

Washington, DC, 20410; telephone (202) 708-0744, or the Public and Indian Housing Resource Center at 1-800-955-2232. (With the exception of the telephone number for the PIH Resource Center, these are not toll-free telephone numbers.) Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access these numbers via TTY by calling the Federal Information Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On February 18, 1999 (64 FR 8192), HUD published a Notice of Initial Guidance on the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (Pub.L. 105-276, 112 Stat. 2461, approved October 21, 1998) (the "Public Housing Reform Act"). The Public Housing Reform Act makes significant changes to the rents charged for public housing units (see sections 508 and 523 of the statute). These changes are the subject of HUD's rulemaking on "Changes to Admission and Occupancy Requirements in Public Housing and Section 8 Housing Assistance Programs." HUD's proposed rule on this subject was published on April 30, 1999 (64 FR 23460), and the 60-day public comment period on this rule closed on June 29, 1999. Certain provisions of the Public Housing Reform Act are effective October 1, 1999, notwithstanding whether HUD has issued rules for effect on these statutory provisions. The statutory provisions that become effective October 1, 1999, include the changes to rents charged for public housing units.

HUD realizes the importance of this April 30, 1999 rule to public housing agencies (PHAs) in setting and describing their rent policies, as required by the PHA plans. HUD is making every effort to complete this rulemaking as quickly as possible, but believes that given the time to carefully review, consider and address the public comments received on the April 30, 1999 proposed rule, the earliest publication date will probably occur near the end of August. HUD recognizes that an end-of-August publication may not provide sufficient time for PHAs to obtain the guidance they need to put these rent provisions into effect for new admissions, re-examinations, and recertifications after October 1, 1999. Therefore, HUD is issuing this guidance now on rent determinations.

Guidance on Rent Provisions

1. As indicated in HUD's Notice of Initial Guidance, published February 18, 1999, the new rent provisions are effective for families as they are

admitted, re-examined or recertified, on or after October 1, 1999.

2. In determining annual income and adjusted income (e.g., required earned income disallowance or the alternative individual savings account, exclusions versus deductions, permissive deductions) for such families, §§ 5.603, 5.611, 5.612 and 5.614(a)(2) and the corresponding sections of the preamble to the April 30, 1999 proposed rule serve as guidance for these determinations, with the exception of earned income of minors. PHAs must take all necessary steps to ensure that families eligible for new mandatory deductions receive those deductions.

3. For addressing earned income of minors, the existing regulations which exclude earned income of minors from the definition of income (24 CFR 5.609(c)(1)) serve as the appropriate guidance.

4. For choice of rents (flat rents, income-based rents), § 5.614 and the corresponding section of the preamble to the April 30, 1999 proposed rule serve as guidance for choice of rent requirements. As further clarification, the market value of a unit on which flat rents are based must be a rent which would allow the unit to be successfully rented if the development were not public housing (neither lower nor higher). In addition to the documentation required by the April 30, 1999 proposed rule, regarding the calculation and establishment of flat rents, PHAs should keep records documenting specific offers to families of the dollar amounts of tenant rent under each option.

PHAs that follow this guidance will not be penalized for any changes made by HUD to the proposed rule provisions at the final rule stage. If changes are made at the final rule stage to these provisions, the final rule will provide adequate time for PHAs to adjust their policies.

Dated: August 2, 1999.

Deborah Vincent,

General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing.

[FR Doc. 99-20298 Filed 8-5-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-33-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered and Threatened Species Permit Applications

ACTION: Notice of receipt of applications.

SUMMARY: The following applicants have applied for a permit to conduct certain

activities with endangered species. This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531, *et seq.*).

Permit No. TE-014110-0

Applicant: The University of Texas-Pan American, Coastal Studies Lab, South Padre Island, Texas

Applicant requests authorization for scientific research and recovery purposes to conduct specific activities for the Kemp's ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys kempi*), green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*), hawksbill sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), and leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) in various locations on the Texas Gulf coast.

Permit No. TE-14168

Applicant: Peter Sprouse, Austin, Texas

Applicant requests authorization for scientific research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for the Tooth Cave spider (*Neoleptoneta myopica*), Bee Creek Cave harvestman (*Texella reddelli*), Bone Cave harvestman (*Texella reyesi*), Tooth Cave ground beetle (*Rhadine persephone*), Kretschmarr Cave mold beetle (*Texamaurops reddelli*), Coffin Cave mold beetle (*Batrissodes texanus*), Tooth Cave pseudoscorpion (*Tartarocreagris texana*), in Travis and Williamson Counties, Texas.

