

defined goals and supported by local resources. Accordingly, PL 106-398, Section 1701, Sec. 33 (b) required that the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) conduct a study to define the current role and activities associated with the fire services; determine the adequacy of current levels of funding; and provide a needs assessment to identify shortfalls

Collection of Information

Title: U.S. Fire Service Needs Assessment Survey.

Type of Information Collection: New.

Abstract: Public Law 106-398, Section 1701, Sec. 33 (b) required that the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) conduct a study to define the current role and activities associated with the fire services; determine the adequacy of current levels of funding; and provide a needs assessment to identify shortfalls. America's fire departments provide service and protection with impact far beyond the borders of the communities that support them. In order to provide this service and protection with the effectiveness, speed, and safety that their home communities and the nation as a whole demand, many fire departments will need to increase their resources, in any of several categories. Current understanding of the magnitude and nature of fire department needs is not well defined. Furthermore, the rationale for Federal government assistance to meet these needs is also in need of greater definition, given the normal presumption that routine fire protection is a local function, set to meet locally defined goals and supported by local resources. FEMA will use the expertise in the United States Fire Administration (USFA), the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) drawn from national fire service organizations to define a survey questionnaire, the subject of this notice, asking fire departments to describe their current resources and to provide such other information as will allow for proper interpretation of their responses and translate them into needs, relative to a framework of requirements developed from the same experts and beginning with the requirements embedded in existing national standards and regulations. The resultant random stratified survey of fire departments and subsequent analysis will be compiled into a report to Congress, and the report also made available to the public via the Internet, in order to serve as the informational basis for future Federal investment in the fire service.

Affected Public: Non-for-profit; Federal Government; and State, Local or Tribal Government.

Estimated Total Annual Burden

Hours: 8,958.

Estimated Cost: The estimated costs to the government will be contracted direct labor and associated overhead costs of \$277,457. There would be no costs to the respondent other than the minimal direct labor cost of a single fire service worker taking a small amount of time to complete the survey and this would be applicable only to those fire departments with career employees. The majority of the respondents will be from volunteer fire departments from which no direct labor costs will be incurred. The estimate of respondent costs for those career departments is computed as follows: estimated number of surveys multiplied by the national average hourly rate of a firefighter of \$18.65 multiplied by 0.33 (representing the estimated 20 minutes it takes to complete the survey) and multiply that by .25 which represents the percentage of respondents who are career (paid) personnel. Using this equation, total estimated costs to respondents of \$41,770 is derived ($27,148 \text{ estimated surveys} \times \$18.65 = \$506,310 \times 0.33 = \$167,082 \times 0.25 = \$41,770$). The average cost per survey is \$1.53. The respondents are under no obligation to complete the survey and may refuse to do so or stop at any time so the average cost to the respondent could easily not be incurred by refusing to fill out the survey.

COMMENTS: Written comments are solicited to (a) evaluate whether the proposed data collection is necessary for the proper performance of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) 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. Comments should be received within 60 days of the date of this notice.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons should submit written comments to Muriel B. Anderson, Chief, Records Management Section, Program Services and Systems Branch, Facilities and Services

Management Division, Administration and Resource Planning Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, SW, Room 316, Washington, DC 20472.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Contact Mark A Whitney, Fire Program Specialist, U.S. Fire Administration, (617) 984-7465, for additional information. You may contact Ms. Anderson for copies of the proposed collection of information at telephone number (202) 646-2625 or facsimile number (202) 646-3347 or e-mail muriel.Anderson@fema.gov.

Dated: September 28, 2001.

Reginald Trujillo,

Branch Chief, Program Services and Systems Branch, Facilities and Services Management Division, Administration and Resource Planning Directorate.

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FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Federal Emergency Management Agency has submitted the following proposed information collection to the Office of Management and Budget for review and clearance in accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507).

Title: Emergency Management Exercise Reporting System (EMERS)

Type of Information Collection: Reinstatement, with change of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired.

OMB Number: 3067-0248.

