to the Chief Procurement Officer, and transfers all procurement authority for the Department to the Chief Procurement Officer.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 6, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Edward L. Girovasi, Jr., Director, Policy and Field Operations Division, Office of Procurement and Contracts, Room 5262, 451 7th Street SW., Washington, DC 20410, (202) 708–0294 (this is not a toll-free number). Hearing or speech-impaired individuals may access this number via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at 1–800–877–8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: HUD is implementing a major agency-wide improvement effort. The details of this reform effort are set forth in the HUD 2020 Management Reform Plan, which was published in the **Federal Register** on August 12, 1997 (62 FR 43204). The reforms are directed toward: (1) empowering people and communities to improve themselves; and (2) restoring the public trust in the Department's programs and operations.

As part of Secretary Cuomo's efforts to redesign the contract performance process to improve management oversight and operations, the Secretary recently created the position of Chief Procurement Officer. The Chief Procurement Officer, who will report directly to the Deputy Secretary, will be responsible for all Departmental procurement activities and for leading the implementation of contracting best practices and reforms.

This Notice presents a major step toward reforming the Department's procurement activities. In this Notice, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development revokes the Notice of Delegation of Authority published in the **Federal Register** on April 15, 1994 (59 FR 18276), which designated the Assistant Secretary for Administration as the Department's Senior Procurement Executive, and which delegated all procurement authority for the Department to the Assistant Secretary for Administration. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development then designates the Chief Procurement Officer as the Department's Senior Procurement Executive and delegates all procurement authority for the Department to the Chief Procurement Officer.

Accordingly, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development hereby revokes, designates and delegates as follows:

Section A. Authority Revoked

This document revokes the Notice of Delegation of Authority published in the **Federal Register** on April 15, 1994 (59 FR 18276), which designated the Assistant Secretary for Administration as the Department's Senior Procurement Executive, and which delegated all procurement authority for the Department to the Assistant Secretary for Administration.

Section B. Designation and Delegation of Authority

The Chief Procurement Officer is herein designated as the Department's Senior Procurement Executive, and is authorized to exercise all duties, responsibilities, and powers of the Secretary with respect to Departmental procurement. The authority delegated to the Chief Procurement Officer includes the following duties, responsibilities and powers:

1. Authority to enter into, administer, and/or terminate all procurement contracts and interagency agreements within the Department and make related determinations and findings. Included within the authority delegated herein is the authority to order debarment, suspension, and/or limited denial of participation sanctions, pursuant to HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 24.

2. Responsibility for procurement program development, including:

(a) Implementation of procurement initiatives, best practices, and reforms;

(b) In coordination with the Office of Federal Procurement Policy, determination of specific areas where Government-wide performance standards should be established and applied, and development of Government-wide procurement policies, regulations, and standards;

(c) Establishment and maintenance of an evaluation program for all procurement activities within the Department;

(d) Development of programs to enhance the professionalism of the Department's procurement work force, including the establishment of educational, training and experience requirements for procurement personnel; and,

(e) Development of all Departmental procurement policy, regulations and procedures.

Section C. Authority To Issue Rules and Regulations

The Chief Procurement Officer is authorized to issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the authority delegated under Section B.

Section D. Authority To Redelegate

The Chief Procurement Officer is authorized to redelegate to qualified employees of the Department any of the authority delegated under Section B.

Authority: 41 U.S.C. 414(2) and (3); Sec. 7(d), Department of Housing and Urban Development Act (42 U.S.C. 3535(d)).

Dated: October 6, 1998.

Andrew Cuomo,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–27313 Filed 10–9–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210–32–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR–4386–D–01]

Revocation and Redelegation of Procurement Authority

AGENCY: Office of the Chief Procurement Officer, HUD.

ACTION: Notice of revocation and redelegation of procurement authority.

SUMMARY: In this Notice, the Chief Procurement Officer revokes all current redelegations of procurement authority and redelegates procurement authority to the Director, Office of Procurement and Contracts. The Director, Office of Procurement and Contracts further redelegates certain procurement authority to each Director, Field Contracting Operations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 6, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Edward L. Girovasi, Jr., Director, Policy and Field Operations Division, Office of Procurement and Contracts, Room 5262, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW, Washington, DC 20410; telephone (202) 708–0294 (this is not a toll-free number). Hearing or speech-impaired individuals may access this number via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at 1–800–877–8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: HUD is implementing a major agency-wide improvement effort. The details of this reform effort are set forth in the HUD 2020 Management Reform Plan, which was published in the **Federal Register** on August 12, 1997 (62 FR 43204). The reforms are directed toward: (1) empowering people and communities to improve themselves; and (2) restoring the public trust in the Department's programs and operations.

