This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

October 5, 2011.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Comments regarding (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 burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (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 and other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Washington, DC, OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.gov or fax (202) 395–5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250–7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720–8681.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Forest Service

Title: Overcoming Barriers to Wildland Fire Defensible Space.

OMB Control Number: 0596—New.

Summary of Collection: The Forest

and Rangeland

Resources

Research Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95–307) is the Department of Agriculture’s primary authority to conduct research activities. The Secretary is authorized to conduct, support, and cooperate in investigations, experiments, tests, and other activities the Secretary deems necessary to obtain, analyze, develop, demonstrate, and disseminate scientific information about protecting, managing, and utilizing forest and rangeland renewable resources in rural, suburban, and urban areas. This study will provide information regarding barriers to participating in fire hazard reduction programs in the wildland urban interface and basic socio-demographics. The results of this study will assist efforts to decrease the cost to society from wildland fires and improve the efficiency of federal agencies in wildland fire management.

Need and Use of the Information: Information will be collected through a voluntary mail survey of wild land urban interface homeowners. The information collected will help wildland fire managers and researchers (1) Identify practical steps for reducing barriers to implementing defensible space behaviors at an individual and neighborhood level and (2) develop future risk reduction programs. The information will be used by local, county, state, and federal wildland fire managers in the development of educational information regarding defensible space and firewise construction. If the collection is not conducted, agencies will continue to operate their programs under assumptions about their effectiveness that may not be true or scientifically valid.

Description of Respondents: Individuals and households.

Number of Respondents: 4,509.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: One time.
provide brief remarks and welcome the new Board members during the meeting.

On Monday, November 7, 2011, an orientation session for new members and interested incumbent members will be held from 1 p.m.–5:30 p.m. Specific topics of discussion will include an introduction to the leadership and structure of the Agricultural Research Service, Economic Research Service, National Agricultural Statistics Service, and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, and information on the core functions of those agencies as it relates to the impending budgets proposed by Congress.

On Tuesday, November 8, 2011 the full Advisory Board will convene at 8 a.m. with introductory remarks by the Chair of the Advisory Board. The morning session will include: brief introductions of new Board members, incumbents, and guests; comments from a variety of distinguished leaders, experts, and departmental personnel; and items of board business. Specific items on the agenda will include a discussion related to the Farm Bill and the relevant Research, Education, and Economics components of the Bill. The afternoon session will also include a discussion on the impact of National Agricultural Statistic Service reports on grain market volatility in 2011. The meeting will conclude with an evening reception that will be held from 6 p.m.–8 p.m.

On Wednesday November 9, 2011, the Board will reconvene at 8 a.m. to: elect the Executive Committee of the Advisory Board; discuss initial recommendations resulting from the meeting and future planning for the Board; to organize the memberships of the committees, sub-committees, and working groups of the Advisory Board; and to finalize Board business for the meeting. The Board Meeting will adjourn by 12 p.m. (noon).

Opportunity for public comment will be offered each day of the meeting. Written comments by attendees or other interested stakeholders will be welcomed for the public record before and up to two weeks following the Board meeting (by close of business Wednesday, November 23, 2011). All statements will become a part of the official record of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board and will be kept on file for public review in the Research, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office.

Done at Washington, DC, this 28 day of September 2011.

Catherine Woteki,
Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics.

[FR Doc. 2011-25129 Filed 10–7–11; 8:45 am]