Section 221(g)(4) of the Act provides that debentures issued pursuant to that paragraph (with respect to the assignment of an insured mortgage to the Secretary) will bear interest at the “going Federal rate” of interest in effect at the time the debentures are issued. The term “going Federal rate” is defined to mean the interest rate that the Secretary of the Treasury determines, pursuant to a statutory formula based on the average yield on all outstanding marketable Treasury obligations of 8- to 12-year maturities, for the 6-month periods of January through June and July through December of each year. Section 221(g)(4) is implemented in the HUD regulations at 24 CFR 221.790.

The Secretary of the Treasury has determined that the interest rate to be borne by debentures issued pursuant to section 221(g)(4) during the 6-month period beginning January 1, 2000, is 7 1/4 percent.

HUD expects to publish its next notice of change in debenture interest rates in June 2000.

The subject matter of this notice falls within the categorical exemption from HUD’s environmental clearance procedures set forth in 24 CFR 50.20(l). For that reason, no environmental finding has been prepared for this notice.

(Sections 211, 221, 224, National Housing Act, 12 U.S.C. 1715b, 1715l, 1715o; sec. 7(d). Department of HUD Act, 42 U.S.C. 3535(d)).

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of the Secretary

Meeting of Advisory Committee to the Interagency Task Force to Improve Hydroelectric Licensing Processes

AGENCY: U.S. Department of the Interior—Office of the Secretary.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, this notice advises interested persons that the Advisory Committee to the Interagency Task Force to Improve Hydroelectric Licensing Processes will meet on March 16, 2000 at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The purpose of the meeting is to:

(1) Update Committee members on the current activities of the Interagency Task Force (ITF);

(2) Review and discuss the ITF Working Groups’ draft products on: (i) State Mandates (i.e.: CWA Section 410 water quality certification and CZMA certification); and (ii) Economics.

DATE: March 16, 2000; 9:30 am–3 pm.


You should inform Security at the building entrance on Jefferson Drive that you are attending a meeting hosted by NRE. (202) 720–7173. After calling NRE, Security will issue you a visitor’s pass and direct you to the Williamsburg Room, Suite 104A.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George Schunk, Special Assistant to the Chief of the Forest Service, (202) 720–7173

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Secretary of the Interior and the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, with the concurrence of ITF members, established the Advisory Committee to provide a forum for non-Federal entities to review and provide comments on the deliberations of the ITF. Interested parties are invited to attend the meeting and will be given an opportunity to provide comments.

Alex Matthiessen, Special Assistant to the Designated Federal Officer.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Receipt of Applications for Permit

The following applicants have applied for a permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species. This notice is provided pursuant to Section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531, et seq.):

PRT-021886

Applicant: Timothy Micale, Falls Creek, PA

The applicant requests a permit to import the one female African dwarf crocodile (Osteolaemus tetraspis tetraspis) from Mr. Rene Hedegaard, Eskidstruo, Denmark, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species through propagation.

PRT-023231

Applicant: Richard Olsen, Santa Cruz, CA

The applicant requests a permit to import six viable eggs of the Chinese monal pheasant (Lophophorus lhuysii) from the Sichuan Forestry Department, Baxing, China under a cooperative agreement to study the hatching for the purpose of captive propagation for the enhancement of the survival of the species.

PRT-023461

Applicant: Zoological Society of San Diego, San Diego, CA

The applicant requests a permit to export one male and one female captive-hatched Andean condors (Vultur Gryphus) to the Ministry of the Environment of Colombia for release in the Colombian Andes for enhancement of the survival of the species.

Written data or comments should be submitted to the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203 and must be received by the Director within 30 days of the date of this publication. Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents to
the following office within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone: (703/358–2104); FAX: (703/358–2281).


Kristen Nelson.
Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 00–5126 Filed 3–2–00; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310–55–U

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Submission to OMB for Approval of Tribal Self-Governance Program Information Collection

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Indian Affairs is submitting a request for an extension of an information collection from potential Self-Governance Tribes, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The information collected under OMB Clearance Number 1076–0143 will be used to establish requirements for entry into the pool of qualified applicants for self-governance, to provide information for awarding planning and negotiation grants, and to meet reporting requirements of the Self-Governance Act. The Federal Register notice of proposed information collection activities was published in the Federal Register on December 7, 1999 (64 FR 68371–68372).