Abstract: EMERS is an automated data collection software program that captures the positive and negative results of emergency management exercise and actual disaster occurrences. This data is used to analyze the capabilities of State and local governments to respond to disasters. FEMA will use this data to also determine strengths and weaknesses and actions that can be taken at the national level to improve programs. State and local governments use EMERS data to track exercises activity on an annual basis and to use the lessons learned for the development of corrective action plans, strategic planning and for State/local annual basis and to use the lessons learned for

the development of corrective action plans, strategic planning and for State/local budgeting.

Affected Public: State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 3,056.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 1 hour.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 4,668.

Frequency of Response: On Occasion.

COMMENTS: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed information collection to the Desk Officer for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503 within 30 days of the date of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection should be made to Muriel B. Anderson, Chief, Records Management Section, Program Services and Systems Branch, Facilities and Services Management Division, Administration and Resource Planning Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, SW, Room 316, Washington, DC 20472, telephone number (202) 646-2625 or facsimile number (202) 646-3347, or e-mail muriel.anderson@fema.gov.

Dated: October 1, 2001

Reginald Trujillo,

Branch Chief, Program Services and Systems Branch, Facilities and Services Management Division, Administration and Resource Planning Directorate.

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FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Federal Emergency Management Agency has submitted the following proposed information collection to the Office of Management and Budget for review and clearance in accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507).

Title: Implementation of Coastal Barrier Resources Act.

Type of Information Collection: Revision of a currently approved collection.

OMB Number: 3067-0120.

Abstract: Section II of the Coastal Barrier Resource Act (P.L. 348) prohibits the sale of National Flood Insurance Program policies for new construction and substantial improvement of structures on undeveloped coastal barriers on or after October 1, 1983. The information collection contained in FEMA regulation 44 CFR, Section 71.4 is used by FEMA to determine that a structure is neither new construction nor a substantial improvement, and therefore is eligible for flood insurance.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households; Business or Other For-Profit; Not-for-Profit Institutions; Farms; Federal Government; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 60.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 1.5 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 90 hours.

Frequency of Response: One-time during life of policy.

COMMENTS: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed information collection to the Desk Officer for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503 within 30 days of the date of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection should be made to Muriel B. Anderson, Chief, Records Management Section, Program Services and Systems Branch, Facilities and Services Management Division, Administration and Resource Planning Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, SW, Room 316, Washington, DC 20472, telephone number (202) 646-2625 or facsimile number (202) 646-3347, or email muriel.anderson@fema.gov.

Dated: September 28, 2001.

Reginald Trujillo,

Branch Chief, Program Services and Systems Branch, Facilities and Services Management Division, Administration and Resource Planning Directorate.

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FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

[FEMA-1393-DR]

Florida; Major Disaster and Related Determinations

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is a notice of the Presidential declaration of a major disaster for the State of Florida (FEMA-1393-DR), dated September 28, 2001, and related determinations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 28, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Madge Dale, Readiness, Response and Recovery Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-2705 or madge.dale@fema.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that, in a letter dated September 28, 2001, the President declared a major disaster under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5204 (the Stafford Act), as follows:

I have determined that the damage in certain areas of the State of Florida, resulting from severe storms, tornadoes and flooding associated with Tropical Storm Gabrielle on September 13-21, 2001, is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant a major disaster declaration under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5206 (the Stafford Act). I, therefore, declare that such a major disaster exists in the State of Florida.

In order to provide Federal assistance, you are hereby authorized to allocate from funds available for these purposes, such amounts as you find necessary for Federal disaster assistance and administrative expenses.

You are authorized to provide Public Assistance in the designated areas, Hazard Mitigation throughout the State, and any other forms of assistance under the Stafford Act you may deem appropriate. Consistent with the requirement that Federal assistance be supplemental, any Federal funds provided under the Stafford Act for Public Assistance or Hazard Mitigation will be limited to 75 percent of the total eligible costs.

Further, you are authorized to make changes to this declaration to the extent allowable under the Stafford Act.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority vested in the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency under Executive Order 12148, I hereby appoint Charles M. Butler of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to act as the Federal Coordinating Officer for this declared disaster.

I do hereby determine the following areas of the State of Florida to have been affected adversely by this declared major disaster:

Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Manatee, St. Johns, Sarasota, and Flagler Counties for Public Assistance.

All counties within the State of Florida are eligible to apply for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.