Applicant: TE–044836, Melvin Coonrod, Environmental Industrial Services, Helper, Utah. The applicant requests a renewed permit to take Southwestern willow flycatchers (Empidonax trailli extimus) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species’ range for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Applicant: TE–047288, David Peitz, National Park Service, Republic, Missouri. The applicant requests a renewed permit to take Topeka shiners (Notropis topeka) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species’ range for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Applicant: TE–047381, Jim Friedley, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Ignacia, Montana. The applicant requests a renewed permit to take Black-footed ferrets (Mustela nigripes) in conjunction with recovery activities for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Applicant: TE–047529, Stan Johnson, Colorado Division of Wildlife, Grand Junction, Colorado. The applicant requests a renewed permit to display Native mice (Peromyscus polionotus), Black-footed ferrets (Mustela nigripes) in conjunction with recovery activities for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Applicant: TE–049748, Todd Crowl, Utah State University, Logan, Utah. The applicant requests a renewed permit to take June suckers (Chasmistes liorus) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species’ range for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Applicant: TE–051814, Dan Miller, Bramble Park Zoo, Watertown, South Dakota. The applicant requests a renewed permit to display Black-footed ferrets (Mustela nigripes) in conjunction with recovery activities for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Applicant: TE–051835, Randy Riches, San Diego Wild Animal Park, Escondido, California. The applicant requests a renewed permit to display Black-footed ferrets (Mustela nigripes) in conjunction with recovery activities for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Applicant: TE–051845, Rene Hodgekin, Zoo Montana, Billings, Montana. The applicant requests a renewed permit to display Black-footed ferrets (Mustela nigripes) in conjunction with recovery activities for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Applicant: TE–051847, Richard Lattis, Wildlife Conservation Center, Central Park Zoo, New York, New York. The applicant requests a renewed permit to take Wyoming toads (Bufo baxteri) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species’ range for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Dated: December 27, 2005.

Mary G. Henry, Acting Regional Director, Denver, Colorado.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Incidental Take of Threatened Species for the Livermore County Landowners Group, Larimer County, CO

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of issuance of permits.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has issued the following permits.

ADDRESSES: Additional information on these permit actions may be requested from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Office, P.O. Box 25486, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225–0486.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bridget Fahey, Division of Endangered Species, (303) 236–4258.


The Applicants’ Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) describes the mitigation and minimization measures proposed to address the effects of both Projects to the Perdido Key beach mouse. These measures are outlined in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section below. We announce the availability of habitat conservation plan (HCP) and an environmental assessment (EA) for the ITP applications. This notice is provided pursuant to section 10 of the Act and National Environmental Policy Act regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

DATES: Written comments on the ITP applications, EA, and HCP should be sent to our Regional Office (see ADDRESSES) and should be received on or before March 14, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to review the applications, HCP, and EA may obtain a copy by writing the Fish and Wildlife Service’s Southeast Regional Office, Atlanta, Georgia. Please reference permit numbers TE–103097–0, Searenity and TE–103099–0, Retreat in such requests. Documents will also be available for public inspection by appointment during normal business hours at the Regional Office, 1875 Babcock Street, Miami, Florida 33144.
The Perdido Key beach mouse was listed as endangered species under the Act in 1985 (50 FR 23872). The mouse is also listed as an endangered species by the State of Florida. Critical habitat was designated for the Perdido Key beach mouse at the time of listing (50 CFR 17.95). On December 15, 2005, we published a proposed revision of critical habitat for the Perdido Key beach mouse and Choctawhatchee beach mouse, and a proposed critical habitat designation for the St. Andrew beach mouse (70 FR 74425).

The Perdido Key beach mouse is one of eight species of the old-field mouse that occupy coastal rather than inland areas and are referred to as beach mice. It is one of five subspecies of beach mice endemic to the Gulf coast of Alabama and northwestern Florida. Two other extant subspecies of beach mouse and one extinct subspecies are known from the Atlantic coast of Florida. The Perdido Key beach mouse, like other beach mouse subspecies, spends its entire life within the coastal beach and dune ecosystem.

Beach mouse habitat consists of a mix of interconnected habitats including primary, secondary, and scrub dunes including interdunal areas. Beach mice are nocturnal and dig burrows within the dune system where vegetation provides cover. They forage for food throughout the dune system feeding primarily on seeds and fruits of dune plants including bluestem (Schizachyrium maritimum), sea oats (Uniola paniculata), and evening primrose (Onothera humifusa). Insects are also an important component of their diet.

Beach mice along the Gulf Coasts of Florida and Alabama generally live about nine months and become mature between 25 and 35 days. Beach mice are monogamous, pairing for life. Gestation averages 24 days and the average litter size is three to four pups. Peak breeding season for beach mice is in autumn and winter, declining in spring, and falling to low levels in summer. In essence, mature female beach mice can produce a litter every month and live about eight months.

