

of the proposed use of funds; (b) a worksheet that demonstrates the calculation of the loan amount; (c) an updated Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA) including HUD forms 96001, 96002, and 96003; (d) the project's REAC physical and financial assessment scores; and creditworthiness of principal sponsors and the general contractor, the existence of any federal debt, judgments, or bankruptcy claims. The collection of this information is required to reduce the risk of project defaults and claims against the FHA insurance funds.

Agency forms numbers, if applicable: HUD-96001, HUD-96002, HUD-96003.

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 estimated number of respondents is 400, the frequency of responses is 1, the number of burden hours is average 4–24, and the annual burden hours requested are 1600–9600.

Status of the proposed information collection: Reinstatement without change or previously approved collection for which approval has expired.

Authority: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C., Chapter 35, as amended.

Dated: March 2, 2001.

Wayne Eddins,

Reports Management Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 01–5973 Filed 3–9–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210–27–M

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR–4652–N–06]

Notice of Proposed Information Collection for Public Comment for the Office of Public and Indian Housing Pet Ownership for the Elderly or Persons With Disabilities

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The proposed information collection requirement 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 Date: May 11, 2001.

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: Mildred M. Hamman, Reports Liaison Officer, Public and Indian Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW., Room 4238, Washington, DC 20410–5000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mildred M. Hamman, (202) 708–3642 extension 4128, for copies of the proposed forms and other available documents. (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].

This 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 response.

This Notice also list the following information:

Title of Proposal: Pet Ownership for the Elderly or Persons with Disabilities.

OMB Control Number: 2577–0078.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use: This information collection is under the authority of Section 227 of the Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983 (12 U.S.C. 170r–1). HUD issued regulations in 24 CFR part 5, subpart C, necessary to ensure attaining the goal of providing decent, safe, and sanitary housing for elderly or persons with disabilities. The statute also requires that these regulations establish guidelines under which Public Housing Agencies (PHAs), owners and managers may prescribe reasonable rules for the keeping of pets by tenants and must consult with tenants in prescribing the rules. The PHAs give written notices to applicants that pets are permitted,

working animals are excluded from regulation requirements, and where leases prohibit pets, tenants may request lease amendment. A copy of pet rules and written notice are given to each applicant when offered a unit.

Agency form number, if applicable: None.

Members of affected public: State, Local or Tribal Government; Individuals or households.

Estimation of the total number of hours needed to prepare the information collection including number of respondents, frequency of response: 256 burden hours (32,000 respondents, .008 hour average per response).

Status of the proposed information collection: Reinstatement.

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

Dated: March 5, 2001.

Gloria J. Cousar,

Acting General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing.

[FR Doc. 01–5974 Filed 3–9–01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of the Secretary

National Invasive Species Council

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Interior.

ACTION: Final Version of the National Invasive Species Management Plan; Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: The National Invasive Species Council is announcing the availability of the final version of the *National Invasive Species Management Plan*, “Meeting the Challenge.”

DATES: The National Invasive Species Management Plan was approved on January 18, 2001.

ADDRESSES: National Invasive Species Council, 1951 Constitution Avenue NW., Suite 320, Washington, DC 20240.

The final version of the National Invasive Species Management Plan is available on the Council's website, <http://www.invasivespecies.gov>. Copies may be obtained by contacting the Council Staff at (202) 208–6336; fax at (202) 208–1526; or e-mail at invasivespecies@ios.doi.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kelsey Passe, Program Analyst, National Invasive Species Council; E-mail: Kelsey.Passe@ios.doi.gov; Phone (202) 208–6336; Fax: (202) 208–1526.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Executive Order 13112 on Invasive Species established the National Invasive

Species Council (Council), which is chaired by the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, and the Interior and includes the Departments of State, Treasury, Defense, and Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency. The Order directed the Secretary of the Interior to establish an Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC) including diverse stakeholders to advise the Council. The Order applies to all Federal agencies whose actions may affect the status of invasive species and requires agencies to identify such actions and to the extent practicable and permitted by law (1) take actions specified in the Order to address the problem consistent with their authorities and budgetary resources; and (2) not authorize, fund, or carry out actions that they believe are likely to cause or promote the introduction or spread of invasive species in the United States or elsewhere unless, "pursuant to guidelines that it has prescribed, the agency has determined and made public its determination that the benefits of such actions clearly outweigh the potential harm caused by invasive species; and that all feasible and prudent measures to minimize risk of harm will be taken in conjunction with the actions." Although Executive Order 13112 applies to all Federal agencies, most of the duties required by the Executive Order are the responsibility of the eight Council Departments.