DATES: Submit comments on or before April 3, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments can be sent to: The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior, Docket Library, Room 10102, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503. A copy should be sent to William Sinclair, Office of Self-Governance, 1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 2548 MIB, Washington, DC 20240.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: You are advised that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information that does not display a valid OMB clearance number. For example, the collection listed by OMB as 1076–0017, and it expires 06/30/2002. For the Self-Governance collection of information, the response is voluntary, to obtain or retain a benefit, depending upon the parts of the program being addressed. The Department received three letters from self-governance tribes on the proposed extension of the information collection from current and potential self-governance tribes. These comments were similar in nature and are summarized below.

Three comments indicated that the phrase “certain information” being required by tribes to support their admission into Self-Governance was unclear and that the Tribal Self-Governance Act of 1994 (Pub.L. 103–413) is clear as to what information is required. The information being requested of new tribes in this extension is no more than what is required by Public Law 103–413. To make this clearer, the words “as required by Pub.L. 103–413” have been inserted following the words “certain information” in this Federal Register notice.

There were three comments stating that the reference to “grants” in the summary section is unclear. To address this, the words “planning and negotiation” have been inserted before the word “grants” in this Federal Register notice.

There were three comments that addressed the words “must submit certain information” and contended that Self-Governance tribes are not required to submit any information but are willing to do so on a voluntary basis. Further, the words “certain information” is vague. In response to this comment, a change was made in this Federal Register notice to replace the word “must” with the words “will be requested to” and following the word “information” the following words were inserted “as described in the draft negotiated rules as published for public comment in the Federal Register, February 12, 1998. This information will be used to * * *.”

There were three comments that took exception with the sentence “Information is also required of tribes to ensure that the trust responsibilities of the Secretary of the Interior are safeguarded and that imminent jeopardy to trust assets is avoided (See section 403(d) of the Act.).” The three comments point out that Pub.L. 103–413 requires trust evaluations to be performed and does not require tribes to submit information for the purposes of safeguarding the Secretary’s trust responsibilities. In response to this comment the sentence “Information is also required of tribes to ensure that the trust responsibilities of the Secretary of the Interior are safeguarded and that imminent jeopardy to trust assets is avoided (section 403(d) of the Act.)” has been deleted in this Federal Register notice. The information required of tribes in conjunction with the annual trust evaluations has been included in a separate information collection request.

One comment suggested that the BIA should “cease any further activity and allow the negotiated rulemaking committee to complete its work * * *” However, the process requires that an information collection request extension be made at this time. All the information contained in this information collection request is consistent with the agreed to portions of the negotiated rules and is required by the Act itself. No change was made in response to this comment. The revised text from the proposed information collection follows:

The Self-Governance program was authorized by the Tribal Self-Governance Act of 1994, Public Law 103–413, as amended. Tribal Self-Governance is a voluntary program that is currently active and operating without promulgated regulations [see section 407(d) of the Act which says that lack of promulgated regulations shall not limit the effect of this title]. Previously, an information collection request was cleared by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, of the Act. That clearance expires on February 29, 2000. Tribes interested in entering into Self-Governance must submit certain information as required by Public Law 103–413, as amended, to support their admission into Self-Governance. In addition, those tribes and tribal consortia who have entered into self-governance compacts will be requested to submit certain information as described in the draft negotiated rules published for public comment in the Federal Register, February 12, 1998 (63 FR 7202–7251). This information will be used to justify a budget request submission on their behalf and to comply with section 405 of the Act that calls for the Secretary to submit an annual report to the Congress.

You may submit comments about the collection to evaluate the following:
(a) The accuracy of the burden hours, including the validity of the methodology used and assumptions made;
(b) The necessity of the information for proper performance of the bureau functions, including its practical utility;