

participating in the voluntary Alternate Compliance Program (ACP) before issuance of a Certificate of Inspection.

*Burden Estimates:* The estimated burden has increased from 150 hours to 164 hours a year.

3. *Title:* Operational Measures for Existing Tank Vessels Without Double Hulls.

*OMB Control Number:* 1625-0083.

*Type of Request:* Extension.

*Affected Public:* Owners, operators and masters of certain tank vessels.

*Forms:* None.

*Abstract:* The information is needed to ensure compliance with U.S. regulations regarding operational measures for certain tank vessels while operating in the U.S. waters.

*Burden Estimates:* The estimated burden has decreased from 18,006 hours to 6,807.

Dated: June 30, 2005.

**Nathaniel S. Heiner,**

*Acting, Assistant Commandant for Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Information Technology.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[CIS No. 2359-05]

RIN 1615-ZA27

#### Automatic Extension of Employment Authorization Documentation for Honduran and Nicaraguan TPS Beneficiaries

**AGENCY:** U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** On November 3, 2004, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) published two Notices in the **Federal Register** extending the designations of Honduras and Nicaragua for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) until July 5, 2006, and automatically extending employment authorization documents (EADs) for the beneficiaries of TPS for Honduras and Nicaragua for six months, from January 5, 2005 until July 5, 2005. Beneficiaries of TPS for Honduras and Nicaragua are required to re-register and obtain new EADs.

However, because of the large number of beneficiaries for TPS for Nicaragua and Honduras, USCIS will not be able to process and re-issue new EADs for all such beneficiaries by the July 5, 2005

expiration date. Accordingly, USCIS has decided to extend the validity of EADs issued to Honduran or Nicaraguan nationals (or aliens having no nationality who last habitually resided in Honduras or Nicaragua) under the extension of the TPS designations for an additional 90 days, from July 5, 2005 until October 5, 2005. This Notice announces that extension and also explains how TPS beneficiaries and their employers may determine which EADs are automatically extended.

**DATES:** The extension of EADs is effective July 5, 2005.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Colleen Cook, Residence and Status Services, Office of Programs and Regulations Development, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, 111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., 3rd Floor, Washington, DC 20529, telephone (202) 514-4754.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Why Is USCIS Automatically Extending the Validity of EADs for Honduran and Nicaraguan TPS Beneficiaries?

Considering the large number of applications, it is likely that many re-registrants will receive their new EAD after the expiration date of their current EAD. In order to prevent a gap in employment authorization for qualified re-registrants, DHS is extending the validity of applicable EADs to October 5, 2005.

#### Who Is Eligible To Receive an Automatic Extension of His or Her EAD?

To receive an automatic extension of his or her EAD, an individual must be a national of Honduras or Nicaragua (or an alien having no nationality who last habitually resided in Honduras or Nicaragua) who has applied for and received an EAD under the TPS designation of Honduras or Nicaragua. This automatic extension is limited to EADs bearing an expiration date of January 5, 2005, that were issued on either Form I-766, Employment Authorization Document, or Form I-688B, Employment Authorization Card. The EAD must also be either (1) a Form I-766 bearing the notation "A-12" or "C-19" on the face of the card under "Category," or (2) a Form I-688B bearing the notation "274a.12(a)(12)" or "274a.12(c)(19)" on the face of the card under "Provision of Law."

#### Must Qualified Individuals Apply for the Automatic Extension of Their TPS-Related EADs?

No, qualified individuals do not have to apply for this automatic employment

authorization extension to October 5, 2005.

#### What Documents May a Qualified Individual Show to His or Her Employer as Proof of Employment Authorization and Identity When Completing Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification?

For completion of the Form I-9 at the time of hire or re-verification, qualified individuals who are receiving a three-month extension of their EADs by virtue of this **Federal Register** Notice may present to their employer a TPS-based EAD as proof of identity and employment authorization until October 5, 2005. To minimize confusion over this extension at the time of hire or re-verification, qualified individuals may also present to their employer a copy of this **Federal Register** Notice regarding the automatic extension of employment authorization documentation to October 5, 2005. In the alternative, any legally acceptable document or combination of documents listed in List A, List B, or List C of the Form I-9 may be presented as proof of identity and employment eligibility; it is the choice of the employee.

#### How May Employers Determine Whether an EAD Has Been Automatically Extended Through October 5, 2005 and Is Therefore Acceptable for Completion of the Form I-9?

For purposes of verifying identity and employment eligibility or re-verifying employment eligibility on the Form I-9 until October 5, 2005, employers of Honduran and Nicaraguan TPS beneficiaries whose EADs have been automatically extended by this Notice must accept such EAD if presented. An EAD that has been automatically extended by this notice to October 5, 2005 will actually contain an expiration date of January 5, 2005, and must be either (1) a Form I-766 bearing the notation "A-12" or "C-19" on the face of the card under "Category," or (2) a Form I-688B bearing the notation "274a.12(a)(12)" or "274a.12(c)(19)" on the face of the card under "Provision of Law." New EADs or extension stickers showing the October 5, 2005 expiration date will not be issued. Employers should not request proof of Honduran or Nicaraguan citizenship. Employers presented with an EAD that has been extended pursuant to this **Federal Register** Notice, if it appears to be genuine and appears to relate to the employee, should accept the EAD as a valid "List A" document and should not ask for additional Form I-9 documentation. This action by USCIS

through this **Federal Register** Notice does not affect the right of an employee to present any legally acceptable document as proof of identity and eligibility for employment.

