

operational control of the international land border. Secure Fence Act of 2006, Public Law 109–367, sec. 2, 120 Stat. 2638 (Oct. 26, 2006) (8 U.S.C. 1701 note). Congress defined “operational control” as the prevention of all unlawful entries into the United States, including entries by terrorists, other unlawful aliens, instruments of terrorism, narcotics, and other contraband. *Id.* Consistent with that mandate from Congress, the President’s Executive Order on Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements directed executive departments and agencies to deploy all lawful means to secure the southern border. Executive Order 13767, sec. 1. In order to achieve that end, the President directed, among other things, that I take immediate steps to prevent all unlawful entries into the United States, including the immediate construction of physical infrastructure to prevent illegal entry. Executive Order 13767, sec. 4(a).

Congress has provided to the Secretary of Homeland Security a number of authorities necessary to carry out DHS’s border security mission. One of those authorities is found at section 102 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, as amended (“IIRIRA”). Public Law 104–208, Div. C, 110 Stat. 3009–546, 3009–554 (Sept. 30, 1996) (8 U.S.C. 1103 note), as amended by the REAL ID Act of 2005, Public Law 109–13, Div. B, 119 Stat. 231, 302, 306 (May 11, 2005) (8 U.S.C. 1103 note), as amended by the Secure Fence Act of 2006, Public Law 109–367, sec. 3, 120 Stat. 2638 (Oct. 26, 2006) (8 U.S.C. 1103 note), as amended by the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2008, Public Law 110–161, Div. E, Title V, sec. 564, 121 Stat. 2090 (Dec. 26, 2007). In section 102(a) of IIRIRA, Congress provided that the Secretary of Homeland Security shall take such actions as may be necessary to install additional physical barriers and roads (including the removal of obstacles to detection of illegal entrants) in the vicinity of the United States border to deter illegal crossings in areas of high illegal entry into the United States. In section 102(b) of IIRIRA, Congress mandated the installation of additional fencing, barriers, roads, lighting, cameras, and sensors on the southwest border. Finally, in section 102(c) of IIRIRA, Congress granted to the Secretary of Homeland Security the authority to waive all legal requirements that I, in my sole discretion, determine necessary to ensure the expeditious construction of barriers and roads authorized by section 102 of IIRIRA.

Determination and Waiver

Section 1

The United States Border Patrol’s El Centro Sector is an area of high illegal entry. In fiscal year 2020, the United States Border Patrol (“Border Patrol”) apprehended over 11,000 illegal aliens attempting to enter the United States between border crossings in the El Centro Sector. In that same time period, between border crossings in the El Centro Sector the Border Patrol seized over 200 pounds of marijuana, over 50 pounds of cocaine, over 30 pounds of heroin, over 3,100 pounds of methamphetamine, and over 60 pounds of fentanyl.

Due to the high levels of illegal entry within the El Centro Sector, I must use my authority under section 102 of IIRIRA to install additional physical barriers and roads in the El Centro Sector. Therefore, DHS will take immediate action to construct primary and secondary barriers in the El Centro Sector. The areas in the vicinity of the border within which such construction will occur are referred to herein as the “project areas” and are more specifically described in Section 2 below.

Section 2

I determine that the following areas in the vicinity of the United States border, located in the State of California in the Border Patrol’s El Centro Sector are areas of high illegal entry (the “project areas”):

- Starting one-half (0.5) of a mile west of the San Diego County—Imperial County line and extending east to approximately one mile east of Border Monument 210

There is presently an acute and immediate need to construct physical barriers and roads in the vicinity of the border of the United States in order to prevent unlawful entries into the United States in the project areas pursuant to sections 102(a) and 102(b) of IIRIRA. In order to ensure the expeditious construction of the barriers and roads in the project areas, I have determined that it is necessary that I exercise the authority that is vested in me by section 102(c) of IIRIRA.

Accordingly, pursuant to section 102(c) of IIRIRA, I hereby waive in their entirety, with respect to all contracting actions associated with the construction of physical barriers and roads (including, but not limited to, accessing the project areas, creating and using staging areas, the conduct of earthwork, excavation, fill, and site preparation, and installation and upkeep of physical

barriers, roads, supporting elements, drainage, erosion controls, safety features, lighting, cameras, and sensors) in the project areas, all of the following statutes and regulations, including any legal requirements of, deriving from, or related to the subject of, the following statutes and regulations: 41 U.S.C. 3301; 41 U.S.C. 3302(b)–(e); 41 U.S.C. 3304; 41 U.S.C. 3306(a); 41 U.S.C. 3309(b)–(e); 41 U.S.C. 3502; 41 U.S.C. 4103(c), (d)(3)–(4); 41 U.S.C. 4104(b); 41 U.S.C. 4106(c)–(d); 41 U.S.C. 6101(b)(1); 41 U.S.C. 1126; 41 U.S.C. 1708(a), (c), (e); Section 880 of Division A, Title VIII of Public Law 115–232; 15 U.S.C. 644; 15 U.S.C. 657q; 15 U.S.C. 631(j); 15 U.S.C. 637(d)–(f), and (h); 13 CFR part 125; 48 CFR 22.404–5; 48 CFR 16.504(c); and 48 CFR 16.505(a)(4) and (5), (a)(8)(i) and (iii), (b).