In an accompanying Notice published elsewhere in today's **Federal Register**, the Secretary of HUD transfers the designation of Senior Procurement Executive from the Assistant Secretary for Administration to the Chief Procurement Officer, and transfers all Departmental procurement authority to

the Chief Procurement Officer. In this Notice, the Chief Procurement Officer revokes all existing procurement authority previously redelegated, including the Notice of Revocation and Redelegation of Procurement Authority published in the **Federal Register** on August 4, 1995 (60 FR 39963), and with respect to the Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA), the Notice of Redelegation of Procurement Authority, published in the **Federal Register** on April 15, 1994 (59 FR 18277). The Chief Procurement Officer then redelegates this authority to the Director, Office of Procurement and Contracts, with authority to make further redelegations to qualified headquarters and field staff. The Director, Office of Procurement and Contracts further redelegates certain authority to each Director, Field Contracting Operations.

While this Notice revokes GNMA's procurement authority with respect to GNMA's programmatic functions, this Notice does not preclude or limit the authority of GNMA to enter into and enforce its non-procurement agreements with the issuers of mortgage-backed securities, to guarantee such securities and to exercise its ownership rights in the mortgages constituting the trust or pool against which the securities are issued, as authorized under section 306(g) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1721) and 24 CFR part 300 *et seq.*

As a result of these changes, all operational contracting activities, except simplified acquisitions and contract ordering, will be performed by Office of Procurement and Contracts staff in headquarters and field offices. Consolidating all operational activity within a single office, which reports directly to the Chief Procurement Officer, will assure that the Department's procurement reform initiatives and policies are implemented in a consistent manner.

Accordingly, the Chief Procurement Officer revokes and redelegates authority, and the Director, Office of Procurement and Contracts further redelegates authority as follows:

Section A. Authority Revoked

This document revokes the Notice of Revocation and Redelegation of Procurement Authority published in the **Federal Register** on August 4, 1995 (60 FR 39963), which had previously redelegated all Departmental procurement authority. Included within the authority revoked by the present document is procurement authority with respect to GNMA's programmatic functions, which had been redelegated to the President of GNMA in the Notice of Redelegation of Procurement Authority, published in the **Federal Register** on April 15, 1994 (59 FR 18277), and was left unchanged by the August 4, 1995 **Federal Register** notice.

Section B. Authority Redelegated

The Chief Procurement Officer, designated as the Department's Senior Procurement Executive, redelegates to the Director, Office of Procurement and Contracts, designated as the Department's principal Contracting Officer, the power and authority to:

1. Enter into, administer, and/or terminate all procurement contracts and interagency agreements for property and services required by the Department (including the placement of paid advertisements in newspapers) and make related determinations and findings;

2. Order debarment, suspension, and/or limited denial of participation sanctions, pursuant to HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 24; and

3. Further redelegate the following authority which has been redelegated in this notice, to the headquarters and field personnel identified below, provided they meet experience, education, and training requirements established by the Chief Procurement Officer:

(a) The authority identified in Section B.1. above, to qualified headquarters Office of Procurement and Contracts personnel by way of Certificates of Appointment;

(b) The authority identified in Section B.1. above, and the authority to order limited denial of participation sanctions identified in Section B.2. above, to the Directors, Field Contracting Operations; and

(c) To qualified Departmental employees, the authority to engage in the following purchasing procedures:

(i) Simplified acquisitions (FAR Part 13);

(ii) Issuance of orders under contracts established by other Government sources (FAR Part 8, e.g., GSA Federal Supply Schedules) or under pre-priced indefinite-delivery contracts established by the Department; and

(iii) Purchases using the Governmentwide Commercial Credit Card system in accordance with the Department's directives governing credit card purchasing. Authority redelegated to the Commercial Credit Card Program Administrator may be further redelegated by the Program Administrator to qualified headquarters employees for purchases within the micropurchase threshold established in FAR Part 13.

Section C. Authority Further Redelegated

The Director, Office of Procurement and Contracts, hereby designates each Director, Field Contracting Operations as a Contracting Officer and redelegates to each Director, Field Contracting Operations the power and authority, subject to any limitations imposed by the Chief Procurement Officer, to:

1. Enter into, administer, and/or terminate all procurement contracts and interagency agreements for property and services required by the Department (including the placement of paid advertisements in newspapers) and make related determinations and findings with regard to: activities within his or her Field Contracting Operations service area; or, activities which may be national in scope or which cover more than one Field Contracting Operations service area when specifically delegated by the Director, Office of Procurement and Contracts;

2. Order a limited denial of participation sanction, pursuant to HUD regulations at 24 CFR 24.700;

3. Further redelegate the award and administration of an individual or class of procurement contracts or interagency agreements to another Director, Field Contracting Operations, with the concurrence of the Director, Office of Procurement and Contracts;

