respondents, frequency of response, and hours of response: The number of burden hours is estimated to be 1,343. The number of respondents is 2,267, the frequency of response is based on the owner’s request to refinance (averaged to date at 125 per year), the number of responses is 125, and the burden hour per response is 10.75.

Status of the proposed information collection: This is a new collection.


Frank L. Davis,
General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing-Deputy Federal Housing Commissioner.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Comment Request; Housing Counseling Program—Biennial Agency Performance Review

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing-Federal Housing Commissioner, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The proposed information collection requirement described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

DATES: Comments Due Date: November 5, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB Control Number and should be sent to: Lillian L. Deitzer, Reports Management Officer, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW., L’Enfant Plaza Building, Room 8003, Washington, DC 20410 or Lillian_L.deitzer@hud.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Margaret Burns, Director, Office of Single Family Program Development, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20410, telephone (202) 708–2121 (this is not a toll free number) for copies of the proposed forms and other available information.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department is submitting the proposed information collection to OMB for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended).

This Notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information: (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection 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 agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (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 the use of appropriate automatic collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

This Notice also lists the following information:

Title of Proposal: Housing Counseling Program—Biennial Agency Performance Review

OMB Control Number, if applicable: 2502–NEW.

The information collection is essential to the Department’s mission to expand homeownership opportunities and improve access to affordable housing. The Housing Counseling Program supports the delivery of a wide variety of counseling services to homebuyers, homeowners, low- to moderate-income renters, and the homeless. Counselors provide guidance and advice to help families and individuals improve their housing conditions and meet the responsibilities of tenancy and homeownership. Counselors also help borrowers avoid predatory lending practices, such as inflated appraisals, unreasonably high interest rates, unaffordable repayment terms, and other conditions that can result in a loss of equity, increased debt, default, and foreclosure. Housing Counseling Agencies are viewed as significant partners in helping HUD expand opportunities for individuals to receive adequate, professional housing counseling services.

In order to maintain their status as a HUD-approved agency, housing counseling agencies must remain in compliance with program policies and regulations. HUD determines during the course of perform reviews if an agency has remained in compliance with the program regulations. Findings from performance reviews are used to approve or the status of housing counseling agencies to participate in the program. The form HUD–9910, is the performance review checklist used by HUD employees to the biennial reviews. The information collected during the review is used to assist HUD in evaluating the managerial and financial capacity of organizations to sustain operations sufficient to implement HUD approved housing counseling programs. If agencies are found to be non-compliant HUD may revoke an agency’s approval status and prohibit their participation in the Housing Counseling Program.

Agency form numbers, if applicable: HUD–9910.

Estimation of the total numbers of hours needed to prepare the information collection including number of respondents, frequency of response, and hours of response: The number of respondents are estimated to be 583 generating approximately 583 annual responses; the frequency of response is biennially, the estimated time needed to respond is 2.5 hours; and the total estimated annual burden hours are 1,457.

Status of the proposed information collection: This is a new information collection request. Portions of this request were formerly approved under OMB Control Number 2502–0281.


Frank L. Davis,
General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing-Deputy Federal Housing Commissioner.

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.

DATES: Written data, comments or requests must be received by October 5, 2007.

ADDRESSES: 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.
within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203; fax 703/358–2281.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Division of Management Authority, telephone 703/358–2104.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Endangered Species

The public is invited to comment on the following applications 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.). Written data, comments, or requests for copies of these complete applications should be submitted to the Director (address above).

Applicant: Peregrine Fund, Boise, ID, PRT–819573.

The applicant requests renewal and amendment of a permit to import live harpy eagles (Harpia harpyja) and samples from worldwide locations and to export/re-export live birds and samples as part of an ongoing conservation project which enhances the survival of the species/scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a five-year period.

Applicant: Gail W. Hearn, Arcadia University/Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA, PRT–161812.

The applicant requests a permit to import biological samples from Bioko drill monkey (Mandrillus leucophaeus poensis), Black colobus monkey (Colobus satanus satanus), and Bioko red-eared monkey (Cercopithecus erythrotis erythrotis) for the purpose of enhancement of the species through scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant for a five-year period.

Applicant: Hayden H. Thompson, Denver, CO, PRT–161012.

The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male bontebok (Damaliscus pygargus pygargus) culled from a captive herd maintained under the management program of the Republic of South Africa, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.


The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male bontebok (Damaliscus pygargus pygargus) culled from a captive herd maintained under the management program of the Republic of South Africa, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.


Michael L. Carpenter,
Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

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BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice: Receipt of Application for an Incidental Take Permit; Request for Comments

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The City of Adrian (Applicant) has applied to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for an incidental take permit (ITP) pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The proposed duration of the permit is 30 years. The Applicant has prepared a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) to address potential impacts to the federally endangered Topeka shiner (Notropis topeka).

This notice, provided pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Act, advises the public and other agencies of the availability of the HCP for review and comment.

The Service has made a preliminary determination that the HCP and permit application are eligible for categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). The basis for this determination is contained in an Environmental Action Statement and low-effect screening form, which are available for public review.

DATES: Written data or comments must be received on or before October 5, 2007.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Phil Delphrey (612) 725–3548, extension 206.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Availability of Documents

Individuals requesting copies of the applications and proposed HCP should contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by telephone at (612) 725–3548 or by letter (see ADDRESSES). Copies of the proposed HCP also are available for public inspection during regular business hours at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bloomington Field Office, 4101 East 80th Street, Bloomington, MN, or at the Service’s Regional Web site at: http://www.fws.gov/midwest/Endangered/permits/hcp/index.html. All comments received become part of the official public record. Requests for such comments will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Council on Environmental Quality’s NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6(f)). Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. If a respondent wishes us to withhold his/her name and/or address, this must be stated prominently at the beginning of the comment.

Background

Section 9 of the Act and its implementing Federal regulations prohibit the take of animal species listed as endangered or threatened. The definition of take under the Act includes the following activities: To harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or attempt to engage in such conduct (16 U.S.C. 1538). The Service has principal trust responsibility for the conservation and protection of threatened and endangered species under the ESA. Section 10 of the ESA, 16 U.S.C. 1539, establishes a program whereby persons seeking to pursue activities that otherwise could give rise to liability for unlawful “take” of federally-protected species may receive an ITP, which protects them from such liability. To obtain an ITP, the applicant must submit an HCP and the taking must be incidental to, and not the purpose of, an otherwise lawful activity. Id. §§ 1539(a)(1)(B), 1539(a)(2)(A). Once the Service has determined that the applicant has satisfied these and other statutory criteria, it may issue the ITP.

The Applicant operates a municipal well field and is proposing to increase the annual consumption of groundwater at the well field from 50 million to 60.5 million gallons per year. The increase in the annual consumption of groundwater at the Adrian well field has the potential to impact water levels and stream flow in an unnamed stream that borders the well field to the south. The Topeka