

Fiscal Year 2004	
Multifamily loan program	Basis points
Section 241(a)—Additions & Improvements for Health Care Facilities .....	50
Section 242—Hospitals .....	50
Title XI—Group Practice .....	50

\*First Year MIP for these programs remain at 100 basis points.

### Applicable Mortgage Insurance Premium Procedures

The MIP regulations are found in 24 CFR part 207. This notice is published in accordance with the procedures stated in 24 CFR 207.252, 207.252(a), and 207.254.

### Transition Guidelines

#### A. General

If a firm commitment has been issued at a higher MIP, and FHA has not initially endorsed the note, the lender may request the field office to reprocess the commitment at the lower MIP and reissue the commitment on or after October 1, 2003. If the initial endorsement has occurred the MIP cannot be changed.

#### B. Extension of Outstanding 57 and 61 Basis Points Firm Commitments

FHA may extend outstanding firm commitments when the Hub/Program Center determines that the underwriting conclusions (rents, expenses, construction costs, mortgage amount and case required to close) are still valid.

#### C. Reprocessing of Outstanding 57 and 61 Basis Points Firm Commitments

FHA will consider requests from mortgagees to reprocess outstanding firm commitments at the lower mortgage insurance premium once the new premiums become effective in FY 2004:

1. Outstanding commitments with initial 60-day expiration dates on or after the effective date of this MIP notice.
  - FHA Multifamily Hub/Program Center staff will simply reprocess these cases to reflect the impact of the lower MIP and reissue commitments with a new date.
2. Outstanding commitments with initial expiration dates prior to the effective date of this MIP notice which have pending extension requests or have had extensions granted by FHA beyond the initial 60-day period.
  - These cases will require more extensive reprocessing by FHA staff. Reprocessing will include an updated FHA field staff analysis and review of

rents, expenses, construction costs, particularly considering any changes in Davis-Bacon wage rates, and cash required to close. (An updated appraisal may be required from the mortgagee depending on the age of the appraisal.) If reprocessing results in favorable underwriting conclusions, Hub/Program Center staff will reissue commitments with a new date at the new MIP.

#### D. Reopening of Expired 57 or 61 Basis Points Firm Commitments

FHA will consider requests from mortgagees, which may be either updated Traditional Application Processing (TAP) firm commitment applications or updated Multifamily Accelerated Processing (MAP) applications with updated exhibits, to reopen expired 57 or 61 basis points commitments on or after the effective date of the MIP notice, provided that the reopening requests are received within 90 days of the expiration of the commitments and include the \$.50 per thousand of requested mortgage reopening fee. Reopening requests will be reprocessed by FHA field staff under the instructions in paragraph C.2 above.

After expiration of the 90-day reopening period, mortgagees are required to submit new applications with the \$3 per thousand application fee (MAP applications must start at the pre-application stage).

### Credit Subsidy

Mortgagee Letters will be issued from time to time to advise mortgagees of any requirements for credit subsidy and the availability of credit subsidy. In FY 2004, the same three programs will require credit subsidy as in FY 2003: Section 221(d)(3) for nonprofit and cooperatives for new construction or substantial rehabilitation, Section 223(d) for operating loss loans for both apartments and health care facilities, and Section 241(a) for supplemental loans for additions or improvements to existing apartments only. FHA will not issue amended commitments for increased mortgage amounts nor obligate additional credit subsidy for projects requiring credit subsidy in FY 2004.

Dated: September 25, 2003.

**John C. Weicher,**

*Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner.*

[FR Doc. 03-25324 Filed 10-6-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4210-27-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Office of Federal Acknowledgment; Documented Petitions for Federal Acknowledgment as an Indian Tribe, Submission to OMB for Renewal

**AGENCY:** Office of Federal Acknowledgment, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces that the Information Collection Request for Documented Petitions for Federal Acknowledgment as an Indian Tribe is submitted to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget for extension.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before November 6, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Send your written comments to Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior. You may fax comments to (202) 395-6566 or send an e-mail to [OIRA\\_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov](mailto:OIRA_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov). Please send a duplicate copy to R. Lee Fleming, Director, Office of Federal Acknowledgment, Office of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW., MS-4660 MIB, Washington, DC 20240.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection submission should be directed to R. Lee Fleming, Director, Office of Federal Acknowledgment, Office of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, MS-4660 MIB, Washington, DC 20240. You may also call (202) 208-3592.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A request for comments was published in the **Federal Register** on June 2, 2003 (68 FR 32765). No comments were received.

