

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND
URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

[Docket No. FR-4497-N-04]

**Public Housing Assessment System
(PHAS): Transition Assistance on
Compliance With Management
Indicator #5; PHA Annual Inspection of
Units**

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, and Office of the Director of the Real Estate Assessment Center, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice is a follow-up to the PHAS notice published on October 21, 1999, which advised of transition assistance in connection with implementation of the PHAS for public housing agencies (PHAs) with fiscal years ending September 30, 1999, and December 31, 1999. The October 21, 1999, notice advised that these PHAs would not be issued a PHAS score for their 1999 fiscal years, but would be issued a management assessment score based on HUD's assessment of the PHA's management operations in accordance with 24 CFR part 902, subpart D. This notice provides information to PHAs on how to meet the requirements of Management Indicator #5 (PHA annual inspection of units and systems) of this subpart.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wanda Funk, Real Estate Assessment Center, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 1280 Maryland Avenue, SW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20024; telephone REAC's Customer Service Center at (888) 245-4860 (this is a toll free number). Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number via TTY by calling the Federal Information Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additional information is available from the REAC web site at <<http://www.hud.gov/reac/>>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Purpose of the Notice

On September 1, 1998, HUD issued two final rules: (1) the Uniform Physical Condition Standards (UPCS) and Physical Inspection Requirements for Certain HUD Housing (63 FR 35650), with regulations codified at 24 CFR part 5; and (2) the Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS) (63 FR 46596), with regulations codified at 24 CFR part 902. The UPCS are incorporated in subpart B of the final PHAS rule. Subpart D of the PHAS rule, titled Management Operations, requires

PHAs to inspect their units and systems using the UPCS (see § 902.43(a)(5)).

The PHAS rule (§ 902.60) requires PHAs with fiscal years ending (FYE) on and after September 30, 1999, to submit an electronic certification regarding their performance relative to each management indicator. Section 902.43(a)(5) of the rule which addresses Management Indicator #5 titled "PHA annual inspection of units and systems" requires a PHA's inspection to utilize the HUD uniform physical condition standards set forth in subpart of part 902. Therefore, a PHA's certification under § 902.60 must include a statement that the units were inspected using the UPCS.

In October 1998, HUD made available to the public through its web site a demonstration version of the UPCS inspection software that the REAC uses to conduct inspections (see <http://www.hud.gov/reac/>). HUD also made available through its web site the training guidebook that the REAC uses to train HUD inspectors. Additionally, the REAC just recently made available a public use version of its inspection software through its Customer Service Center.

In the next few months, HUD plans to make available a list of training vendors that have been approved to provide training to the PHAs and other HUD program participants on the UPCS. Given that these products were only recently made available by HUD, HUD recognizes that PHAs with fiscal years ending September 30, 1999, and December 31, 1999, will not be able to certify that inspections of units were made in accordance with the UPCS.

This notice therefore advises PHAs with fiscal years ending September 30, 1999, and December 31, 1999 that they may meet the requirements of Management Indicator #5 by certifying that their occupied units were inspected in accordance with HUD's Section 8 Certificate Program Housing Quality Standards (HQS).

Since 1992, PHAs have been required to conduct inspections under the regulations of the Public Housing Management Assessment Program (24 CFR part 901) using local code or the Section 8 Certificate Program Housing Quality Standards (HQS), whichever is more stringent. The standards and the items to be inspected under the HQS and the UPCS are substantially equivalent.

Consistent with HUD's October 21, 1999, notice to provide transition assistance in connection with implementation of the PHAS to PHAs with FYs ending September 30, 1999, and December 31, 1999, and given that

HUD only recently released its UPCS inspection software and training guidebook, PHAs with FYEs of September 30, 1999, and December 31, 1999, that conducted annual unit and system inspections using the HQS and HQS form will be deemed to have inspected using the UPCS for the purpose of the Management Operations certification under the PHAS rule.

Dated: December 13, 1999.

Harold Lucas,

Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing.

Donald J. LaVoy,

Acting Director of the Real Estate Assessment Center.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service
**Endangered Species Permit
Applications**

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of permit applications.

SUMMARY: The following applicants have applied for a scientific research permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Permit No. TE-003269

Applicant: Robert James, San Diego, California

The permittee requests an amendment to take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*) in conjunction with presence or absence surveys throughout its range for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-007581

Applicant: Tito Alejandro Marchant, Newport Beach, California

The applicant requests a permit to take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*) and Delhi Sands flower loving fly (*Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis*) in conjunction with presence or absence surveys throughout each species range for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

Permit No. TE-008482

Applicant: Danielle Flynn, San Diego, California

The applicant requests a permit to take (survey by pursuit) the Quino