

following the yet to be developed public input process.

Dated: January 5, 2011.

Ramiro Villalvazo,
Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 2011-362 Filed 1-10-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Notice of Proposed Changes to the National Handbook of Conservation Practices for the Natural Resources Conservation Service

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed changes in the NRCS National Handbook of Conservation Practices for public review and comment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the intention of NRCS to issue a series of revised conservation practice standards in the National Handbook of Conservation Practices. These standards include: Aquatic Organism Passage (Code 396), Bivalve Aquaculture Waste Control (Code 400), Cross Wind Trap Strips (Code 589c), Irrigation Field Ditch (Code 388), Nutrient Management (Code 590), and Waste Facility Closure (Code 360).

NRCS State Conservationists who choose to adopt these practices for use within their States will incorporate them into section IV of their respective electronic Field Office Technical Guide. These practices may be used in conservation systems that treat highly erodible land (HEL) or on land determined to be a wetland. Section 343 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 requires NRCS to make available for public review and comment all proposed revisions to conservation practice standards used to carry out HEL and wetland provisions of the law.

DATES: *Effective Date:* This is effective January 11, 2011.

Comment Date: Submit comments on or before February 25, 2011. Final versions of these new or revised conservation practice standards will be adopted after the close of the 45-day period, and after consideration of all comments.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be submitted using any of the following methods:

- *Mail:* Wayne Bogovich, National Agricultural Engineer, Conservation

Engineering Division, Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 6136 South Building, Washington, DC 20250.

- *E-mail:*

wayne.bogovich@wdc.usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Wayne Bogovich, National Agricultural Engineer, Conservation Engineering Division, Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 6136 South Building, Washington, DC 20250.

Electronic copies of these standards can be downloaded or printed from the following Web site: <ftp://ftp-fc.sc.egov.usda.gov/NHQ/practice-standards/federal-register/>. Requests for paper versions or inquiries may be directed to Wayne Bogovich, National Agricultural Engineer, Conservation Engineering Division, Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 6136 South Building, Washington, DC 20250.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The amount of the proposed changes varies considerably for each of the Conservation Practice Standards addressed in this notice. To fully understand the proposed changes, individuals are encouraged to compare these changes with each standard's current version as shown at: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/Standards/nhcp.html>. To aid in this comparison, following are highlights of the proposed revisions to each standard:

Aquatic Organism Passage (Code 396)—The title was changed from "Fish Passage" to "Aquatic Organism Passage" in an effort to better reflect the full range of passage projects completed under the standard across the United States and its protectorates. Both the Definition and Purpose were modified by removing unnecessary words. Two new Criteria were added. Textual references to additional relevant standards were added, and the references cited section was updated to match material presented in the body of the standard. Minor edits were made to improve the readability and clarity of the standard.

Bivalve Aquaculture Waste Control (Code 400)—This is a new conservation practice standard.

Cross Wind Trap Strips (Code 589c)—The purpose to induce deposition and reduce transport of wind-borne sediment and sediment-borne contaminants downwind changed to induce wind-borne sediment deposition. Deleted the purpose to provide food and cover for wildlife.

Added two new purposes: Induce snow deposition and improve air quality by reducing the generation of airborne particulate matter. The existing criteria in the standard were reformatted to be listed under the appropriate additional criteria for the intended purpose.

Irrigation Field Ditch (Code 388)—Revised Purpose, adding Improvement of Energy Efficiency; revised Criteria, to remove compliance with Federal, State, and local laws and regulations; revised Criteria, changing reference for maximum design velocity from Technical Release 25 to National Engineering Handbook 654; expanded Considerations; expanded Plans and Specifications; and added References.

Nutrient Management (Code 590)—This standard has been updated to promote enhanced nutrient management planning activities at the State level. The standard delivers the minimum requirements for nutrient planning associated with USDA programs. Focus has been added on erosion control, nutrient use efficiency, adaptive nitrogen management tactics, tile drainage, and better management of the 4Rs of nutrient application (Right source, Right timing, Right amount, and Right placement).