### I. Abstract

The information collection is needed to establish whether a petitioning group has the characteristics necessary to be acknowledged as having a sovereign-to-sovereign relationship with the United States. Federal acknowledgment makes the group eligible for benefits from the Federal Government.

### II. Method of Collection

The Federal acknowledgment regulations at 25 CFR Part 83 contain seven criteria (§ 83.7) which groups seeking Federal acknowledgment as Indian tribes must demonstrate that they meet. Information collected from petitioning groups under these

regulations provide anthropological, genealogical and historical data used by the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs to establish whether a petitioning group has the characteristics necessary to be acknowledged as having a sovereign-to-sovereign relationship with the United States. Respondents are not required to retain copies of information submitted to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, but will probably maintain copies for their own use. No periodic reports are required.

### III. Data

**Title:** Collection of Information for Federal Acknowledgment Under 25 CFR Part 83.

**OMB Control Number:** 1076-0104.

**Expiration Date:** September 30, 2003.

**Type of Review:** Extension of a currently-approved collection.

**Affected Entities:** Groups petitioning for Federal acknowledgment as Indian tribes.

**Response:** Respondents are seeking to obtain the status of a tribal entity in order to be eligible for funding and services from the Bureau of Indian Affairs by virtue of their status as Indian tribes.

**Estimated Number of Petitioners:** 10.

**Estimated Time per Petition:** 2,237.7 hours.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:** 22,377.

**Estimated Annual Salary Costs:** \$895,080 (2,237.7 hours × \$40.00 per hour × 10).

### IV. Request for Comments

You are invited to comment on:

(a) 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;

(b) The accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(d) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other collection techniques or the forms of information technology.

Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; to develop, acquire, install and utilize technology and systems for the purpose of collecting, validating, and verifying

information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; to train personnel and to be able to respond to a collection of information, to search data sources, to complete and review the collection of information; and to transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to request that we consider withholding your name, street address, and other contact information (such as Internet address, fax, or phone number) from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will make available for public inspection in their entirety all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

OMB has up to 60 days to make a decision on the submission for renewal, but may make the decision after 30 days. Therefore, to receive the best consideration of your comments, you should submit them closer to 30 days than 60 days.

Dated: September 26, 2003.

**Aurene M. Martin,**

*Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 03-25406 Filed 10-6-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-4J-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### **Availability of Final Environmental Impact Statement for an Incidental Take Permit for the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan, California**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability and receipt of application.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, this notice advises the public of the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) on the application by the County of Riverside, California Department of Transportation, California Department of Parks and

Recreation and 14 cities (Applicants) in western Riverside County to incidentally take 83 animal species, including 69 unlisted species should any of them become listed, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), during the term of the proposed 75-year permit. The permit is needed to authorize take of listed animal species (including harm, injury and harassment) during urban and rural development in the approximately 1.2 million-acre (1,967 square-mile) Plan Area in western Riverside County, California. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is publishing this notice to inform the public of the proposed action and to make available for review the Final EIS/EIR, which includes responses to public comments received on the Draft EIS/EIR. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) also is publishing a similar notice for this Final EIS/EIR.

**DATES:** A Record of Decision will occur no sooner than 30 days after the publication date of the EPA notice. Comments on the Final EIS/EIR must be received by the close of the comment period as indicated in the EPA notice.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be sent to Mr. James Bartel, Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office, 6010 Hidden Valley Road, Carlsbad, California 92009; facsimile (760) 431-9624.

Copies of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP), Implementation Agreement, and Final EIS/EIR are available for review at the Riverside County Integrated Plan website (<http://www.rcip.org>) or at the following locations in California:

1. Carlsbad—U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office, 6010 Hidden Valley Road
2. Riverside—Riverside County Administrative Center, 4080 Lemon Street, 7th Floor; University of California, Riverside, Tomas Rivera Library, 900 University Avenue; and Riverside Public Library, 3581 Mission Inn Avenue
3. Murrieta—Murrieta Public Library, 39589 Los Alamos Road
4. Hemet—Riverside County Library, Hemet Branch, 25757 Fairview Avenue
5. Perris—Riverside County Library, Perris Branch, 163 E. San Jacinto.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Karen Goebel, Assistant Field Supervisor, Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office (**SEE ADDRESSES**), telephone number (760) 431-9440.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**