DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight
30-Day Notice of Submission of Information Collection for Approval from Office of Management and Budget

AGENCY: Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight.

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A), the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight (OFHEO) hereby gives notice that it is seeking approval for the information collection titled “OFHEO Application for Employment” from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Notice of this proposed information collection was previously published in the Federal Register on March 23, 2007, Volume 72, Number 56, pages 13814–13815, allowing for a 60 day public comment period. No comments were received.

The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comment until October 15, 2007. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.10, and 5 CFR 1320.5(a)(1)(iv).

Written comments or suggestions regarding the information collection described in this notice must be directed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Docket Library, Room 10102, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503. Attention: Desk Officer for the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight. Written comments and suggestions are solicited to:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of OFHEO, including whether the information will have practical utility;
(2) Evaluate the accuracy of OFHEO’s 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 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) Title of collection: OFHEO Application for Employment.
(2) Summary of collection information: The Application for Employment is an on-line job application form. The application form may be made available in paper copy by request.
(3) Need and proposed use: Collection of the information is necessary to gather data concerning potential new hires for OFHEO and the information will be used to evaluate the qualifications of applicants for a variety of positions.
(4) Description of the likely respondents, including the estimated number of likely respondents and proposed frequency of response to the collection of information: Persons responding to the information collection are U.S. citizens applying for employment with OFHEO. The estimated number of respondents is approximately 3,100 per year.

(5) Estimate of the total annual reporting and record keeping burden that will result from the collection: The estimated number of respondents is approximately 3,100 per year. Each application takes approximately two hours to complete, for a total of 6,200 estimated annual burden hours.

For further information, or to obtain a copy of the proposed information collection, please contact Mark Laponsky, Executive Director, telephone (202) 414–3832 (not a toll-free number), Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, Fourth Floor, 3700 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20552. The telephone number for the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf is (800) 877–8339.


James B. Lockhart III,
Director.

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BILLING CODE 4220-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge Complex

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.


SUMMARY: The Fish and Wildlife Service announces that a Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the...
Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge Complex, with refuges in Jackson, Lauderdale, Limestone, Madison, and Morgan Counties, Alabama, is available for distribution. The CCP was prepared pursuant to the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and describes how the refuge complex will be managed for the next 15 years.

The Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge Complex, with refuges in Jackson, Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge Complex, 2700 Refuge Headquarters Road, Decatur, AL 35603; Telephone: 256/353–7243; Fax 256/353–9728. The CCP/FONSI may also be accessed and downloaded from the Service’s Web site: http://southeast.fws.gov/planning/

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: With this notice, we finalize the CCP process for the Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge Complex, begun as announced in the Federal Register on July 21, 2005 (70 FR 42084). For more about the process, see that notice. We released the Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment (Draft CCP/EA) to the public, requesting comments in a notice of availability in the Federal Register on April 5, 2007 (72 FR 16811). The Draft CCP/EA identified and evaluated four alternatives for managing the refuge complex over the next 15 years. Under Alternative A, the “no-action” alternative, present management would have continued. Current approaches to managing migratory birds, threatened and endangered species, other wildlife and habitats, and allowing for public use would have remained unchanged. Under Alternative B, management would have focused on maximizing opportunities for public visitation, increasing both facilities and activities. Under Alternative C, the refuge complex would have emphasized its biological program by applying maximum efforts to enhance habitat conditions and increase wildlife populations, particularly migratory birds. The visitor services program would have remained as it is at present. We chose Alternative D as the preferred alternative. This determination was made based on the best professional judgment of the planning team and the comments received on the Draft CCP/EA. Under this alternative, the refuge complex will strive to optimize both its biological program and its visitor services program.

Over the 15-year life of the plan, the complex staff will increase emphasis on environmental education and interpretation to lead to a better understanding of the importance of wildlife and habitat resources, especially invasive species, endangered species, and migratory birds. Research studies on the refuge will be fostered and partnerships developed with universities and other agencies, providing needed resources and experiment sites, while meeting the needs of each refuge’s wildlife and habitat management programs. New surveys on birds, reptiles, and amphibians will be initiated to develop baseline information.

The Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge Complex is currently comprised of seven national wildlife refuges, spreading across 12,500 square miles of northern Alabama. In addition, the Wheeler Complex administers five Farm Service Agency conservation easement tracts. The Final CCP/FONSI covers four of the seven refuges: Wheeler Refuge in Limestone, Madison and Morgan Counties; Key Cave Refuge in Lauderdale County; Sauta Cave Refuge in Jackson County (formerly known as Blowing Wind Cave); and Fern Cave Refuge in Jackson County. The other three refuges (Cahaba River, Mountain Longleaf, and Watercress Darter) will be addressed at a later date in separate plans.

Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge, consisting of 37,000 acres and located among the cities of Athens, Decatur, and Huntsville, was established in 1938 by Executive Order 7926 as a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife. Additional purposes were added later under the authorities of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 1929 and the Refuge Recreation Act of 1962. Sauta Cave National Wildlife Refuge, known as Blowing Wind Cave National Wildlife Refuge until 1999, is located near Scottsboro. It is a 264-acre refuge purchased in 1978 to provide protection for the federally endangered gray bat (Myotis grisescens) and Indiana bat (Myotis sodalis) and their critical habitat. Fern Cave National Wildlife Refuge, located near Paint Rock, was purchased in 1981 to provide protection for the federally endangered gray and Indiana bats. It consists of 199 acres of forested hillside underlain by a massive cave with many stalactite- and stalagmite-filled rooms. Key Cave National Wildlife Refuge, located about 5 miles southwest of Florence, was established in 1997 to provide protection for the endangered Alabama cavefish (Speoplatyrhinus poulsoni).

Authority: This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, Public Law 105–57.


Cynthia K. Dohner,
Acting Regional Director.
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

Proposed Low Effect Habitat Conservation Plan for Washington Department of Natural Resources’ Commercial Geoduck Fishery

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; receipt of application.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), advise the public that the Washington Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) has applied for an incidental take permit (ITP), pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The requested 50-year permit would authorize the incidental take of covered species associated with WDNR’s management of the State’s Commercial Geoduck Fishery. We are requesting comments on the permit application and on whether the proposed Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) qualifies as a “low-effect” HCP, eligible for a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended. We explain the basis for this possible determination in a draft environmental action statement (EAS), which is also available for public review.

DATES: Written comments must be received by 5 p.m. on October 15, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Address comments to Ken Berg, Manager, Western Washington Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 510 Desmond Drive SE., Suite 102, Lacey, WA 98503. You may also send comments by facsimile to (206) 753–9405 or by electronic mail to geoduckhcp@fws.gov. For further information and instruction on the reviewing and commenting process, see Public Availability of Comments section below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jo Ellen Henry, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (see ADDRESSES), or telephone (360) 753–7766.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Availability of Documents

If you would like copies of the application, proposed HCP, or EAS, contact us by telephone (see FOR