Waste Facility Closure (Code 360)—This standard has been updated to include the remediation of contaminated soil in dry waste storage facilities. The name of the standard has also been changed to reflect the expanded definition of decommissioning dry waste facilities. A more widespread use of this standard is anticipated with the inclusion of dry waste facilities. We do not anticipate controversial issues or problems with these changes, nor do we envision the changes will make it more difficult for the States to implement this standard.

Signed this 5th day of January 2011, in Washington, DC.

Dave White,
Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

[FR Doc. 2011-373 Filed 1-10-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service.

ACTION: Proposed collection; Comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Housing Service's intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the program of the Agency's use of supervised bank accounts (SBA).

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by March 14, 2011 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ancil Green, Financial Loan Analyst, Multi-Family Housing Portfolio Management Division, RHS, STOP 0782, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0782. Telephone: (202) 690-0760.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: 7 CFR 1902-A, Supervised Bank Accounts.

OMB Number: 0575-0158.

Expiration Date of Approval: 04/30/2011

Type of Request: Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection.

Abstract: The Agency extends financial assistance to applicants that do not qualify for loans under commercial rates and terms.

The Agency use SBAs as a mechanism to (1) Ensure correct disbursement and expenditure of all funds designated for a project; (2) help a borrower properly manage its financial affairs; (3) ensure that the Government's security is protected adequately from fraud, waste and abuse.

SBAs are mandatory for Multi-Family Housing (MFH) reserve accounts. The MFH funds must be kept in the SBA for the full term of a loan. Any funds withdrawn for disbursement for an authorized purpose require a countersignature from an Agency official.

This regulation prescribes the policies and responsibilities for the use of SBAs. In carrying out the mission as a supervised credit Agency, this regulation authorizes the use of supervised accounts for the disbursement of funds. The use may be necessitated to disburse Government funds consistent with the various stages of any development (construction) work actually achieved. On limited occasions, a supervised account is used to provide temporary credit counseling and oversight of those being assisted who demonstrate an inability to handle their financial affairs responsibly. Another use is for depositing MFH reserve account funds in a manner requiring Agency co-signature for withdrawals. MFH reserve account funds are held in

a reserve account for the future capital improvement needs for apartment properties. Supervised accounts are established to ensure Government security is adequately protected against fraud, waste and abuse.

The legislative authority for requiring the use of supervised accounts is contained section 510 of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1480). These provisions authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make such rules and regulations as deemed necessary to carry out the responsibilities and duties the Government is charged with administering.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this information collection is estimated to average .38 hours per response.

Respondents: Small Business.

Estimated Average Number of

Respondents: 20,000.

Estimated Total Annual Responses: 70,292.

Estimated Total Number of Man Hours: 26,929.

Estimated Hourly Salary Rate: \$22.

Estimated Total Cost (Man Hours × Hourly Rate): \$593,317.

Statistical Data obtained from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment, Hours and Earning year 2009-10 (<http://bls.gov/>).

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Jeanne Jacobs, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, at (202) 692-0040.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) 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) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to 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. Comments may be sent to Jeanne Jacobs, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, STOP 0732, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request

for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: January 4, 2011.

Tammye H. Trevino,

Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

[FR Doc. 2011-304 Filed 1-10-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this Notice announces the Rural Housing Service's intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the program for the Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing Program.

DATES: Comments on this Notice must be received by March 14, 2011 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Tammy Daniels, Financial and Loan Analyst, Multi-Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Division, Rural Housing Service, USDA, Stop 0781, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250, telephone: (202) 720-0021.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing Program.

OMB Number: 0575-0174.

Expiration Date of Approval: June 30, 2011.

Type of Request: Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection.

Abstract: On March 28, 1996, President Clinton signed the "Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996." One of the provisions of the Act was the authorization of the Section 538 Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing Loan Program, adding the program to the Housing Act of 1949. The program has been designed to increase the supply of affordable Multi-Family Housing (MFH) through partnerships between RHS and major lending sources, as well as State and local housing finance agencies and bond issuers. Qualified lenders will be authorized to originate, underwrite, and close loans for MFH projects. To be considered, these projects must be either new construction or acquisition with rehabilitation with at least \$6,500 per unit.