FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Anthony Smith, Office of Information Management, telephone 202–475–3532, or fax 202–372–8405, for questions on these documents.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Participation and Request for Comments

This Notice relies on the authority of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended. An ICR is an application to OIRA seeking the approval, extension, or renewal of a Coast Guard collection of information (Collection). The ICR contains information describing the Collection’s purpose, the Collection’s likely burden on the affected public, an explanation of the necessity of the Collection, and other important information describing the Collection. There is one ICR for each Collection.

The Coast Guard invites comments on whether this ICR should be granted based on the Collection being necessary for the proper performance of Departmental functions. In particular, the Coast Guard would appreciate comments addressing: (1) The practical utility of the Collection; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden of the Collection; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of information subject to the Collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the Collection on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. These comments will help OIRA determine whether to approve the ICR referred to in this Notice.

We encourage you to respond to this request by submitting comments and related materials. Comments to Coast Guard or OIRA must contain the OMB Control Number of the ICR. They must also contain the docket number of this request, [USCG–2017–0950], and must be received by February 21, 2018.

Submitting Comments

We encourage you to submit comments through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http://www.regulations.gov. If your material cannot be submitted using http://www.regulations.gov, contact the person in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this document for alternate instructions. Documents mentioned in this notice, and all public comments, are in our online docket at http://www.regulations.gov and can be viewed by the public using that website’s instructions. Additionally, if you go to the online docket and sign up for email alerts, you will be notified when comments are posted.

We accept anonymous comments. All comments received will be posted without change to http://www.regulations.gov and will include any personal information you have provided. For more about privacy and the docket, you may review a Privacy Act notice regarding the Federal Docket Management System in the March 24, 2005, issue of the Federal Register (70 FR 15086).

OIRA posts its decisions on ICRs online at http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain after the comment period for each ICR. An OMB Notice of Action on each ICR will become available via a hyperlink in the OMB Control Number: 1625–0024.

Previous Request for Comments

This request provides a 30-day comment period required by OIRA. The Coast Guard published the 60-day notice (82 FR 49038, October 23, 2017) required by 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2). That Notice elicited no comments. Accordingly, no changes have been made to the Collection.

Information Collection Request

Title: Safety Approval of Cargo Containers.

OMB Control Number: 1625–0024.

Summary: This information collection is associated with requirements for owners and manufacturers of cargo containers to submit information and keep records associated with the approval and inspection of those containers. This information is required to ensure compliance with the International Convention for Safe Containers (CSC), 29 U.S.T. 3707; T.I.A.S. 9037.

Need: This collection of information addresses the reporting and recordkeeping requirements for containers in 49 CFR parts 450 through 453. These rules are necessary since the U.S. is signatory to the CSC. The CSC requires all containers to be safety approved prior to being used in trade. These rules prescribe only the minimum requirements of the CSC.

Forms: None.

Respondents: Owners and manufacturers of containers, and organizations that the Coast Guard delegates to act as an approval authority.

Frequency: On occasion.

Hour Burden Estimate: The estimated burden has increased from 98,452 hours to 117,277 hours a year due to an increase in the estimated number of responses.


Dated: January 11, 2018.

James D. Roppel,
U.S. Coast Guard, Acting Chief, Office of Information Management.

[FR Doc. 2018–00954 Filed 1–19–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Office of the Secretary

Determination Pursuant to Section 102 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, as Amended

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice of determination.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Homeland Security has determined, pursuant to law, that it is necessary to waive certain laws, regulations and other legal requirements in order to ensure the expeditious construction of barriers and roads in the vicinity of the international land border of the United States near the Santa Teresa Land Port of Entry in the state of New Mexico.

DATES: This determination takes effect on January 22, 2018.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The principal mission requirements of the Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”) include border security and the detection and prevention of illegal entry into the United States. Border security is critical to the nation’s national security. Recognizing the critical importance of border security, Congress has ordered DHS to achieve and maintain operational control of the international land border. Secure Fence Act of 2006, Public Law 109–367, 2, 120 Stat. 2638 (Oct. 26, 2006) (§ U.S.C. 1701 note). Congress defined “operational control” as the prevention of all unlawful entries into the United States, including entries by terrorists, other unlawful aliens, instruments of terrorism, narcotics, and other contraband. Id. Consistent with that mandate from Congress, the President’s Executive Order on Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements directed executive departments and agencies to deploy all lawful means to secure the southern border. Executive Order 13767, § 1. To achieve this end, the President directed, among other things, that I take immediate steps to prevent all unlawful entries into the United States, to include the immediate construction of physical infrastructure.
to prevent illegal entry. Executive Order 13767, § 4(a).


In section 102(a) of IIRIRA, Congress provided that the Secretary of Homeland Security shall take such actions as may be necessary to install additional physical barriers and roads (including the removal of obstacles to detection of illegal entrants) in the vicinity of the United States border to deter illegal crossings in areas of high illegal entry into the United States. In section 102(b) of IIRIRA, Congress has called for the installation of additional fencing, barriers, roads, lighting, cameras, and sensors on the southwest border. Finally, in section 102(c) of IIRIRA, Congress granted to the Secretary of Homeland Security the authority to waive all legal requirements that I, in my sole discretion, determine necessary to ensure the expeditious construction of barriers and roads authorized by section 102 of IIRIRA.

**Determination and Waiver**

**Section 1**

The United States Border Patrol’s El Paso Sector is an area of high illegal entry. For example, in fiscal year 2016, the United States Border Patrol (“Border Patrol”) apprehended over 25,000 illegal aliens and seized approximately 67,000 pounds of marijuana and approximately 157 pounds of cocaine. Since the creation of DHS, and through the construction of border infrastructure and other operational improvements, the Border Patrol has been able to make significant gains in border security within the El Paso Sector; however, more work needs to be done. In fact, in recent years, the El Paso Sector has seen an increase in apprehensions. The El Paso Sector therefore remains an area of high illegal entry for which there is an immediate need to construct border barriers and roads.