This waiver does not revoke or supersede any other waiver determination made pursuant to section 102(c) of IIRIRA. Such waivers shall remain in full force and effect in accordance with their terms. I reserve the authority to execute further waivers from time to time as I may determine to be necessary under section 102 of IIRIRA.

Signature

The Acting Secretary of Homeland Security, Chad F. Wolf, having reviewed and approved this document, is delegating the authority to electronically sign this document to Ian J. Brekke, who is Deputy General Counsel for DHS, for purposes of publication in the **Federal Register**.

Ian J. Brekke,

Deputy General Counsel for DHS.

[FR Doc. 2020–29128 Filed 12–30–20; 4:15 pm]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR–7028–N–09]

60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Transfer and Consolidation of Public Housing Programs; OMB Control No.: 2577–0280

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, PIH, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: HUD is seeking approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the information collection described below. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, HUD is requesting comment from all interested parties on the proposed collection of

information. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment.

DATES: *Comments Due Date: March 5, 2021.*

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB Control Number and should be sent to: Colette Pollard, Reports Management Officer, QDAM, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW, Room 4176, Washington, DC 20410-5000; telephone 202-402-3400 (this is not a toll-free number) or email at Colette.Pollard@hud.gov for a copy of the proposed forms or other available information. Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dacia Rogers, Office of Policy, Programs

and Legislative Initiatives, PIH, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW, (L'Enfant Plaza, Room 2206), Washington, DC 20410; telephone 202-402-4109, (this is not a toll-free number). Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number via TTY by calling the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Copies of available documents submitted to OMB may be obtained from Ms. Rogers.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice informs the public that HUD is seeking approval from OMB for the information collection described in Section A.

A. Overview of Information Collection

Title of Information Collection: Public Housing Program—Transfer and Consolidation of Public Housing Programs.

OMB Approval Number: 2577-0280.

Type of Request: Extension of a previously approved collection.

Form Number: N/A.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use: State legislatures or other local governing bodies may from time to time direct or agree that the public interest is best served if one public housing agency (PHA) cedes its public housing program to another PHA, or that two or more PHAs should be combined into one multijurisdictional PHA. This proposed information collection serves to protect HUD's several interests in either transaction: (1) Insuring the continued used of the property as public housing; (2) that HUD's interests are secured; and (3) that the operating and capital subsidies that HUD pays to support the operation and maintenance of public housing is properly paid to the correct PHA on behalf of the correct properties. In addition to submitting documentation to HUD, PHAs are required to make conforming changes to HUD's Public Housing Information Center (PIC).

Total Estimated Burdens:

TOTAL BURDEN HOUR ESTIMATES FOR PHAS

Number of transfer or consolidation actions	Number of respondents	Frequency of requirement *	×	Est. Avg. time for requirement (hours)	=	Est. annual burden (hours)
3 Transfers	6	1		120		720
2 Consolidations	4	1		200		800
Subtotals	10		320		1,520

* The frequency shown assumes that the receiving or consolidated PHA makes one submission for all other PHAs involved in either the transfer or consolidation.

B. Solicitation of Public Comment

This notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected parties concerning the collection of information described in Section A on the following:

(1) 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) The accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information;

(3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond; including through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

HUD encourages interested parties to submit comment in response to these questions.

C. Authority

Section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35.

Dated: December 16, 2020.

Merrie Nichols-Dixon,
Director, Office of Policy, Programs and Legislative Initiatives.

[FR Doc. 2020-28705 Filed 12-31-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-HQ-MB-2020-N157; [FF09M28100, FXMB1231092MFR0, 212]; OMB Control Number 1018-New]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Online Eastern Population Sandhill Crane Survey Data Entry Portal

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), are proposing a new information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before March 5, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Send your comments on the information collection request (ICR) by mail to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MS: PRB (JAO/3W), 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803 (mail); or by email to Info_Coll@fws.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number "1018-Sandhill Cranes" in the subject line of your comments.