

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

### Rural Housing Service

### Rural Business-Cooperative Service

### Rural Utilities Service

### Farm Service Agency

#### Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

**AGENCIES:** Rural Housing Service, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Rural Utilities Service, and Farm Service Agency, USDA.

**ACTION:** Proposed collection: comments request.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Housing Service (RHS), the Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS), Rural Utilities Service (RUS), and the Farm Service Agency's (FSA) intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of compliance with applicable acts for planning and performing construction and other development work.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by March 3, 1997 to be assured consideration.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Samuel J. Hodges III, Architect, Program Support Staff, RHS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Stop 0761, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250, Telephone (202) 720-9653.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* RD 1924-A, "Planning and Performing Construction and Other Development."

*OMB Number:* 0575-0042.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* March 31, 1997.

*Type of Request:* Extension of a currently approved information collection.

**Abstract:** The information collection under OMB Number 0575-0042 enables the Rural Housing Service to effectively administer the policies, methods and responsibilities in the planning and performing of construction and other development work for the related construction programs.

Section 501 of Title V of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended, authorizes the Secretary Of Agriculture to extend financial assistance to construct, improve, repair, replace or rehabilitate dwellings, farm buildings and/or related facilities to provide decent, safe and sanitary living conditions and adequate farm buildings and other structures in rural areas.

Section 506 of the Act requires that all new buildings and repairs shall be constructed in accordance with plans and specifications as required by the Secretary and that such construction be supervised and inspected.

Section 509 grants the Secretary the power to determine and prescribe the standards of adequate farm housing and other buildings. The Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983 amended Section 509 (a) and Section 515 to require residential buildings and related facilities comply with the standards prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture, the standards prescribed by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, or the standards prescribed in any of the nationally recognized model building codes.

Similar authorizations are contained in Section 303, 304, 306, and 339 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, as amended.

In several sections of both acts, loan limitations are established as percentages of development cost, requiring careful monitoring of those costs. Also, the Secretary is authorized to prescribe regulations to ensure that Federal funds are not wasted or dissipated and that construction will be undertaken economically and will not be of elaborate or extravagant design or materials.

Other information collection is required to conform to numerous Public Laws applying to all federal agencies, such as: Civil Rights Acts of 1964 and 1968, Davis-Bacon Act, Historic Preservation Act, Environmental Policy Act; and to conform to Executive Orders governing use of federal funds. This information is cleared through the

appropriate enforcing Agency or other executive Department.

The Agencies provide forms and/or guidelines to assist in the collection and submission of information; however, most of the information may be collected and submitted in the form and content which is accepted and typically used in normal conduct of planning and performing development work in private industry when a private lender is financing the activity. The information is usually submitted via hand delivery or U.S. Postal Service to the appropriate Agency office.

The information is used by the Agencies to determine whether a loan/grant can be approved, to ensure that the Agency has adequate security for the loans financed, to provide for sound construction and development work and to determine that the requirements of the applicable acts have been met. The information is also used to monitor compliance with the terms and conditions of the Agencies loan/grant and to monitor the prudent use of federal funds.

If the information were not collected and submitted, the Agencies would not have control over the type and quality of construction and development work planned and performed with federal funds. The Agencies would not be assured that the security provided for loans is adequate, nor would the Agencies be certain that decent, safe and sanitary dwelling or other adequate structures were being provided to rural residents as required by the different acts.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .33 hours per response.

*Respondents:* Individuals or households, farms, business or other for-profit, non-profit institutions, and small businesses or organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 29,369.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 14.03.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 139,632 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Barbara Williams, Regulations and Paperwork Management Division, at (202) 720-9734.

## Comments

Comments and invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the function of RHS, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of RHS's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) 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. Comments may be sent to Barbara Williams, Regulations and Paperwork Management Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Stop 0743, Washington, DC 20250-0753. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comment will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: December 20, 1996.

Jan E. Shadburn,

*Acting Administrator, Rural Housing Service.*

Dated: December 20, 1996.

Dayton J. Watkins,

*Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.*

Dated: December 20, 1996.

Wally Beyer,

*Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.*

Dated: December 23, 1996.

