

Copies of this information collection and related instructions can be obtained without charge from Larry Gambrell, the Agency OMB Clearance Officer, at (202) 720-5778.

#### Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden 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 technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to: Larry Gambrell, Agency OMB Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4162 South Building, Washington, D.C. 20250-2000.

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.

Signed at Washington, DC, January 13, 1999.

**Rich Allen,**

*Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service.*

[FR Doc. 99-1684 Filed 1-25-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-20-M

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Business-Cooperative Service

#### Suspension of Direct and Guaranteed Loans for Hog Production

**AGENCY:** Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The swine industry is currently in crisis due to over supply and low prices. The Secretary is concerned that, during this period of low prices, the availability of certain RBS credit programs may facilitate additional production capacity that will prolong the current hog price depression. Additional capacity is also likely to damage the prospects for long-term financial recovery in the industry. Continued financial stress on hog

farmers may force and accelerate concentration of the production, processing, and marketing of hogs into fewer hands. This notice temporarily suspends direct Rural Economic Development Loan and Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan financing for the construction of specialized facilities used for the production of hogs.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

William F. Hagy III, Deputy Administrator, Business Programs, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20250-3220, telephone (202) 720-7287.

**DATES:** January 26, 1999. This notice will be in effect until rescinded by the National Office.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** State Offices shall direct all questions regarding this notice to the Deputy Administrator, Business Programs. Any application for a direct or guaranteed loan for the construction or expansion of a specialized hog production facility will be accepted but held in abeyance until the suspension is lifted. A specialized hog production facility is defined as any building or enclosure and related equipment specifically to house, raise, or feed hogs of any size, age, or market class.

The loan processing time frames will not apply to these applications while the suspension is in effect. The State Office will notify both the applicant and the lender that the application is being held. All guaranteed lenders should be notified of the suspension.

Direct and guaranteed loan applications for purchase, refinancing, maintenance, or repair of facilities currently in production will continue to be processed. Direct and guaranteed loan applications that were received by Rural Development State Offices on or before the date of this notice will be processed through to completion and will not be affected by this temporary suspension. In all other cases, applications will only be processed when the Government's interest will be imperiled if the application is not processed.

Dated: January 14, 1999.

**William F. Hagy III,**

*Acting Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.*

[FR Doc. 99-1505 Filed 1-25-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XY-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Bureau of the Census

#### Census 2000 Location Report for American Flag Vessels and Census 2000 Information for American Flag Vessels

**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 March 29, 1999.

**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 draft forms should be directed to Charles Moore, Bureau of the Census, SFC2, MS-5700, Room 1304, 4301 Suitland Road, Suitland, Maryland 20746, phone number (301) 457-2050.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

The Census Bureau must provide everyone in the United States and Outlying Areas the opportunity to be counted in the Census 2000, including persons living on vessels. To that end, the Census Bureau is currently developing final plans for implementing the Census 2000 Maritime Vessel Enumeration activities. The proposed Census 2000 Location Report for American Flag Vessels and Census 2000 Information for American Flag Vessels operation will greatly facilitate the enumeration of the ship board population and is similar to other vessel enumerations conducted in previous censuses. Beginning in 1999 we will work with the Maritime Administration, American Tuna Boat Association, and other vessel organizations to obtain a list of vessel owners/operators. Each owner/operator will be sent a letter asking for a list of ships and an estimated number of crew and passengers. We will then send questionnaire packages to the owners/operators for each vessel they report and ask that they distribute the packages to