

public health or safety, nor State or local governments. This policy will not interfere with an action taken or planned by another agency nor raise new legal or policy issues. Finally, this action will not alter the budgetary impact of entitlements, grants, user fees, or loan programs or the rights and obligations of recipients of such programs. Accordingly, this policy is not subject to OMB review Executive Order 12866.

Moreover, this policy has been considered in light of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.*), and it is hereby certified that this action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities as defined by that act. The decision to retain a stumpage rate adjustment procedure and to equalize the risks in declining or increasing markets treats small and large purchasers equally.

Pursuant to Title II of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995, which the President signed into law on March 22, 1995, the Department has assessed the effects of this policy on State, local, and tribal governments and the private sector. This action does not compel the expenditure of \$100 million or more by any State, local, or tribal governments or anyone in the private sector. Therefore, a statement under section 202 of the Act is not required.

Environmental Impact

This action falls within a category of actions excluded from documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement or an Environmental Assessment. Section 31.1b of Forest Service Handbook 1909.15 (57 FR 43180; September 18, 1992) excludes from documentation in an environmental assessment or impact statement "rules, regulations, or policies to establish Service-wide administrative procedures, program processes, or instructions." The agency's assessment is that this policy falls within this category of actions and that no extraordinary circumstances exist which would require preparation of an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Controlling Paperwork Burdens on the Public

The policy does not require any recordkeeping or reporting requirements or other information collection requirements as defined in 5 CFR part 1320 not already approved for use and, therefore, imposes no additional paperwork burden on the public. Accordingly, the review provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*) and

implementing regulations at 5 CFR part 1320 do not apply.

Dated: November 24, 1997.

Ronald E. Stewart,

Acting Associate Chief.

[FR Doc. 97-34051 Filed 12-30-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Notice of availability of Record of Decision for Waimea-Paauilo Watershed, Hawaii County, Hawaii

AGENCY: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

ACTION: Notice of availability of record of decision.

SUMMARY: Kenneth M. Kaneshiro, Responsible Federal Official for projects administered under the provisions of Public Law 83-566 in the State of Hawaii, is hereby providing notification that a record of decision to proceed with the installation of the Waimea-Paauilo Watershed project, signed December 16, 1997, is available.

The record of decision documents the intent to implement Alternative 5—Kauahi Reservoir Plan as set forth in the final Watershed Plan-Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Waimea-Paauilo Watershed, Hawaii County, Hawaii. The project will address the problems of inadequate and inconsistent irrigation water supply that prevent area farmers from full utilization of cropland and cause crop damage and losses during drought. The project will also address inconsistent supply and distribution of livestock drinking water to Waimea area ranches. The Selected Plan proposes the following improvements to the Waimea Irrigation System installation of a 131-million gallon reservoir, reservoir supply pipeline, extension of the irrigation water distribution system pipeline, and installation of a livestock drinking water system. The economic benefits derived by implementation of the irrigation water supply components will exceed economic costs. The social and cultural benefits of the livestock drinking water system, which will primarily serve native Hawaiian ranchers, has been judged by the funding source, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, to justify its construction. The project meets the needs of the sponsoring local organizations.

The record of decision documents that the Waimea-Paauilo Watershed

project uses all practicable means, consistent with other essential considerations of national policy, to meet the goals established in the National Environmental Policy Act. The FEIS has been prepared, reviewed, and accepted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

ADDRESSES: Single copies of this record of decision may be obtained from Kenneth M. Kaneshiro, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 300 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 4316, P.O. Box 50004, Honolulu, Hawaii 96850.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Kolman, Assistant State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 300 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 4316, P.O. Box 50004, Honolulu, Hawaii 96850, telephone (808) 541-2602.

(This activity is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.904, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention, and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials.)

Kenneth M. Kaneshiro,

State Conservationist.

[FR Doc. 97-33996 Filed 12-30-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission For OMB Review; Comment Request

DOC has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

Agency: Bureau of the Census.

Title: Report of Privately Owned Building or Zoning Permits Issued
Form Number(s): C-404, C-404(I), C-404(B).

Agency Approval Number: 0607-0094.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Burden: 30,716 hour.

Number of Respondents: 18,900.

Avg Hours Per Response: 25 minutes.

Needs and Uses: The Census Bureau conducts the Report of Privately Owned Building or Zoning Permits Issued to collect data to provide estimates of the number and valuation of new residential housing units authorized by building permits. We use the data, a component of the index of leading economic indicators, to estimate the number of housing units started, completed, and sold, if single-family,