

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Natural Resources Conservation Service****TE 36 Thin-Mat Floating Marsh Enhancement Demonstration Project Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana**

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service, Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102 (2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; the Council on Environmental Quality Guidelines (40 CFR Part 1500); and the Natural Resources Conservation Service Guidelines (7 CFR Part 650); the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, gives notice that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared for the Thin-Mat Floating Marsh Demonstration Project, Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donald W. Gohmert, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 3737 Government Street, Alexandria, Louisiana 71302; telephone (318) 473-7751.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The environmental assessment of the federally assisted action indicates that the project will not cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. As a result of these findings, Donald W. Gohmert, State Conservationist, has determined that preparation and review of an environmental impact statement is not needed for this project.

The demonstration project will test the potential of restoring thin-mat floating marsh to thick-mat maidencane (*Panicum hemitomon*) floating marsh using three methods and all possible combinations thereof: (1) Transplanting maidencane into the thin-mat marsh, (2) inducing growth through fertilization, and (3) inducing growth through reduction of mammalian grazing. The project directly impacts less than 4 acres of fresh marsh within the northwestern part of the Penchant Basin in Terrebonne Parish. The potential benefits of developing management tools to restore a large area of existing thin-mat marsh exceed the risk of negatively impacting less than 4 acres.

The Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been forwarded to the Environmental Protection Agency and to various federal, state, and local agencies and interested parties. A limited number of copies of the FONSI are available to fill

single copy requests at the above address. Basic data collected during the environmental assessment are on file and may be reviewed by contacting Donald W. Gohmert.

No administrative action on implementation of the proposal will be taken until 30 days after the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

Donald W. Gohmert,
State Conservationist.

[FR Doc. 00-5269 Filed 3-3-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Natural Resources Conservation Service****Notice of Proposed Changes to Section IV of the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) of the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Indiana**

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed changes in section IV of the FOTG of the NRCS in Indiana for review and comment.

SUMMARY: It is the intention of NRCS in Indiana to issue a revised conservation practice standard in Section IV of the FOTG. The revised standard is Filter Strip (Code 393). This practice may be used in conservation systems that treat highly erodible land.

DATES: Comments will be received on or before April 15, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Address all requests and comments to John C. Tippie, Acting State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), 6013 Lakeside Blvd., Indianapolis, Indiana 46278. Copies of this standard will be made available upon written request. You may submit electronic requests and comments to joe.gasper@in.usda.gov

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John C. Tippie, 317-290-3200.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 343 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 states that revisions made after enactment of the law, to NRCS state technical guides used to carry out highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the law, shall be made available for public review and comment. For the next 30 days, the NRCS in Indiana will receive comments relative to the proposed changes. Following that period, a determination will be made by the NRCS in Indiana regarding disposition of those comments

and a final determination of changes will be made.

Dated: February 22, 2000.

John C. Tippie,

Acting State Conservationist, Indianapolis, Indiana.

[FR Doc. 00-5362 Filed 3-3-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Rural Business-Cooperative Service****Notice of Request for Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection**

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces RBS' intention to request an extension of a currently approved information collection in support of the Intermediary Relending Program (IRP).

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by May 5, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: M. Wayne Stansbery, Loan Specialist, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA, STOP 3225, Washington, DC 20250, Telephone: (202) 720-6819.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: RBS/Intermediary Relending Program.

OMB Number: 0570-0021.

Expiration Date of Approval: April 30, 2000.

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

Abstract: The objective of the Intermediary Relending Program (IRP) is to improve community facilities and employment opportunities and increase economic activity in rural areas by financing business facilities and community development. This purpose is achieved through loans made by the Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS) to intermediaries that establish programs for the purpose of providing loans to ultimate recipients for business facilities and community development. The regulations contain various requirements for information from the intermediaries and some requirements may cause the intermediary to seek information from ultimate recipients. The information requested is necessary for RBS to be able to process applications in a responsible manner, make prudent credit and program decisions, and effectively monitor the