the carcasses of livestock or poultry that have died otherwise than by slaughter. The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has been delegated the authority to exercise the functions of the Secretary as provided in the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*) FSIS will collect information using FSIS Form 5020-1, "Registration of Meat and Poultry Handlers".

Need and Use of the Information: FSIS will collect information using FSIS 5020-1, ensuring that all meat and poultry establishments produce safe, wholesome, and unadulterated product, and properly labeled and packaged. If the information were not collected, it would reduce the effectiveness of the meat and poultry inspection program.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 9,125.

Frequency of Responses:

Recordkeeping; Reporting: Other (Once).

Total Burden Hours: 1,521.

Sondra Blakey,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-25880 Filed 10-10-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 03-093-1]

Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Extension of approval of an information collection; 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 an extension of approval of an information collection in support of regulations for the commercial transportation of equines to slaughtering facilities.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before December 15, 2003.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by postal mail/commercial delivery or by e-mail. If you use postal mail/commercial delivery, please send four copies of your comment (an original and three copies) to: Docket No. 03-093-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3C71, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. 03-093-1. If you use e-mail, address your comment to regulations@aphis.usda.gov. Your comment must be contained in the body of your message; do not send attached files. Please include your name and address in your message and "Docket No. 03-093-1" on the subject line.

You may read any comments that we receive on this docket in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690-2817 before coming.

APHIS documents published in the **Federal Register**, and related information, including the names of organizations and individuals who have commented on APHIS dockets, are available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrepor.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information regarding regulations for the commercial transportation of equines to slaughtering facilities,

contact Dr. Tim Cordes, Senior Staff Veterinarian, National Center for Animal Health Programs, Certification and Control Team, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 46, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-3279. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 734-7477.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Commercial Transport of Equines to Slaughter.

OMB Number: 0579-0160.

Type of Request: Extension of approval of an information collection.

Abstract: Under the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 ("the Farm Bill"), Congress gave responsibility to the Secretary of Agriculture to regulate the commercial transportation within the United States of equines for slaughter. Sections 901-905 of the Farm Bill (7 U.S.C. 1901 note) authorized the Secretary to issue guidelines for the regulation of commercial transportation of equines for slaughter by persons regularly engaged in that activity within the United States. To fulfill this responsibility, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture established regulations in title 9, part 98, of the Code of Federal Regulations.

The minimum standards cover, among other things, the food, water, and rest provided to such equines. The regulations require the owner/shipper of the equines to take certain actions in loading and transporting the equines and to certify that the commercial transportation meets certain requirements. Our regulations prohibit the commercial transportation to slaughter facilities of equines considered to be unfit for travel and the use of electric prods on such animals in commercial transportation to slaughter. The use of double-deck trailers for commercial transportation of equines to slaughtering facilities may not be used after December 7, 2006.

These regulations require the use of two information collection activities: (1) The preparation of an owner-shipper certificate for each equine transported to slaughter and (2) the collection of business information from any individual or other entity found to be transporting horses to a slaughtering facility.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of these information collection activities for an additional 3 years.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:

(1) Evaluate whether the 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 information collection, 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 information collection 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: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.052471 hours per response.

Respondents: Owners and shippers of slaughter horses and owners/operators of slaughtering facilities.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 200.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 401.

Estimated annual number of responses: 80,100.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 4,203 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

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 8th day of October, 2003.

Peter Fernandez,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 03-25883 Filed 10-10-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Oregon Coast Provincial Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Oregon Coast Province Advisory Committee will meet in

Newport, OR, October 23, 2003. The theme of the meeting is Introduction/Overview/Business Planning. The agenda includes: Payments to Counties Update, Monitoring Trip Update, Coho Recovery Plan, PAC Subcommittee Presentation, BLM/Forest Service Settlement Agreement, Public Comment and Round Robin.

DATES: The meeting will be held October 23, 2003, beginning at 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the La Quinta Inn and Suites, 45 SE 32nd Street, Newport, OR.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joni Quarnstrom, Public Affairs Specialist, Siuslaw National Forest, 541-750-7075, or write to Siuslaw National Forest Supervisor, P.O. Box 1148, Corvallis, OR 97339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. Council Discussion is limited to Forest Service/BLM staff and Council Members. Lunch will be on your own. A public input session will be at 2:30 p.m. for fifteen minutes. The meeting is expected to adjourn around 3:30 p.m.

Dated: October 7, 2003.

Carl Frounfelker,

Wildlife Biologist.

[FR Doc. 03-25863 Filed 10-10-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Procedures Involving Hydropower Licensing on National Forest System Lands

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of issuance of agency directive.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service is issuing an amendment to Forest Service Manual (FSM) chapter 2770 to guide its employees regarding certain procedures for hydropower licensing on National Forest System lands. The amendment addresses internal agency procedures and provides for increased efficiency in processing hydropower applications for licensing. The amendment also clarifies the roles of the Forest Service and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in licensing hydropower projects affecting National Forest System lands and resources. The procedures established in the amendment streamline the application process, but they do not limit or preclude the opportunity for interested parties and the general public to be involved during

the analysis for project-specific licensing by FERC.

DATES: This amendment is effective October 14, 2003.

ADDRESSES: This amendment (Amendment No. 2700-2003-2) is available electronically from the Forest Service via the World Wide Web/Internet at <http://www.fs.fed.us/im/directives>. Single paper copies of the amendment are also available by contacting Robert Cunningham, Lands Staff (Mail Stop 1124), Forest Service, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1124, telephone: (202) 205-2494.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Cunningham, Lands Staff (202) 205-2494.

Dated: October 7, 2003.

Dale N. Bosworth,

Chief.

[FR Doc. 03-25923 Filed 10-10-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Finding of No Significant Impact for Upper Salt Creek 10-A Rehabilitation, Lancaster County, NE

Introduction

The Upper Salt Creek 10-A Rehabilitation is a federally assisted action authorized for planning under Pub. L. 83-566, the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act as amended by Section 313 of Pub. L. 106-472 The Small Watershed Rehabilitation Amendments of 2000. An environmental assessment was undertaken in conjunction with the development of the watershed plan. This assessment was conducted in consultation with local, State, and Federal agencies as well as with interested organizations and individuals. Data developed during the assessment are available for public review at the following location: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Federal Building, Room 152, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-3866.

Recommended Action

Proposed is the rehabilitation of one floodwater retarding structure, Upper Salt Creek 10-A on an unnamed tributary of Hickman Branch. The Upper Salt Creek 10-A structure controls the drainage of 2,052 acres.