

Dated: May 23, 2000.

Jane M. Harrison,

Director, Division of Policy Review and Coordination.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Information Collection To Be Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Approval Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will submit the collection of information listed below to OMB for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act. A copy of the information collection requirement is included in this notice. If you wish to obtain copies of the proposed information collection requirement, related forms, and explanatory material, contact the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer at the address listed below.

DATES: You must submit comments on or before July 31, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Send your comments on the requirement to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, ms 222-ARLSQ, 1849 C Street NW., Washington, DC 20204.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request a copy of the information collection request, explanatory information and related forms, contact Rebecca A. Mullin at (703) 358-2287, or electronically to rmullin@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR 1320, which implement provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), require that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (We) plan to submit a request to OMB to renew its approval of the collection of information for the nontoxic shot approval process. We are requesting a 3-year term of approval for this information collection activity.

Federal agencies may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB

control number. The OMB control number for this collection of information is 1018-0067.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703-711) and Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742d) designate the Department of the Interior as the key agency responsible for the wise management of migratory bird populations frequenting the United States and for the setting of hunting regulations that allow appropriate harvests that are within the guidelines that will allow for those populations' well being. These responsibilities include approval of nontoxic shot materials that are allowed for use in hunting waterfowl and coots in the U.S.

As of January 1, 1991, lead shot was banned for hunting waterfowl and coots in the U.S. At that time, steel shot was the only nontoxic alternative available. Since then, we have encouraged manufacturers to develop other alternatives that the hunting public may use. In approving a candidate material as nontoxic for hunting waterfowl and coots we must first ensure that secondary exposure (ingestion of spent shot or its components) are not a hazard to migratory birds and the environment. In order to make this decision, we require the applicant to collect information about the toxicity of their candidate material to migratory birds and the environment. A further requirement pertains to law enforcement. A noninvasive field detection device must be available to distinguish the candidate shot from lead shot. The above information provides the bulk of an application. Once a candidate material is approved as nontoxic there is no seasonal or annual information collection requirement.

Title: Protocol for Nontoxic Approval Procedures for Shot and Shot Coatings.
Approval Number: 1018-0067.
Service Form Number: Not applicable.
Frequency of Collection: Upon application.

Description of Respondents: Shot manufacturers.

Total Annual Burden Hours: The reporting burden is estimated to average 3,200 hours per application.

Total Annual Responses: We expect no more than 3 applications per year.

We invite comments concerning this renewal on: (1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of our migratory bird management functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and, (4)

ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents. The information collections in this program are part of a system of record covered by the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552(a)).

Dated: May 19, 2000.

Paul R. Schmidt,

Assistant Director, Refuges and Wildlife.

[FR Doc. 00-13384 Filed 5-26-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for the Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for the Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) intends to gather information necessary to prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and its implementing regulations, for the Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex refuges located in the State of New York. These refuges include Amagansett National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), Conscience Point NWR, Lido Beach NWR, Morton NWR, Oyster Bay NWR, Seatuck NWR, Target Rock NWR, and Wertheim NWR. The Refuges are in Suffolk and Nassau Counties, New York.

The Service is furnishing this notice in compliance with the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 668dd *et seq.*):

(1) To advise other agencies and the public of our intentions, and

(2) To obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to include in the environmental documents.

DATES: Inquire at the address below for dates of planning activity and due dates for comments.

ADDRESSES: Address comments and requests for more information to the following: Refuge Manager, Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex, P.O. Box 21, Shirley, New York 11976, 631/286-0485.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: By Federal law, all lands within the National