The Council was directed by the President to release the first edition of a National Invasive Species Management Plan (Plan) 18 months after the Order was issued, and to include performance-oriented goals and objectives and specific measures of success for Federal agency efforts concerning invasive species, update the Plan biennially, and evaluate and report on the success in achieving the goals and objectives of the Plan. The Plan is also to identify the personnel, other resources, and additional levels of coordination needed to achieve its goals and objectives. The purpose of the Plan is to provide a blueprint for Federal action in coordination with State, local, and private programs and international cooperation to prevent the introduction of invasive species, provide for their control, and minimize their economic, environmental, and human health impacts. The focus of the Plan is on those non-native species that cause or may cause significant negative impacts and do not provide an equivalent benefit to society.

In preparing the first edition of the Plan, the Council engaged in extensive consultation with many organizations and individuals with differing interests.

Valuable guidance came from ISAC and members of six working groups made up of both Federal and non-federal experts under the auspices of the Advisory Committee, including: (1) International, (2) communication, outreach, and education, (3) policy and regulation, (4) risk analysis and prevention, (5) management, and (6) research, information sharing, documentation, and monitoring. The Plan contains a number of actions recommended by the working groups and discussed in the reports of the groups which are posted on the Council's website. The Council also heard from a wide range of organizations and individuals at five public listening sessions held in July 2000 around the country and through numerous written comments.

A draft Plan was made available for comment on the Council's website in early August of 2000, before the deadline set by the Executive Order. However, due to extensive revisions made in response to public comment and delays in hiring Council staff, the final version was not issued until January 18, 2001. On October 2, 2000, a **Federal Register** notice (65 FR 58783–58784) announced the availability of the draft Plan. In that notice, the Council solicited comments on the Plan for 45 days ending on November 16, 2000. In response to a number of requests submitted by interested persons, the Council extended the comment period by 15 days in a second notice published in the **Federal Register** on November 16, 2000 (65 FR 69320).

By December 1, 2000, the close of the extended comment period, the Council had received a total of 181 written comments. The comments were from private citizens; a Native American association; businesses and industry groups; academic institutions; scientific, conservation, and other non-governmental organizations; State, local, and Federal Government agencies; and several public/private partnerships. The commenters generally supported the goals of the Executive Order and the Plan; however, nearly all of the commenters offered specific opinions, suggestions, or criticisms regarding the content of the draft Plan.

The Council carefully considered each of the comments received and made numerous changes to the Plan to reflect many of the points raised in the comments. In some cases, however, commenters brought up issues that were outside the scope of the Plan, made specific recommendations regarding detailed operational matters, or questioned why the activities of particular groups were either mentioned or overlooked. Other commenters

sought firm funding or action commitments that cannot be made until the implementation stage of the Plan. Wherever possible and appropriate, the Council will consider those comments that were not integrated into the final version of the Plan that deal with implementation issues during the implementation phase of the Plan.

The first edition of the Plan provides a general blueprint for action to deal with the threats posed by invasive species; however, many of the details of the actions called for will require further development in the implementation phase. At that point, specific measures of success, as well as the personnel and other resources needed to achieve the Plan's goals, will be described. The action items included in the Plan outline an array of prospective approaches for preventing the introduction and spread of invasive species. The Plan provides for development of an oversight mechanism to ensure agency accountability and calls on Council Departments to submit annual reports summarizing their progress in implementing the Plan.

The final version of the Plan was approved by the eight Council member agencies on January 18, 2001, and is now available to the public. The Plan is available on the Council's website; in addition, you may request a hard copy of the Plan by contacting the Council staff. In the near future, printed copies of the Plan will be made available and an order form will be posted on the Council's website.

Specific information regarding the availability of the Plan can be found in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

Lori Williams,

Executive Director, National Invasive Species Council.

[FR Doc. 01–5979 Filed 3–9–01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Availability, Response to Comments on Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment for Natural Resources Injured by Releases of Pesticides From the United Heckathorn Superfund Site

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, on behalf of the Department of the Interior, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the