

Total Annual Burden: 3,156 hours.

Dated: May 25, 2006.

Roberto Salazar,

Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.

[FR Doc. E6-8655 Filed 6-2-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Information Collection; Request for Comment; Homeowner Risk Reduction Behaviors Concerning Wildfire Risks

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Forest Service is seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on a new, one-time information collection, Homeowner Risk Reduction Behaviors Concerning Wildfire Risks. The information will be collected from homeowner groups, such as homeowners associations, that have been affected by wildfires.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing on or before August 4, 2006 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Comments concerning this notice should be addressed to Dr. Brian Kent, Project Leader, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Forest Service, USDA, 2150 Centre Avenue, Building A, Fort Collins, CO 80526.

Comments also may be submitted via facsimile to (970) 295-5959 or by e-mail to bkent@fs.fed.us.

The public may inspect comments received at the Rocky Mountain Research Station, Forest Service, USDA, 2150 Centre Avenue, Building A, Fort Collins, Colorado, during normal business hours. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to (970) 295-5955 to facilitate entry to the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Brian Kent, Rocky Mountain Research Station, at (970) 295-5955. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 twenty-four hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Homeowner Risk Reduction Behaviors Concerning Wildfire Risks.

OMB Number: 0596-New.

Expiration Date of Approval: N/A.

Type of Request: New.

Abstract: The threat of wildfire to residents located in areas next to

forested public lands has increased significantly during the last decade. As homeowners migrate to areas that are at increased risk from wildfire, they face important decisions regarding how much risk to accept from various sources. An important component of making decisions regarding risk is to understand the behaviors that are effective at reducing the risk and the information sources that are considered reliable for risk reduction information. To gain a better insight into homeowners' perceptions of wildfire risk, behaviors that reduce wildfire risk, and most effective methods of communicating the risk of wildfire, it is important to collect information directly from the homeowners that are at risk. The results of the collection will provide important information for public land managers and private homeowners that will improve the understanding of the issues and options between both groups.

Homeowners located in the wildland-urban interface in areas that were affected by wildfires, will be asked to return surveys. The homeowners are members of organized homeowners associations and their participation is voluntary. The survey will be presented to three focus groups, each comprised of seven Homeowner Association members; after which, the survey will be mailed to homeowners by Integrated Resource Solutions in Boulder, Colorado, operating under a Research Joint Venture with the Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station in Fort Collins, Colorado.

The type of information collection will include: (1) Risk perceptions regarding wildfire, (2) risk reduction behaviors associated with wildfire, (3) sources of information regarding wildfires and wildfire risk reduction, and (4) socio-economic information.

The data collected will be analyzed by Forest Service researchers at the Rocky Mountain Research Station and the following cooperators: Drs. Ingrid and Wade Martin of California State University of Long Beach, Long Beach, California, and Dr. Holly Bender of Integrated Resource Solutions, Boulder, Colorado. The results will be made available to Forest Service land managers, the respondents, and other interested parties.

This information will enhance the ability of Forest Service land managers on National Forests to understand public preferences regarding the management of wildfire risk. Without this type of information, Forest Service land managers and the public will continue to interact on the issues of wildfire risk without a broad-based

understanding of the factors that lessen wildfire risk, factors that are important to homeowners.

Estimate of Annual Burden: 20 minutes for homeowners; 1 hour for each focus group member.

Type of Respondents: Homeowners located in the wildland-urban interface in the western United States.

Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 1,500 homeowners; 21 Homeowner Association focus group participants.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 500 hours—homeowners; 21 hours Homeowner Association focus group members.

Comment Is Invited

Comment is invited on: (1) Whether this collection of information is necessary for the stated purposes and the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical or scientific utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (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 respondents, including the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses when provided, will be a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval.

Dated: May 26, 2006.

Jimmy L. Reaves,

Associate Deputy Chief, Research and Development.

