

the Act in general, and in particular, with Section 6(b)(5), in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, as well as to protect investors and the public interest, by facilitating prompt and accurate trade processing and reporting.

#### *B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition*

The Phlx does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any inappropriate burden on competition.

#### *C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others*

No written comments were either solicited or received.

### **III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action**

Within 35 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days or such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the Phlx consents, the Commission will:

(A) By order approve such proposed rule change, or,

(B) Institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should disapproved.

### **IV. Solicitation of Comments**

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20549. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Section, 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20549. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Phlx. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-Phlx-97-51

and should be submitted by December 31, 1997.

For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>10</sup>

**Margaret H. McFarland,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-32309 Filed 12-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

## **DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

### **[Public Notice 2660]**

#### **Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs; United States Man and the Biosphere Program: Request for Proposals for the Tropical Ecosystems Directorate**

The Tropical Ecosystems Directorate (TED) of the U.S. Man and the Biosphere Program (U.S. MAB) announces a call for proposals to support applied research on the management, harvesting, utilization and marketing of tropical forest resources, both timber and nontimber, in the tri-national Mayan forest of Mexico, Belize and Guatemala.

A small number of grants of \$1000 to \$3500 US each, will be awarded in 1998. Persons interested in applying for these grants are encouraged to first obtain a copy of the TED core project description from the U.S. MAB Secretariat (Roger E. Soles), OES/ETC/MAB, U.S. Department of State, Washington, D.C. 20522-4401. Tel. (202) 776-8318, Fax. (202) 776-8367.

#### **Funding Objectives**

U.S. MAB/TED funding should assist research teams to add a national researcher to their effort as well as to: better integrate conservation and sustainable development; add a particular discipline to an ongoing research project; or explore the application of ongoing site-specific research to an additional site in the Maya Tri-National region. U.S. MAB/TED funding will not be provided for planning purposes.

#### **Focal Issues**

The TED recognizes that strategies to sustainably conserve the Mayan forest must address the needs of the rural communities that live in the forest and use its wild resources. Lack of an adequate knowledge base on the ecology and management of these resource species, nondestructive harvesting methods, and appropriate marketing and commercialization of these

products has negative impacts on the forest, on the resource base, and on local economies. For this reason we continue to invest in the development of new knowledge in these fields through small grants. In order to ensure that this new knowledge will be integrated into ongoing resource management and utilization activities, and to enhance local capacity to continue to produce new information as it is needed, our applied research program focuses on the integration of students or recent graduates (at the Bachelor or Master level), from the three countries into relevant projects led by respected researchers in these fields and linked with NGO's, and preferably local communities, in the region.

#### **Content Requirements and Deadlines for Proposals**

Persons interested should submit a one to two page proposal by February 27, 1998. Each proposal should have: a title page, a one page synopsis of the existing research project, up to five pages detailing the proposed use of U.S. MAB/TED funds that would be complementary to the TED core program, and a one-page budget with justification.

The U.S. MAB/TED will make final decisions by April 6, 1998.

No funds are available for institutional overhead. Only direct costs can be supported.

Funds will be committed to the managing institutions identified in the proposals during May 1998.

#### **Evaluation and Review Process**

Because of limited available funding, U.S. MAB/TED will give the greatest preference to those proposals that directly complement the objectives of the directorate's core program. Proposals will be evaluated for the intrinsic merit of the research or activity, its policy relevance, applicability to promoting sustainable use of tropical forest resources in the Maya Tri-National Region, and the quality and demonstrated productivity of the principals.

Principals will receive from the U.S. MAB Secretariat copies of all U.S. MAB/TED review evaluations of their proposal and a written notification of the directorate's decision on their project.

#### **Submission of Proposals**

Proposals may be submitted in Spanish or English to U.S. MAB Secretariat, OES/ETC/MAB, Room 107, SA-44C, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20522-4401.

<sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

Individuals choosing to submit their proposals by Express Mail, Federal Express, UPS, etc. must use the following address: U.S. MAB Secretariat, Room 107, 2430 E Street NW, Washington, DC 20520.

Dated: November 28, 1997.

**Roger E. Soles,**

*Executive Director, U.S. Man and the Biosphere Program, Office of Ecology and Terrestrial Conservation.*

[FR Doc. 97-32226 Filed 12-9-97; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Office of the Secretary**

**Reports, Forms and Recordkeeping Requirements, Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published in 62 FR 43416, August 13, 1997.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before January 9, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sylvia Barney, (202) 366-6680 and refer to the OMB Control Number.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Federal Transit Administration (FTA)**

*Title:* 49 U.S.C Section 5310-Capital Assistance Program for Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities and Section 5311-Nonurbanized Area Formula Program.

*Type of Request:* Reinstatement, without change, of a previous approved collection for which approval has expired.

*OMB Control Number:* 2132-0500.

*Form(s):* N/A.

*Affected Public:* State and local government, business or other for-profit institutions, non-profit institutions, and small business organizations.

*Abstract:* The Capital Assistance Program for Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities provides financial assistance for the specialized transportation service needs of elderly

persons and persons with disabilities. The program is administered by the States and may be used in all areas, urbanized, small urban, and rural. The Nonurbanized Area Formula Program provides financial assistance for the provision of public transportation services in nonurbanized areas and this program is also administered by the States. 49 U.S.C. Sections 5310 and 5311 authorize FTA to review applications for federal financial assistance to determine eligibility and compliance with statutory and administrative requirements. Information collected during the application stage includes the project budget, which identifies funds requested for project implementation; a program of projects, which identifies subrecipients to be funded, the amount of funding that each will receive, and a description of the projects to be funded; the project implementation plan; the State management plan; a list of annual certifications and assurances; and public hearings notice, certification and transcript. The applications must contain sufficient information to enable FTA to make the findings required by law to enforce the program requirements. Information collected during the project management stage includes an annual financial status report, an annual program status report, and pre-award and post-delivery audits. The annual financial report and program status report provide a basis for monitoring approved projects to ensure timely and appropriate expenditure of federal funds by grant recipients.

*Estimated Annual Burden Hours:* 11,370.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725-17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, Attention FTA Desk Officer.

Comments are Invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Issued in Washington, DC, on December 3, 1997.

**Vanester M. Williams,**

*Clearance Officer, United States Department of Transportation.*

[FR Doc. 97-32262 Filed 12-9-97; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Office of the Secretary**

**Reports, Forms and Recordkeeping Requirements Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 3501, *et seq.*) this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published in 62 FR 41462, August 1, 1997.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received on or before January 9, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jack Schmidt, Office of Aviation and International Economics, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh St. SW, Washington, DC 20590 at (202) 366-5420 or (202) 366-7638 (FAX).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Office of the Secretary**

*Title:* Information Collection of Data on Passenger Travel by Air.

*OMB Control Number:* 2105-0535.

*Affected Public:* All U.S. airlines providing scheduled passenger service and all computer reservations systems (CRSs) operating in the United States.

*Abstract:* The requested extension of the information collection contained in approved control number 2105-0535 covers the data necessary to complete the Study of Rural Air Fares that was required by the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-264). This study, among other things, was to analyze air fares paid between small communities and large hub airports with fares between large hub airports.