Bruce R. Weber,

*Acting Administrator, Farm Service Agency.*

[FR Doc. 96-33327 Filed 12-31-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XV-U

## Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

### Termination of the Standard Reinsurance Agreement

**AGENCY:** Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of termination.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) herewith gives notice that it will terminate the current (1995/1997) Standard Reinsurance Agreement effective as of June 30, 1997.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** June 30, 1997.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** E. Heyward Baker, Acting Director, Reinsurance Services Division, Insurance Services, Risk Management Agency, United States Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence

Avenue, SW, Room 6727-S, Washington, D.C. 20250, telephone (202) 720-4232.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with section V.J. of the Standard Reinsurance Agreement, this action is necessary to provide FCIC sufficient time to address proposed changes for the 1998 Standard Reinsurance Agreement, including those recommended by the crop insurance industry and the Office of Management and Budget and proposed in the President's 1998 budget proposal. FCIC also intends to address reinsurance for Crop Revenue Coverage and catastrophic risk protection policies.

Accordingly, the FCIC herewith gives notice that it will terminate the current (1995/1997) Standard Reinsurance Agreement effective June 30, 1997.

Signed in Washington, D.C. on December 27, 1996.

Kenneth D. Ackerman,

*Manager, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.*

[FR Doc. 97-00059 Filed 12-30-96; 12:08 pm]

BILLING CODE 3410-FA-P

## Forest Service

**Revision of the Land and Resource Management Plan for the Cibola National Forest and Kiowa, Rita Blanca, Black Kettle and McClellan Creek National Grasslands, Located in Colfax, Harding, Mora, Union, Catron, Sierra, Socorro, Bernalillo, Sandoval, Lincoln, Torrance, Valencia, McKinley and Cibola Counties, NM; Gray, Hemphill, and Dallam Counties, Texas; Roger Mills and Cimarron Counties, OK**

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to 36 CFR 219.10(g), the Regional Forester for the Southwestern Region gives notice of the agency's intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Revised Cibola National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan). According to 36 CFR 219.10(g), Forest Plans are ordinarily revised on a 10-year cycle. The existing Cibola Forest Plan was approved on July 15, 1985, and has eight amendments.

The responsible official for approving the Forest Plan revision is Charles W. Cartwright, Jr., Regional Forester, Southwestern Region, USDA Forest Service, 517 Gold Avenue, SW, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102. The Forest Supervisor, Cibola National Forest, is delegated responsibility for

preparing the Environmental Impact Statement.

**DATES:** Comments concerning the scope of the analysis should be received in writing by March 11, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to Jeanine A. Derby, Forest Supervisor, Cibola National Forest, 2113 Osuna Road NE, Suite A, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87113-1001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jimmy E. Hibbetts, Planning Staff or Barney Lyons, Team Leader, (505) 761-4650.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Land and Resource Management Plan defines the long-term direction for managing the Cibola National Forest and the Kiowa, Rita Blanca, Black Kettle and McClellan Creek National Grasslands. The revised Forest Plan will take an ecological approach to achieve multiple-use management of the National Forest and National Grasslands.

The Cibola National Forest identified revision topics through a process by examining the Forest Plan and determining items that need to be changed. The Five Year Evaluation and Monitoring Reports for 1986 to 1990 and 1991 to 1996 were also used to identify revision topics. This process included a number of public meetings, newsletters and meetings with local government officials and interest groups. Over 3000 letters were sent to Congressional, governmental, and tribal agencies, organizations, businesses, and individuals. These contacts all aided in identifying the revision topics. Criteria was used to screen potential changes into five possible categories of action:

Revision Topics  
Implementation Topics  
Legislation Topics  
Topics for responsible Government Entities  
Research Topics

The Revision Topics are those areas of the Forest Plan, identified through monitoring, evaluation and public involvement, where a potential need for change was identified. The Revision Topics are:

Balancing Land Capability with Resource Demand  
Watershed Condition Assessment and Water Uses, Rights, Quality, and Availability Assessment  
Biological Diversity  
Native American Collaboration  
Land Grant Community Collaboration  
Land Uses  
Oil and Gas Leasing  
Population Growth and Social Demographics  
Rural Community Economics