[FR Doc. E6-8641 Filed 6-2-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Choccolocco Creek Multipurpose Dam No. 11, Calhoun County, AL

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability of a finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102[2][c] of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations [40 CFR part 1500]; and the Natural Resources Conservation Service Regulations [7 CFR part 650]; the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, gives notice that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared for the Choccolocco Creek Multipurpose Dam No. 11, Calhoun County, Alabama.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ken Aycock, Hydraulic Engineer, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, 3381 Skyway Drive, Auburn, Alabama 36830, Telephone [334] 887-4525, e-mail ken.aycock@al.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Environmental Assessment of this federally assisted action indicates that the project will not cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. As a result of these findings, Gary Kobylski, State Conservationist, has determined that the preparation and review of an environmental impact statement is not needed for this project.

The project purpose is continued municipal water supply and flood prevention. The planned works of improvement include upgrading an existing municipal water supply, flood-prevention dam.

The Notice of a Finding of No Significant Impact [FONSI] has been forwarded to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and to various Federal, state, and local agencies and interest parties. A limited number of the FONSI are available to fill single copy requests at the above address. Basic data developed during the environmental assessment are on file and may be reviewed by contacting Ken Aycock at the above number.

No administrative action on implementation of the proposal will be taken until 30 days after the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Auburn, Alabama, on May 22, 2006.

Gary Kobylski,

State Conservationist.

[This activity is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under 10.904, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention, and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires inter-government consultation with State and local officials].

Finding of No Significant Impact for Choccolocco Creek Watershed Multipurpose Dam No. 11, Calhoun County, Alabama

May 22, 2006.

Introduction

The Choccolocco Creek Watershed is a federally assisted action authorized for planning under Public Law 106-472, the Small Watershed Rehabilitation Act, which amends Public Law 83-566, the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act. An environmental assessment was undertaken in conjunction with development of the watershed plan. This assessment was conducted in consultation with local, State, and Federal agencies as well as with interested organizations and individuals. Data developed during the assessment are available for public review at the following location: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 3381 Skyway Drive, Auburn, Alabama 36830.

Recommended Action

This document describes a plan for upgrading an existing municipal water supply, and flood-prevention structure, Choccolocco Creek Watershed Multipurpose Dam No. 11 [MPD No. 11], to meet current dam safety criteria for a high-hazard dam. The plan calls for raising the dam with a concrete parapet wall, raising/reinforcing the auxiliary spillway, and reinforcing downstream toe of dam. Works of improvement will be accomplished by providing financial and technical assistance through the Water Works and Sewer Board of the City of Anniston, Alabama.

The principal project measures are to:

1. Construct a concrete parapet wall on top of the existing earth embankment to increase height of dam 5 feet and store flood water from the probable maximum precipitation rainfall event.
2. Raise the auxiliary spillway 0.5 feet and reinforcing the surface utilizing turf reinforcement.
3. Reinforce the downstream toe of dam using grouted riprap.

The measures will be planned and installed by developing a contract with the current operator of the dam.

Effects of Recommended Action

Installing these measures will bring MPD No. 11 into compliance with current dam safety criteria for a high-hazard dam. This will essentially eliminate the risk to loss of life for individuals in 21 homes, 1 water treatment plant, 1 mile of roadway, and 2 bridges. Additional effects will include retention of the municipal water

supply and continued protection against flooding, water quality benefits, fishing activities, recreational opportunities, protected land values, protected road and utility networks, and reduced maintenance costs for public infrastructure.

Wildlife habitat will be minimally disturbed during installation activities since most construction activity will occur on the dam and spillway which are covered in grass. No wetlands, wildlife habitat, fisheries, prime farmland, or cultural resources will be destroyed or threatened by this project. The disturbance of soil from dam modification activities will temporarily impact a 0.5 acre wetland. The 175-acre lake area and the beneficial characteristics it provides to the environment (pollutant filtration, ecological diversity, wildlife habitat, etc.) will be maintained. Fishery habitats will also be maintained.

No endangered or threatened plant or animal species will be adversely affected by the project.

There are no wilderness areas in the watershed.

Alternatives

Six alternative plans of action were considered in project planning. No significant adverse environmental impacts are anticipated from installation of the selected alternative. Also, the planned action is the most practical, complete, and acceptable means of protecting life and property of downstream residents and maintaining the municipal water supply.

Consultation—Public Participation

Original sponsoring organizations include the Water Works and Sewer Board of the City of Anniston, Alabama; Calhoun, Clay, Cleburne, and Talladega County Soil and Water Conservation Districts; Calhoun, Clay, Cleburne, and Talladega County Commissions; and the Choccolocco Creek Watershed Conservancy District. At the initiation of the planning process, meetings were held with representatives of the original sponsoring organizations to ascertain their interest and concerns regarding the Choccolocco Creek Watershed. The Water Works and Sewer Board of the City of Anniston, Alabama, agreed to serve as "lead sponsor" being responsible for leading the planning process with assistance from NRCS. As lead sponsor they also agreed to provide non-Federal cost-share, property rights, operation and maintenance, and public participation during, and beyond, the planning process.

An Interdisciplinary Planning Team provided for the "technical"

administration of this project. Technical administration includes tasks pursuant to the NRCS nine-step planning process, and planning procedures outlined in the NRCS-National Planning Procedures Handbook. Examples of tasks completed by the Planning Team include, but are not limited to, Preliminary Investigations, Hydrologic Analysis, Reservoir Sedimentation Surveys, Economic Analysis, Formulating and Evaluating Alternatives, and Writing the Watershed Plan—Environmental Assessment. Data collected from partner agencies, databases, landowners, and others throughout the entire planning process, were presented at the public meeting on June 28, 2005. Informal discussions amongst planning team members, partner agencies, and landowners were conducted throughout the entire planning period.

Public Participation

A public meeting was held on June 28, 2005 to explain the Small Watershed Rehabilitation Program and to scope resource problems, issues, and concerns of local residents associated with the MPD No. 11 project area. Potential alternative solutions to bring MPD No. 11 into compliance with current dam safety criteria for a high-hazard dam were also presented. Twenty-one meeting participants heard summaries of planning accomplishments to date, provided input on issues and concerns to be considered in the planning process, and identified which planning alternative [*i.e.* No Action, Decommission, Structural, Non-Structural] was most desirable.

Conclusion

The Environmental Assessment summarized above indicates that this Federal action will not cause significant adverse local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. Therefore, based on the above findings, I have determined that an environmental impact statement for the recommended plan of action on Choccolocco Creek Watershed MPD No. 11 is not required.

Dated: May 22, 2006.

Gary Kobylski,

State Conservationist.

[FR Doc. E6-8591 Filed 6-2-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Housing Service's (RHS) intention to request an extension for the currently approved information collection in support of our program for Complaints and Compensation for Construction Defects.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by August 4, 2006 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nica Mathes, Loan Specialist, Single Family Housing Direct Loan Division, RHS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 0783, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0783, Telephone (202) 205-3656.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: RD Instruction 1924-F, "Complaints and Compensation for Construction Defects."

OMB Number: 0575-0082.

Expiration Date of Approval: October 31, 2006.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The Complaints and Compensation for Construction Defects program under section 509C of Title V of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended, provides eligible persons who have structural defects with their Agency financed homes to correct these problems. Structural defects are defects in the dwelling, installation of a manufactured home, or a related facility or a deficiency in the site or site development which directly and significantly reduces the useful life, habitability, or integrity of the dwelling or unit. The defect may be due to faulty material, poor workmanship, or latent causes that existed when the dwelling or unit was constructed. The period in which to place a claim for a defect is within 18 months after the date that financial assistance was granted. If the defect is determined to be structural and is covered by the builders/dealers-contractor's warranty, the contractor is expected to correct the defect. If the contractor cannot or will not correct the defect, the borrower may be compensated for having the defect corrected, under the Complaints and

Compensation for Construction Defects program. Provisions of this subpart do not apply to dwellings financed with guaranteed section 502 loans.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to average .25 hours per response.

Respondents: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 500.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.00.

Estimated Number of Responses: 500.
Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 125 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Brigitte Sumter, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, at (202) 692-0042.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of RHS, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of RHS's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including a variety of 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 Brigitte Sumter, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, STOP 0742, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0743. 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.

Dated: May 26, 2006.

Russell T. Davis,

Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

[FR Doc. E6-8654 Filed 6-2-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XV-P