DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Citizenship and Immigration Services

Agency Information Collection Activities: Extension of Existing Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Request OMB Emergency Approval; Petition for Nonimmigrant Worker; Form I–129

The Department of Homeland Security, Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) has submitted the following information collection request (ICR) utilizing emergency review procedures to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with section 1320.13(a)(1)(ii) and (1)(2)(iii) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The DHS has determined that it cannot reasonably comply with the normal clearance procedures under this part because normal clearance procedures are reasonably likely to prevent or disrupt the collection of information. Emergency review and approval of this information collection will ensure that the collection may continue. Therefore, OMB approval has been requested by October 31, 2004.

If grant, the emergency approval is only valid for 90 days. ALL comments and/or questions pertaining to this pending request for emergency approval MUST be directed to OMB, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Desk Officer, Department of Homeland Security, 725—17th Street, NW., Suite 10235, Washington, DC 20503, 202–395–5806.

During the first 60 days of this same period, a regular review of this information collection is also being undertaken. During the regular review period, the DHS requests written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning this information collection. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for sixty days until November 29, 2004. During the 60-day regular review. ALL comments and suggestions, or questions regarding additional information, as well as requests to obtain a copy of the information collection instrument with instructions, should be directed to Mr. Richard A. Sloan, 202–616–7600, Director, Regulatory Management Division, Citizenship and Immigration, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20529. Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information should address one or more of the following four points:

(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 the agencies 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, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of this information collection:

(1) Type of Information Collection: Extension of a previously approved information collection.

(2) Title of the Form/Collection: Petition for Nonimmigrant Worker.


(4) Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as brief abstract: Primary: Individuals or households. This form is used by an employer to petition for aliens to come to the U.S. temporarily to perform services, labor, training or to request extensions of stay or changes in nonimmigrant status for nonimmigrant workers.

(5) An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond: 368,948 responses at 2.75 hours per response.

(6) An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection: 998,357 annual burden hours.

If you have additional comments, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions, or additional information, please contact Richard A. Sloan, 202–616–7600, Director, Regulatory Management Division, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20529. Additionally, comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time may also be directed to Mr. Richard A. Sloan.


Richard A. Sloan,

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Information Collection Renewal Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Approval Under the Paperwork Reduction Act; OMB Control Number 1018–0111; Summary Information for Ranking National Coastal Wetlands Grant Program Proposals, 50 CFR Part 84

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Fish and Wildlife Service (We) has submitted the collection of information listed below to OMB for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. If
you wish to obtain copies of the proposed information collection requirement, the related form, or explanatory material, contact the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer at the address listed below.

DATES: You must submit comments on or before October 29, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments on this information collection renewal to the Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior at OMB–OIRA at (202) 395–6566 (fax) or OIRA_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov (e-mail). Please provide a copy of your comments to the Fish and Wildlife Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, 4401 N. Fairfax Dr., MS 222 ARLSQ, Arlington, VA 22203; (703) 358–2269 (fax); or hope.grey@fws.gov (e-mail).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request a copy of the information collection request, explanatory information, or the related form, contact Hope Grey by phone at (703) 358–2482, or by e-mail at hope.grey@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: OMB regulations at 5 CFR 1320, which implement provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), require that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). We have submitted a request to OMB to renew approval of the collection of information included on FWS Form 3–2179 (Summary Information for Ranking of National Coastal Wetlands Grant Program Proposals). This form is approved under OMB control number 1018–0111, which expires on September 30, 2004. We are requesting a 3-year term of approval for this information collection activity. OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove this information collection but may respond after 30 days. To ensure consideration, send your comments to OMB by the date listed in the DATES section near the beginning of this Notice.

Federal agencies 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. On May 14, 2004, we published in the Federal Register (69 FR 26877) a notice announcing that we planned to submit a request to renew this information collection to OMB for approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. In that notice, we solicited public comments for 60 days, ending July 13, 2004. By that date, we received one comment, which was editorial in nature. The commenter expressed concern that more land needs to be conserved but did not comment on the merits of this information collection. As such, we have not made any changes to our information collection at this time.

We administer the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant program authorized by the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 3951–3956). We use the information collected on FWS Form 3–2179 to evaluate proposals under this program. The information collected includes summarized information on habitat, coastal barriers, levels of conservation, watershed management, threatened and/or endangered species potentially involved, benefits of the restoration proposed, partners, cost sharing, education/outreach impact, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.


Hope Grey,
Information Collection Clearance Officer, Fish and Wildlife Service.

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<tr>
<th>Form name</th>
<th>Completion time per form</th>
<th>Annual number of responses</th>
<th>Annual hour burden</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3–2179</td>
<td>½ hour</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>17.5</td>
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We again invite comments on: (1) Whether or not the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether or not the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of collection of information on respondents, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

Receipt of Applications for Permit

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of applications for permit.

SUMMARY: The public is invited to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species.