The EA considers the environmental consequences of two alternatives and the proposed action. The proposed action alternative is issuance of the incidental take permit and implementation of the HCP as submitted by the Applicants. The HCP would provide for: (1) Minimizing the footprint of both developments; (2) restoring, preserving, and maintaining onsite beach mouse habitat at both projects; (3) incorporating requirements in the operation of both condominium facilities that provide for the conservation of the beach mouse; (4) monitoring the status of the beach mouse at both projects post-construction; (5) donating funds initially and on an annual basis to Perdido Key beach mouse conservation efforts; (6) including conservation measures to protect nesting sea turtles and non-breeding piping plover, and (7) funding the mitigation measures.

Several subspecies of beach mice have been listed as endangered species primarily because of the fragmentation of habitat, adverse alteration and loss of habitat due to coastal development. The threat of development-related habitat loss continues to increase. Other factors contributing to the Perdido Key beach mouse’s status include low population numbers, predation or competition by animals related to human development (cats and house mice), and the existing strength or lack of regulations regarding coastal development.

We will evaluate the HCP and any comments submitted during our determination of whether the applications meet the requirements of section 10(a) of the Act. If it is determined that those requirements are met, the ITPs will be issued for the incidental take of the Perdido Key beach mouse. We will also evaluate whether issuance of the section 10(a)(1)(B) ITPs complies with section 7 of the Act by conducting an intra-Service section 7 consultation. The results of this consultation, in combination with the above findings, will be used in the final analysis to determine whether or not to issue the ITPs.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood Information Collection

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed agency information collection activities; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Indian Affairs is seeking comments from the public on an extension of an information collection from persons seeking proof of American Indian or Alaska Native blood, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The information collected under OMB Control Number 1076-0153 will be used to establish that the applicants meet requirements for official recognition as an American Indian or Alaska native for purposes of eligibility determination and participation in programs administered through the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs.

DATES: Submit comments on or before March 14, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Written comments can be sent to Ms. Carolyn Newman, Tribal Enrollment Specialist, Division of Tribal Government Services, Office of Tribal Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1991 Constitution Avenue NW., Mail Stop: 320-SIB, Washington, DC 20240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Carolyn Newman, Tribal Enrollment Specialist, 202-513-7641.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This collection was originally approved and assigned OMB Control No. 1076-0153 when it was submitted with a proposed rulemaking, 25 CFR Part 70, which was published in the Federal Register on April 18, 2000 (66 FR 20775). The proposed rulemaking has not been finalized due to various reasons. We received numerous negative comments from individuals and Indian tribal governments. We, therefore, are rewriting the proposed rule. The Bureau of Indian Affairs, through the development of the proposed rule, is attempting to bring its decision-making procedures regarding the issuance of CDIB forms in line with the Administrative Procedures Act, 5 U.S.C. 553, as mandated by section 552, and as directed in the 1986 decision of the Interior Board of Indian Appeals (IBIA), Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, in Morgan Underwood, Sr. v. Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs (Operations), 93 I.D. 13, 11 IBIA 3 (IBIA, January 31, 1986). However, there is legal support for the information collection in that currently existing Federal laws and regulations require some form of proof of Indian blood for various purposes, including ownership of lands held in trust by the United States for benefit of Indian landowners who are members of federally-recognized Indian tribes (including Alaska Native villages), especially at those locations where the Indian tribe or Alaska native village has minimum Indian blood degree requirements for membership.

The public is 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, this collection is listed by OMB as Control No. 1076-0153, and it expires 7/31/2006. The response is voluntary to obtain or retain a benefit.

We are requesting comments about the proposed collection to evaluate:

(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;
(c) The quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and,
(d) Suggestions to reduce the burden including use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Please submit your comments to the person listed in the ADDRESSES section. Please note that comments, names and addresses of commentators, are open for public review during the hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., EST, Monday through Friday except for legal holidays. If you wish your name and address withheld, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. We will honor your request to the extent allowable by law.

Information Collection Abstract

OMB control number: 1076-0153.
Type of review: Renewal.
Title: 25 CFR 70, Request for Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood.
Brief description of collection: To establish that individual Indians may be eligible to receive program services based upon their status and/or degree of Indian or Alaska Native blood.

Affected Entities: Individual Indian Applicants.
Estimated number of respondents: 154,980.
Estimated time per response: 1.5.
Number of Annual Responses: 154,980.
Total annual burden hours: 232,470 hours.

Dated: December 27, 2005.

Michael D. Olsen.
Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Submission of Information Collection to the Office of Management and Budget for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of request for renewal.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, this notice announces that the Bureau of Indian Affairs is submitting an information collection to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for renewal. The collection concerns the Application for admission to Haskell Indian Nations University and to Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute. We are requesting a renewal of clearance and requesting comments on this information collection.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 13, 2006.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on the information collection to the Desk Officer for Department of the Interior at the Office of Management and Budget, by facsimile to (202) 395-6566 or you may send an e-mail to OIRA_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov.

Please send copies of comments to the Office of Indian Education Programs, 1849 C Street NW., Mail Stop 3609-MIB, Washington, DC 20240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James Redman, (202) 208-4397.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Bureau of Indian Affairs is providing the admission forms for Haskell Indian Nations University and the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute for review and comment. These admission forms are used in