4. Further redelegate, by way of Certificates of Appointment, the authority redelegated in paragraph C.1., above, to Field Contracting Operations personnel, provided that they meet experience, education, and training requirements established by the Chief Procurement Officer; and

5. Further redelegate the following authority which has been redelegated in this notice, to qualified Departmental employees within the service area of the Field Contracting Operations:

(a) Simplified acquisitions (FAR Part 13);

(b) Issuance of orders under contracts established by other Government sources (FAR Part 8, e.g. GSA Federal Supply Schedules) or under pre-priced indefinite-delivery contracts established by the Department; and

(c) Purchases using the Governmentwide Commercial Credit Card system, in accordance with the Department's directives governing credit card purchasing. Authority redelegated to the Director, Administrative Service Center, and Director, Administrative Resources Division may be further redelegated by those Directors to qualified field personnel within the service area for purchases within the micropurchase threshold established in FAR Part 13.

Section D. No Authority To Further Redelegate

Except as provided above, the authority redelegated in Sections B and C, above, do not include the authority to further redelegate.

Authority: Sec. 7(d), Department of Housing and Urban Development Act (42 U.S.C. 3535(d)).

Dated: October 6, 1998.

V. Stephen Carberry,

Chief Procurement Officer.

Craig E. Durkin,

Director, Office of Procurement and Contracts.

[FR Doc. 98–27314 Filed 10–9–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210–32–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Information Collection Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Approval Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The information collection requirements to issue a user permit by the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for access to units of the National Wildlife Refuge System outside Alaska have been submitted to OMB for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The Service may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. Copies of specific information collection requirements, related forms and explanatory material may be obtained by contacting the Service Information Collection Clearance officer at the address and/or phone numbers listed below.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before November 12, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Comments and suggestions on specific requirements should be sent directly to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Department of the Interior Desk Officer, 725–17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503; and a copy to the Service's Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, [MS 222 ARLSQ], 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240, or electronically at: mullenr@fws.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leslie A. Marler, Management Analyst, Division of Refuges, 703/358–2397.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Service submitted the following proposed information collection clearance requirement to OMB for review and approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Comments are invited on: (1) 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) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and, (4) 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.

The issuance of a Permit by the Fish and Wildlife Service for access to units of the National Wildlife Refuge System outside of Alaska is authorized by: the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act (16 U.S.C. 668dd—668ee) as amended; and the Refuge Recreation Act, (16 U.S.C. 460K); and, as implemented by regulations in 50 CFR 25, subpart D.

The information requested prior to issuing the Permit is required to obtain a benefit, and will assist the Service in administering System programs in accordance with the above statutory authorities. The Improvement Act requires that a wildlife dependent recreational use or any other uses of a refuge that, in the sound professional judgment of the Director, will not materially interfere with or detract from the fulfillment of the mission of the System or the purposes for which the refuge was established. The information is needed by the Service to make this determination before a permit can be issued.

The permit is required for any person entering a national wildlife refuge, unless otherwise provided under the provisions of 50 CFR, subchapter C. The permittee must abide by all the terms and conditions set forth in the permit.

Information collected in submitting an application for a permit, prior to issuing a permit, may be used to evaluate and conclude the eligibility of, or merely document, permit applicants. The Service will require the use of permits as a condition in new and revised regulations pursuant to the Refuge Improvement Act.

The Service will provide Special Use Permit forms as requested by interested citizens. Responses to information collection is required to obtain a Refuge Special Use Permit. The required written forms and/or verbal application information will be used by the Service to ensure that the applicant is eligible to receive a Permit.

Title: United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Special Use Permit.

Bureau form number: 3–1383.

Frequency of collection: Several each day.

Description of respondents: Individuals or households; State, local, or Tribal governments; businesses or other for profit and not-for-profit institutions.

Number of respondents: 10,000.

Estimated completion time: The reporting burden for FWS Form 3–1383 (Special Use Permit) is estimated to be 30 minutes.

Burden estimate: 5,000 hours.

Dated: August 12, 1998.

Cathy Short,

Acting Assistant Director for Refuges and Wildlife.

[FR Doc. 98–27342 Filed 10–9–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–U

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AK 042 06 1220 00]

Notice of Closure of Campbell Tract

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of closure of Campbell Tract to:

1. Use of motor vehicles except on designated roads
2. Use of firearms, air guns, paint guns, archery equipment, traps or snares
3. Dogs and domesticated animals not on a leash
4. Building fires
5. Camping
6. Consumption of alcohol
7. Use or possession of fireworks
8. Building structures or shelters
9. Constructing trails.

SUMMARY: Closure of all lands and waters, within the 730 acre Campbell Tract, Anchorage Field Office, to the use of motor vehicles, firearms, archery, traps, unleashed dogs, campfires, camping, consumption of alcohol, fireworks, building of structures, unauthorized trail construction. This