

# Notices

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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

January 20, 1999.

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 or 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, D.C. 20503 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OClO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, D.C. 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured by having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-6746.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it

displays a currently valid OMB control number.

### Forest Service

*Title:* National Survey on Recreation and the Environment.

*OMB Control Number:* 0596-0127.

*Summary of Collection:* The National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (NSRE) 2000, which began in 1960 as the primary source of recreation data from the U.S. population, is the latest in a series of surveys conducted by the Forest Service (FS). This information is vital for federal land managing agencies to obtain an understanding of the outdoor recreation participation levels and preferences of the American people so that effective policy making, planning, and decision-making can occur. Information from the survey is shared with and relied upon by organizations outside the federal government including educational institutions, private sector companies, state agencies, and other governmental organizations as the fundamental source of outdoor recreation trend and demand data on a national scale. The survey will be administered using a statistically valid sampling methodology through computer-assisted telephone interviewing techniques.

*Need and Use of the Information:* The Forest Service will collect information nationally from the public to assess trends in recreation participation over the years since the survey was last conducted and to estimate demand for outdoor recreation among the U.S. population. In addition, the survey will collect information from the public on people's attitudes and values toward natural resources and their management. The information will be used by the Forest Service and other federal agencies to develop long-range strategic plans, adjust programs and activities to meet customer needs and expectations, and better manage federally owned lands.

*Description of Respondents:* Individuals or households.

*Number of Respondents:* 40,000.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: Other (one time).

*Total Burden Hours:* 13,333.

### Forest Service

*Title:* The Wildland-Urban Interface Series.

*OMB Control Number:* 0596-NEW.

*Summary of Collection:* Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-307) directs the Secretary of Agriculture to research the multiple uses and products, including recreation, of forests and rangelands to facilitate their most effective use. Study results will be provided to resource managers in the areas studied, as well as to managers across the United States addressing urban national forest, to enable more effective management of those areas. Results will also inform managers of broader community recreation patterns, interests, and resource concerns. A direct benefit to the public is anticipated through improvements in customer service, more informed recreation management decisions, and increased attention to the diverse customers served by the National Forests. Forest Service (FS) will collect information using a study provided to resource managers and a questionnaire given to potential respondents.

*Need and Use of the Information:* FS will collect information to assist resource managers in their effective management of recreation activities in the region studied and, in addition, the Wildland Recreation and Urban Culture Project will use the information to further expand its information base on visitor characteristics, communication, and mitigation of depreciative behaviors such as vandalism. Participants will be asked to answer a questionnaire on the following topics (1a) age, gender, and education; (1b) National Forest visitation history and patterns; (2) identification of leisure activities in which visitors participate; (3) how they heard about the area; (4a) how they would rate amenities; (4b) accessibility for a wide-range of individuals, including those with special needs; (5a) knowledge of natural resource and wilderness areas and policies regarding those areas; (5b) how closely visitors identify with the National Forest or recreation area; (6) preference about different management options (limit number of people on trails versus limit access to trails, increase levels of user knowledge by brochures, nature walk, signs versus require users to have taken an educational program; (7a) gain visitor's suggestions on different penalties for depreciative actions; (7b) personal and or group participation in environmentally responsible and

depreciative acts, as well as the extent to which visitors observe them; (8) experience of conflict within and between user groups and managing agency representatives. If the information is not collected resource managers will have to make visitor based decisions on very limited, potentially biased, or non-existent information.

*Description of Respondents:*

Individuals or households.

*Number of Respondents:* 3,000.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 750.

**National Food and Agriculture Council (NFAC)**

*Title:* Customer Service Information Collections for USDA Service Centers 1999–2001.

*OMB Control Number:* New.

*Summary of Collection:* The National Food and Agriculture Council (NFAC), and partner agencies in the USDA Service Center, help the USDA meet the requirements of the President's Executive Order 12862, "Setting Customer Service Standards," which requires agencies to annually "survey customers to determine the kind and quality of services they want and their level of satisfaction with existing services." Improved customer service is the core mission of the USDA Service Centers and participating partner agencies, according to the Secretary. The Service Center Customer Service Team is requesting a generic clearance for customer service information collection activities. The Customer Service Team will collect information using telephone surveys, comment and complaint cards, structured interviews, focus groups and benchmarking studies.