Employers are reminded that the laws prohibiting unfair immigration-related employment practices remain in full force. For questions, employers may call the USCIS Office of Business Liaison Employer Hotline at 1-800-357-2099 to speak to a USCIS representative. Also, employers may call the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Special Counsel for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practices (OSC) Employer Hotline at 1-800-255-8155 or 1-800-362-2735 (TDD). Employees or applicants may call the OSC Employee Hotline at 1-800-255-7688 or 1-800-237-2515 (TDD) for information regarding the automatic extension. Additional information is available on the OSC Web site at <http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/osc/index.html>.

Dated: July 1, 2005.

**Michael Petrucelli,**

*Acting Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### **Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Initiation of a 5-Year Review of Black-Footed Ferret (*Mustela nigripes*) and Pallid Sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*)**

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces a 5-year review of black-footed ferret (*Mustela nigripes*) and pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*) under section 4(c)(2)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA). A 5-year review is a periodic process conducted to ensure that the listing classification of a species is accurate. A 5-year review is based on the best scientific and commercial data available at the time of the review; therefore, we are requesting submission of any such information on black-footed ferret and pallid sturgeon that has become available since their original listings as endangered species. Based on the results of this 5-year review, we will make the requisite findings under section 4(c)(2)(B) of the ESA.

**DATES:** To allow us adequate time to conduct our reviews on the statuses of

each of these species, we must receive your information no later than September 6, 2005. However, we will continue to accept new information about any listed species at any time.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit information on black-footed ferret to Pete Gober, South Dakota Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 420 S. Garfield Avenue, Suite 400, Pierre, South Dakota 57501. Submit information on pallid sturgeon to George Jordan, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2900 4th Avenue North, Room 301, Billings, Montana 59101. Information received in response to this notice and review will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours, at the above addresses.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Black-footed ferret—Pete Gober, South Dakota Field Office Supervisor, at (605) 224-8693, extension 24. Pallid sturgeon—George Jordan, Pallid Sturgeon Recovery Coordinator, at (406) 247-7365.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), the Service maintains a list of endangered and threatened wildlife and plant species at 50 CFR 17.11 (for animals) and 17.12 (for plants). Section 4(c)(2)(A) of the ESA requires that we conduct a review of listed species at least once every 5 years. Then, based on such reviews, under section 4(c)(2)(B), we determine whether or not any species should be removed from the List (delisted), or reclassified from endangered to threatened or from threatened to endangered. Delisting a species must be supported by the best scientific and commercial data available and considered only if such data substantiate that the species is neither endangered nor threatened for one or more of the following reasons—(1) the species is considered extinct; (2) the species is considered to be recovered; and/or (3) the original data available when the species was listed, or the interpretation of such data, were in error. Any change in Federal classification would require a separate rulemaking process. The regulations in 50 CFR 424.21 require that we publish a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing those species currently under active review. This notice announces our active review of the Black-footed ferret and Pallid sturgeon, both of which are currently listed as endangered. We request submission of any new information on the black-footed ferret or the pallid sturgeon, or both, that has become available since their original listings as endangered

species in 1967 (32 FR 4001) and 1990 (55 FR 36641), respectively.

#### **Public Solicitation of New Information**

To ensure that the 5-year review is complete and based on the best available scientific and commercial information, we are soliciting new information from the public, concerned governmental agencies, Tribes, the scientific community, industry, environmental entities, and any other interested parties concerning the status of black-footed ferret and pallid sturgeon.

The 5-year review considers the best scientific and commercial data and all new information that has become available since the listing determination or most recent status review of each species. Categories of requested information include—(A) species biology, including but not limited to population trends, distribution, abundance, demographics, and genetics; (B) habitat conditions, including but not limited to amount, distribution, and suitability; (C) conservation measures that have been implemented that benefit the species; (D) threat status and trends; and (E) other new information, data, or corrections, including but not limited to taxonomic or nomenclatural changes, identification of erroneous information contained in the List, and improved analytical methods.

If you wish to provide information for one or both of these species for 5-year review, you may submit your comments and materials regarding black-footed ferret to Pete Gober, South Dakota Field Office Supervisor (*see ADDRESSES* section); or your comments and materials regarding pallid sturgeon to George Jordan, Pallid Sturgeon Recovery Coordinator (*see ADDRESSES* section). Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Respondents may request that we withhold a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name or address, you must state this request prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. To the extent consistent with applicable law, we will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety. Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours (*see ADDRESSES* section).