Permit No. TE-824714

Applicant: Bureau of Land Management, Farmington Field Office, Farmington, New Mexico

Applicant requests authorization for scientific research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties, New Mexico.

Permit No. TE-798998

Applicant: Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Austin, Texas

Applicant requests authorization for scientific research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for the following federally listed species in Texas:

Black-capped vireo (*Vireo atricapillus*)
Golden-cheeked warbler (*Dendroica chrysoparia*)

Tooth Cave spider (*Neoleptoneta myopica*)

Bee Creek Cave harvestman (*Texella reddelli*)

Bone Cave harvestman (*Texella reyesi*)
Tooth Cave ground beetle (*Rhadine persephone*)

Kretschmarr Cave mold beetle
(*Texamaurops reddelli*)
Coffin Cave mold beetle (*Batrises
texanus*)
Tooth Cave pseudoscorpion
(*Tartarocreagris texana*)
Houston Toad (*Bufo houstonensis*)
Interior least tern (*Sterna antillarum*)

Permit No. TE-014994-0

Applicant: Hill Country Environmental, Inc., Austin, Texas

Applicant requests authorization for scientific research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for the black-capped vireo (*Vireo atricapillus*) and golden-cheeked warbler (*Dendroica chrysoparia*) in central Texas.

Permit No. TE-14045-0

Applicant: University of Arizona, School of Renewable Natural Resources, Tucson, Arizona

Applicant requests authorization for scientific research and recovery purposes to attach tail-mount fitted radio transmitters to Mexican spotted owls (*Strix occidentalis lucida*) and monitor them in Pima County, Arizona.

Permit No. TE-820085-0

Applicant: The Nature Conservancy of Texas, Texas Conservation Data Center, San Antonio, Texas

Applicant requests authorization for scientific research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for the black-capped vireo (*Vireo atricapillus*) and golden-cheeked warbler (*Dendroica chrysoparia*) throughout Texas.

DATES: Written comments on these permit applications must be received on or before September 7, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written data or comments should be submitted to the Legal Instruments Examiner, Division of Endangered Species/Permits, Ecological Services, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103. Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when submitting comments. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the official administrative record and may be made available to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services, Division of Endangered Species/Permits, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103. Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when requesting copies of documents. 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 the address above.

Bryan Arroyo,

Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, Region 2, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

[FR Doc. 99-20262 Filed 8-5-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

Request for Public Comments on Proposed Information Collection Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

The proposal for the collection of information described below has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). Copies of the proposed collection of information and related forms may be obtained by contacting the Bureau's clearance officer at the phone number listed below. OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove the information collection, but may respond after 30 days; therefore public comments should be submitted to OMB within 30 days in order to assure their maximum consideration. Comments and suggestions on the requirement should be made directly to the Desk Officer for the Interior Department, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503, and to the Bureau Clearance officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 807 National Center, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive., Reston, Virginia, 20192.

Specific public comments are requested as to:

1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the bureaus, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. The accuracy of the bureau's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. The quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
4. How to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Title: Annual National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Announcement.

OMB approval number: 1028-0051.

Abstract: Respondents submit proposals to support research in earthquake hazards and earthquake prediction to earth-science data and information essential to mitigate losses. This information will be used as the basis for selection and award of projects meeting the program objectives. Annual or final reports are required on each selected performances.

Bureau form number: None.

Frequency: Annual proposals, annual or final reports.

Description of respondents: Educational institutions, profit and non-profit organizations, individuals, and agencies of local or State governments.

Annual responses: 300.

Annual burden hours: 12,000 hours.

Bureau clearance officer: John Cordyack, 703-648-7313.

Dated: July 30, 1999.

P. Patrick Leahy,

Chief Geologist.

[FR Doc. 99-20264 Filed 8-5-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-74-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-130-1020-00; GP9-0272]

Notice of Field tour of the Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District.

ACTION: Field tour of the Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council; August 26, 1999; Whitman and Adams Counties, Washington.

SUMMARY: The Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council will take a field tour on August 26, 1999. The tour will start at 8:30 a.m., at the Spokane District Office of the Bureau of Land Management, 1103 N. Fancher, Spokane, Washington 99212-1275. The Council will tour the recently-acquired Escure property in Whitman and Adams Counties, Washington. Topics to be addressed include recreation activities and natural resource issues. The tour will conclude no later than 4:00 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Clifford Ligon, Bureau of Land Management, 1103 N. Fancher Road, Spokane, Washington 99212-1275; or call 509-536-1200.