*Need and Use of the Information:* The Customer Service Team will collect information to develop and publish customer service standards for USDA Service Centers; develop a feedback system for USDA Service Center customer complaints and comments; establish performance measures consistent with GPRA requirements for the information technology investments and the strategic plans of the USDA Service Center partner agencies; and support evaluations of proposed improvements in service and analyses of service delivery by significant demographic and social characteristics. NFAC and the USDA Service Center partner agencies plan to use this information to help meet their responsibilities under GPRA, to improve operations in the USDA Service Center by preserving helpful activities and implementing needed changes.

*Description of Respondents:* Individuals or households.

*Number of Respondents:* 56,970.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: On occasion; Annually; Other: When need arises as determined by the managing and coordinating group Quality Customer Service Team.

*Total Burden Hours:* 11,180.

**Nancy B. Sternberg,**

*Departmental Clearance Officer.*

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BILLING CODE 3410–01–M

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Agricultural Marketing Service**

[Docket No. FV99–997–1 NC]

**Notice for Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection**

**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) intention to request an extension for and revision to a currently approved information collection in support of the Provisions Regulating the Quality of Domestically Produced Peanuts Handled by Persons Not Subject to the Marketing Agreement No. 146 based on changes in program requirements.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by March 26, 1999.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS:** Contact Dawana Johnson, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, P.O. Box 96456, Room 2525–S, Washington, DC, 20090–6456, Telephone: (202) 720–1755 or Fax: (202) 720–5698.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Provisions Regulating the Quality of Domestically Produced Peanuts Handled by Person's Not Subject to the Peanut Marketing Agreement.

*OMB Number:* 0581–0163.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* September 30, 1999.

*Type of Request:* Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

*Abstract:* Under authority of the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 (Act), as amended (7 U.S.C. 601–674), Peanut Marketing Agreement No. 146 and the Peanut Administrative Committee (Committee) were

established by the Secretary in 1965 to minimize aflatoxin contamination in peanuts and peanut products. The Agreement was signed by a majority of domestic peanut handlers (signatory handlers). The Committee works with AMS in administering the Agreement.

Pub. L. 101–220, enacted December 12, 1989, amended section 608b of the Act to require that all handlers who have not signed the Agreement (non-signatory handlers) be subject to quality, handling, and inspection requirements to the same extent and manner as are required under the Agreement.

Regulations to implement Pub. L. 101–220 were issued and made effective on December 4, 1990 (55 FR 49983). It is estimated that 5 percent of the domestic peanut crop is marketed by non-signatory handlers and the remainder of the crop is handled by signatory handlers.

The objective of the Agreement and the non-signatory handling regulations (7 CFR part 997) is to ensure that only wholesome peanuts enter edible market channels. Under both regulations, farmers stock peanuts with visible *Aspergillus flavus* mold (the principle source of aflatoxin) are required to be diverted to non-edible uses. Both regulations also provide that shelled peanuts meeting minimum outgoing quality requirements must be chemically analyzed for aflatoxin contamination.

Peanut handlers are business entities that buy raw peanuts from farmers and process them into shelled product (kernels) that is sold to manufacturers who make peanut butter and other peanut products. Under this information collection burden, peanut handlers are respondents and recordkeepers.

A proposed and final rulemaking process, which became effective in January 1997, dramatically reduced the number of information collection burden hours for all domestic peanut handlers. The number of forms required to be filed by non-signatory peanut handlers was reduced from 11 forms to only 2 forms. That action was taken to be consistent with reductions in the reporting requirements made to the Agreement regulations and applied to signatory peanut handlers. The information collection burden for signatory handlers (OMB No. 0581–0067) was revised and approved July 27, 1998. This information collection burden report registers similar reductions in the number of forms and information collection burden for non-signer handlers.

Information formerly needed from the 11 forms has been condensed into 2 forms that must be filed by non-signer