

Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

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.

Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service

Title: Export Certification, Accreditation of Non-Government Facilities.

OMB Control Number: 0579–0130.

Summary of Collection: The Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is responsible for preventing plant diseases or insect pests from entering the United States, as well as, the spread of pests not widely distributed in the United States, and eradicating those imported when eradication is feasible. The Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701 *et seq.*), authorizes the Department to carry out this mission. In addition to its mission, APHIS provides export certification services to ensure other countries that the plants and plant products they are receiving from the United States are free of plant diseases and insect pests.

Need and Use of the Information: The accreditation process requires the use of several information activities to ensure that nongovernment facilities applying for accreditation processes the necessary qualifications. APHIS will collect information for applications submitted by operator/owner of a non-government facility seeking accreditation to conduct laboratory testing or phytosanitary inspection. The application should contain the legal name and full address of the facility, the name, address, telephone and fax numbers of the facility’s operator, a description of the facility, and a description of the specific laboratory testing or phytosanitary inspection services for which the facility is seeking accreditation. If these activities are not conducted properly, APHIS export certification program would be compromised, causing a disruption in plant and plant product exports that could prove financially damaging to U.S. exporters.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for profit; State, local and Tribal government.

Number of Respondents: 9.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: on occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 209.

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Title: Importation of Live Swine (from Certain Regions), Pork, and Pork Products.

OMB Control Number: 0579–0230.

Summary of Collection: The Animal Health Protection Act (AHPA) of 2002 is the primary Federal law governing the protection of animal health. The law gives the Secretary of Agriculture broad authority to detect, control, or eradicate pests or diseases of livestock or poultry. The regulations under which the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) conducts disease prevention activities are contained in title 9, chapter 1, subchapter D, part 94. These regulations place certain restrictions on the importation of swine, pork, and pork products into the United States. Regulations regarding other animal products and byproducts can be found at 95 and 112.

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS will collect information to ensure regulatory compliance for mitigation of classical swine fever (CSF) from imports of swine (from certain regions), pork, and pork products into the United States. To ensure this the regulations include information collection activities such as certification for importation of pork or pork products; application of seal; location and reason for breaking seal and application of new seal; termination of agreement; request for approval of defrost facility; request hearing for denial or approval of defrost facility; application for import of small amounts of pork or pork products; cooperative service agreement; notification of Customs and Border Protection inspectors for pork from specific regions; recordkeeping requirements for certificates; certificates for meat processed in tubes; certification for importation of hams; agreement for processing procedures; identification procedures; recordkeeping for processing origin of hams; and program statements.

If this information were collected less frequently or not collected at all, the United States would be at increased risk for the introduction of rinderpest, FMD, SF, CSF and SVD. This would cause serious economic consequences to U.S. Agricultural exports and several U.S. livestock industries, and have potentially serious health consequences for U.S. livestock.

Description of Respondents: Full-time, salaried veterinary officers employed by the governments of Brazil,

Chile, and Mexico; industry representatives; and U.S. importers.

Number of Respondents: 781.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 179,712.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2023–17193 Filed 8–10–23; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS–2023–0056]

Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy; Importation of Animals and Animal Products

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Extension of approval of an information collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service’s intention to request an extension of approval of an information collection associated with activities to prevent the introduction of bovine spongiform encephalopathy into the United States.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before October 10, 2023.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to www.regulations.gov. Enter APHIS–2023–0056 in the Search field. Select the Documents tab, then select the Comment button in the list of documents.

- *Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:* Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS–2023–0056, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A–03.8, 4700 River Road, Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737–1238.

Supporting documents and any comments we receive on this docket may be viewed at regulations.gov or in our reading room, which is located in room 1620 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 799–7039 before coming.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the regulations to prevent the introduction of bovine spongiform encephalopathy into the United States, contact Dr. Alexandra MacKenzie, Senior Veterinary Medical Officer, Veterinary Services, APHIS, USDA, 4700 River Road, Unit 40, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 851-3411; alexandra.mackenzie@usda.gov. For information on the information collection reporting process, contact Mr. Joseph Moxey, APHIS' Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, at (301) 851-2483; joseph.moxey@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy; Importation of Animals and Animal Products.

OMB Control Number: 0579-0393.

Type of Request: Extension of approval of an information collection.

Abstract: The Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 *et seq.*) authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to, among other things, prohibit or restrict the importation and interstate movement of animals and animal products into or through the United States to prevent the introduction and dissemination of animal diseases and pests.

To guard against the introduction of animal diseases, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) regulates the importation of animals and animal products into the United States. The regulations in 9 CFR parts 92, 93, 94, 95, and 96 govern the importation of certain animals, birds, poultry, meat, and other animal products and byproducts into the United States to prevent the introduction of various animal diseases, including bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), a chronic degenerative disease that affects the central nervous system of cattle.

Section 92.5 of the regulations provides that all countries of the world are considered by APHIS to be in one of three BSE risk categories: Negligible risk, controlled risk, or undetermined risk. These risk categories are defined in § 92.1. Any region that is not classified by APHIS as presenting either negligible risk or controlled risk for BSE is considered to present an undetermined risk. Under the regulations, APHIS may classify a region for BSE in one of two ways. One way is for countries that have not received a risk classification from the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH)¹ to request

classification by APHIS. The other way is for APHIS to concur with the classification given to a country by WOAH.

To ensure BSE is not introduced into the United States, the regulations place specific conditions on the importation of animals and animal products. These requirements necessitate the use of several information collection activities, including, but not limited to, certifications, official identification, request for and retention of classification as negligible or controlled risk, declarations of importation, import and export certificates, applications, import and movement permits, agreements, certification statements, seals, notifications, and recordkeeping.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of these information collection activities for an additional 3 years.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:

- (1) Evaluate 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;
- (2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies; *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

Estimate of burden: The public burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.639 hours per response.

Respondents: Shippers, U.S. importers of regulated animal products, herd owners, salaried veterinarians of foreign regions, foreign exporters of processed animal protein and other regulated materials and products, accredited veterinarians, slaughter facility managers, and educators and researchers.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 150.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 6,922.

Estimated annual number of responses: 1,038,336.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 663,778 hours. (Due to

averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

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.

Done in Washington, DC, this 2nd day of August 2023.

Michael Watson,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 2023-17199 Filed 8-10-23; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Alabama Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Alabama Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will hold a public meeting according to the details shown below. The committee is authorized under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (the Act) and operates in compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended. The purpose of the committee is to improve collaborative relationships and to provide advice and recommendations to the Forest Service concerning projects and funding consistent with Title II of the Act, as well as to make recommendations on recreation fee proposals for sites on the National Forests in Alabama, consistent with the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act.

DATES: An in-person and virtual meeting will be held on September 21, 2023, 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Central Standard Time.

Written and Oral Comments: Anyone wishing to provide in-person and virtual oral comments must pre-register by 11:59 p.m. Central Standard Time on September 17, 2023. Written public comments will be accepted by 11:59 p.m. Central Standard Time on September 17, 2023. Comments submitted after this date will be provided to the Forest Service, but the Committee may not have adequate time to consider those comments prior to the meeting.

All RAC meetings are subject to cancellation. For status of the meeting prior to attendance, please contact the

¹ The World Organization for Animal Health internationally follows a British English spelling of "organization" in its name; it was formerly the Office International des Epizooties, or OIE, but on May 28, 2022, the Organization announced that the acronym was changed from OIE to WOAH.