To begin to meet the need for enhanced border infrastructure in the El Paso Sector, DHS will take immediate action to replace existing vehicle barrier with bollard wall. Vehicle barrier replacement in the El Paso Sector is among DHS’s highest priority border security requirements. The vehicle barrier replacement will take place along an approximately twenty mile segment of the border that starts at the Santa Teresa Land Port of Entry and extends westward. This approximately twenty mile segment of the border is referred to herein as the “project area” and is more specifically described in Section 2 below.

Although the existing vehicle barrier has aided border enforcement within the project area, Border Patrol must have a more effective means of deterring and preventing illegal crossings. The area within Mexico that is situated across the border from the project area has a population of almost two million people, including the city of Ciudad Juarez. The close proximity of this heavily populated area and its urban infrastructure creates opportunities for illegal entrants to gain quick and immediate access to the border. On the United States side of the border, the eastern portion of the project area includes developed areas where illegal aliens can quickly blend into the population and have ready access to roads, highways, and other infrastructure. The western portion of the project area is made up of desert areas where there is little to no natural terrain that deters illegal crossings and illegal aliens can quickly access state highways as a means of travel into the interior of the United States. Replacing the existing vehicle barrier with bollard wall within the project area will improve Border Patrol’s operational efficiency and, in turn, further deter and prevent illegal crossings.

**Section 2**

I determine that the following area in the vicinity of the United States border, located in the State of New Mexico within the United States Border Patrol’s El Paso Sector is an area of high illegal entry (the “project area”): Starting at the Santa Teresa Land Port of Entry and extending west to Border Monument 10. There is presently a need to construct physical barriers and roads in the vicinity of the border of the United States to deter illegal crossings in the project area. In order to ensure the expeditious construction of the barriers and roads in the project area, I have determined that it is necessary that I exercise the authority that is vested in me by section 102(c) of the IIRIRA as amended.

Accordingly, pursuant to section 102(c) of IIRIRA, I hereby waive in their entirety, with respect to the construction of roads and physical barriers (including, but not limited to, accessing the project area, creating and using staging areas, the conduct of earthwork, excavation, fill, and site preparation, and installation and upkeep of physical barriers, roads, supporting elements, drainage, erosion controls, and safety features) in the project area, the following statutes, including all federal, state, or other laws, regulations and legal requirements of, deriving from, or related to the subject of the following statutes, as amended:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS–R1–ES–2017–N139; FFX51130100000C4–176–FF01E00000]

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Initiation of 5-Year Status Reviews for 18 Species in Hawaii, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Canada

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of initiation of reviews; request for information.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), are initiating 5-year status reviews for 18 species in Hawaii, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Canada under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). A 5-year status review is based on the best scientific and commercial data available at the time of the review; therefore, we are requesting submission of any new information on these species that has become available since the last review.

DATES: To ensure consideration in our reviews, we are requesting submission of new information no later than March 23, 2018. However, we will continue to accept new information about any listed species at any time.

ADDRESSES: Submit information on any of the 12 species in Hawaii (see table under What Species Are Under Review?) via U.S. mail to: Field Supervisor, Attention: 5-Year Review, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office, 300 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 3–122, Honolulu, HI 96850, or by email to pifwo_admin@fws.gov.

For the Columbia Basin pygmy rabbit, Castilleja levisecta, Hackelia venusta, and Sidalcea oregana var. calva, submit information via U.S. mail to: Field Supervisor, Attention: 5-Year Review, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington Fish and Wildlife Office, 510 Desmond Dr. SE, Suite 102, Lacey, WA 98503, or by email to WFWO_LH@fws.gov.

For the Snake River physa snail, submit information via U.S. mail to: Field Supervisor; Attention: 5-Year Review; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Idaho Fish and Wildlife Office; 1387 S. Vinnell Way, Suite 368, Boise, ID 83709, or by email to greg_burak@fws.gov.

For the white sturgeon, submit information via U.S. mail to: Field Supervisor; Attention: 5-Year Review; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Idaho Fish and Wildlife Office; 1387 S. Vinnell Way, Suite 368, Boise, ID 83709, or by email to greg_burak@fws.gov.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Why do we conduct 5-year reviews?

Under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.; Act), we maintain lists of endangered and threatened wildlife and plant species (referred to as the List) in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR 17.11 (for wildlife) and 17.12 (for plants). Section 4(c)(2) of the Act requires us to review each listed species’ status at least once every 5 years. For additional information about 5-year reviews, go to http://www.fws.gov/endangered/what-we-do/recovery-overview.html, scroll down to “Learn more about 5-Year Reviews,” and click on the “5-Year Reviews” link.

What information do we consider in our review?

A 5-year review considers all new information available at the time of the review. In conducting these reviews, we consider the best scientific and commercial data that have become available since the listing determination or most recent status review, such as:

(A) Species biology, including but not limited to population trends, distribution, abundance, demographics, and genetics;

(B) Habitat conditions, including but not limited to amount, distribution, and suitability;

(C) Conservation measures that have been implemented to benefit the species;

(D) Threat status and trends in relation to the five listing factors (as defined in section 4(a)(1) of the Act); and

(E) Other new information, data, or corrections, including but not limited to taxonomic or nomenclatural changes, identification of erroneous information contained in the List, and improved analytical methods.

Any new information will be considered during the 5-year review and