

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

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 97-109-1]

Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection

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 in support of the export of poultry and poultry hatching eggs from the United States.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by January 13, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Send comments regarding the accuracy of burden estimate, ways to minimize the burden (such as through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology), or any other aspect of this collection of information to: Docket No. 97-109-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, suite 3C03, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please send an original and three copies, and state that your comments refer to Docket 97-109-1. Comments received may be inspected at USDA, room 1141, South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect comments are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the comment reading room.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: For information regarding the Certificate for Poultry and Hatching Eggs for Export,

contact Dr. Andrea Morgan, Senior Staff Veterinarian, Animals Program, National Center for Import and Export, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 39, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236, (301) 734-8068. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Ms. Celeste Sickles, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 734-7477.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Certificate for Poultry and Hatching Eggs for Export
OMB Number: 0579-0048.

Expiration Date of Approval: June 30, 1998.

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

Abstract: The export of agricultural commodities, including poultry and hatching eggs, is a major business in the United States and contributes to a favorable balance of trade. In accordance with 21 U.S.C. 112 and 113, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS), collects information and conducts inspections to ensure that poultry and hatching eggs exported from the United States are free of communicable diseases. Receiving countries have specific health requirements for poultry and hatching eggs exported from the United States. Most countries require a certification that our poultry and hatching eggs are disease free. This certification generally must carry the USDA seal and be endorsed by an APHIS veterinarian. VS Form 17-6, Certificate for Poultry and Hatching Eggs for Export, is generally used to meet these requirements.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve the continued use of this information collection activity.

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

- (1) Evaluate whether the proposed 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 proposed 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 reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .5 hours per response.

Respondents: U.S. exporters of poultry and hatching eggs, Federal veterinarians, accredited veterinarians.

Estimated number of respondents: 300.

Estimated number of responses per respondent: 70.

Estimated annual number of responses: 21,000.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 10,500 hours.

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 7th day of November 1997.

Charles Schwalbe,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 97-29992 Filed 11-13-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 97-001-3]

Handling, Training, and Exhibition of Potentially Dangerous Exotic or Wild Animals

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of reopening and extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: We are reopening and extending the comment period for our notice requesting information concerning what practices are currently used for handling and training potentially dangerous exotic or wild animals used in exhibition (such as, but

not limited to, elephants, lions, or tigers), and what training and experience levels trainers and handlers of such animals have. This reopening and extension will provide interested groups and individuals with additional time to prepare comments on the request for information.

DATES: Consideration will be given only to comments on Docket No. 97-001-1 that are received on or before December 12, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Please send an original and three copies of your comments to Docket No. 97-001-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Suite 3C03, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comments refer to Docket No. 97-001-1. Comments received may be inspected at USDA, room 1141, South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect comments are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the comment reading room.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Stephen Smith, Staff Animal Health Technician, Animal Care, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 84, Riverdale, MD 20737-1234, (301) 734-7833.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On July 24, 1997, we published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 39802, Docket No. 97-001-1) a notice requesting information concerning the training and handling of potentially dangerous wild and exotic animals used in exhibition in order to obtain a better understanding of the issues pertaining to their welfare. Comments on the request for information were required to be received on or before September 22, 1997. On September 22, 1997, we published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 49468-49469, Docket No. 97-001-2) a notice that reopened and extended the comment period for an additional 45 days, to November 6, 1997.

In the notice requesting information, we said we were most interested in receiving information that is in the form of published industry standards, published reports in peer-reviewed journals, studies, and objective scientific data. We have been made aware that several industry associations interested in submitting information have been unable to complete their consultation with members of their associations in order to compile information on accepted industry standards for the handling and training

of exotic or wild animals. We believe this information would be helpful to us in obtaining a better understanding of the issues pertaining to the welfare of exotic or wild animals used in exhibition.

In order that these groups can have time to compile the requested information, we are reopening and extending the comment period on Docket No. 97-001-1 to December 12, 1997. This action will also allow any other interested groups and individuals additional time to prepare and submit comments.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 2131-2159; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.2(g).

Done in Washington, DC, this 7th day of November 1997.

Charles Schwalbe,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 97-29991 Filed 11-13-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Deschutes Provincial Interagency Executive Committee (PIEC), Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Deschutes PIEC Advisory Committee will meet on December 1, 1997 at Rock Springs Guest Ranch 7 miles north of Bend, OR. The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and finish at 5:00 p.m. Agenda items include: (1) Completion of comments on the DEIS documents for the Eastside Ecosystem project, (2) Monitoring Reports, (3) Update on Working Groups (4) Open Public Forum. All Deschutes Province Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mollie Chaudet, Province Liaison, USDA, Bend-Fort Rock Ranger District, 1230 N. E. 3rd, Bend, Oregon 97701, 541-383-4769.

Sally Collins,

Deschutes National Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 97-29917 Filed 11-13-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List Additions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Additions to the Procurement List.

SUMMARY: This action adds to the Procurement List services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 15, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Square 3, Suite 403, 1735 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-3461.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Milkman (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 11, August 1, 8, September 5 and 12, 1997, the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notices (62 F.R. 37192, 41339, 42745, 46944 and 48050) of proposed additions to the Procurement List.

After consideration of the material presented to it concerning capability of qualified nonprofit agencies to provide the services and impact of the additions on the current or most recent contractors, the Committee has determined that the services listed below are suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 46-48c and 41 CFR 51-2.4.

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the services to the Government.
2. The action will not have a severe economic impact on current contractors for the services.
3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the services to the Government.
4. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the services proposed for addition to the Procurement List.

Accordingly, the following services are hereby added to the Procurement List: