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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 97-123-1]

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 the gypsy moth program.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by April 13, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Send comments regarding the accuracy of burden estimate, ways to minimize the burden (such as through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology), or any other aspect of this collection of information to: Docket No. 97-123-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, suite 3C03, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please send an original and three copies, and state that your comments refer to Docket 97-123-1. Comments received may be inspected at USDA, room 1141, South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect comments are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the comment reading room.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: For information regarding the gypsy moth identification worksheet, contact Ms. Coanne O'Hern, Operations Officer,

Program Support Staff, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 134, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236, (301) 734-8247. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mr. Gregg Ramsey, Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 734-5682.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Gypsy Moth Identification Worksheet.

OMB Number: 0579-0104.

Expiration Date of Approval: September 30, 1998.

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

Abstract: The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is responsible for preventing the introduction of foreign plant pests into the United States, preventing the spread of plant pests not widely distributed in the United States, and eradicating those plant pests when eradication is feasible.

To this end, the Plant Protection and Quarantine Service (PPQ) of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), USDA, engages in detection surveys to monitor for the presence of, among other things, the European gypsy moth and the Asian gypsy moth.

The European gypsy moth was introduced into the United States in the 1860's and has been damaging woodland areas in the Northeast for the last 100 years. The Asian gypsy moth, which is not established in this country, is considered to pose an even greater threat to trees and forested areas.

Unlike the flightless European gypsy moth female adult, the Asian gypsy moth female adult is capable of strong directed flight between mating and egg deposition, significantly increasing its ability to spread over a much greater area and become widely established within a short period of time.

In order to determine the presence and extent of a European gypsy moth or an Asian gypsy moth infestation, we set traps in high risk areas to collect specimens. Once an infestation is identified, control and eradication work (usually involving State cooperation) is initiated to eradicate the moths.

APHIS personnel, with assistance from State agriculture personnel, check traps for the presence of gypsy moths. If a suspicious moth is found in the trap, it is sent to APHIS laboratories at the Otis Methods Development Center so that it can be correctly identified through DNA analysis. (Since the

European gypsy moth and the Asian gypsy moth are strains of the same species, they cannot be visually distinguished from each other. DNA analysis is the only way to accurately identify these insects.)

The individual submitting the moth for analysis (whether a PPQ employee or State employee) completes a gypsy moth identification worksheet (PPQ Form 305), which accompanies the insect to the laboratory. The worksheet enables both Federal and State regulatory officials to identify and track specific specimens through the DNA identification tests that we conduct.

The information provided by the gypsy moth identification worksheets is vital to our ability to monitor, detect, and eradicate gypsy moth infestations.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve the continued use of this information collection activity.

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

(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 our estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, 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 collection of information 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 .0841 hours per response.

Respondents: State cooperators.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 120.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 1.7833.

Estimated annual number of responses: 214.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 18 hours. (Due to

rounding, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the average 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 5th day of February 1998.

Craig A. Reed,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 98-3418 Filed 2-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Giant Multi-Resource Management Project

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Cancellation of Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The USDA Forest Service, Tahoe National Forest has changed the proposed action for this EIS, which has reduced the scope of the project. An Environmental Assessment rather than an Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared for this proposed action.

A Notice of Intent was published in the **Federal Register** on June 2, 1997 on page 29706. A revised Notice of Intent was published in the **Federal Register** on October 24, 1997 on page 55389.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Bradford, EIS Team Leader, Foresthill Ranger District, 530-478-6254.

Dated: February 3, 1998.

Judie L. Tartaglia,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 98-3359 Filed 2-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

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 Economic Analysis.

Title: Direct Transactions of U.S.

Reporter with Foreign Affiliate.

Form Number(s): BE-577.

Agency Approval Number: 0608-0004.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Burden: 64,000 hours.

Number of Respondents: 12,800 respondents, 4 responses each per year.

Avg Hours Per Response: 1¼ hours.

Needs and Uses: The survey collects quarterly sample data on transactions and positions between U.S.-owned foreign business enterprises and their U.S. parents. Universe estimates are developed from the reported sample data. The data are needed to compile the U.S. international transactions, input-output, and national income and product accounts, and the international investment position of the United States. The data are also needed to measure the economic significance of U.S. direct investment abroad, measure changes in such investment, and assess its importance.

In addition, the data are needed by the Departments of Treasury, State, and Commerce, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, and the Council of Economic Advisers to carry out U.S. international economic policy. They are also needed by the Federal Reserve Board in the conduct of U.S. monetary policy. Such policy must be based upon an informed analysis of current information on cross border transactions, including transactions between U.S. affiliates and their foreign parents. The data are particularly valuable to these agencies because they are collected, analyzed, and published within 90 days after the end of each calendar quarter, allowing data users to see the consequences of changes in economic conditions almost immediately.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit institutions.

Frequency: Quarterly.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 22 U.S.C., Sections 3101-3108, as amended.

OMB Desk Officer: Paul Bugg, (202) 395-3093.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, Room 5732, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Paul Bugg, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10201, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: February 6, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 98-3481 Filed 2-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

Census 2000 Dress Rehearsal Integrated Coverage Measurement (ICM)/Post Enumeration Survey (PES) Person Followup Interview

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before April 13, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Magdalena Ramos, Staff Group Leader for ICM Operations, Bureau of the Census, Room 2126, Washington, DC 20233, (301)457-4295.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Bureau of the Census developed the Integrated Coverage Measurement (ICM) approach for measuring coverage of housing units and population counts during the decennial census. In the Census 2000 Dress Rehearsal, we will be conducting a rehearsal of both the ICM and Post Enumeration Survey (PES) methodologies which can be alternatively used to measure the coverage of the census for housing units and people. The ICM/PES is a survey of sample block clusters within the Dress Rehearsal sites. The Census 2000 Dress Rehearsal sites include an urban site (Sacramento, California), a non-urban site (Columbia, South Carolina, and surrounding area), and one American Indian Reservation (Menominee