

average of 5 minutes per household to determine whether or not that household agrees to participate in the subsistence harvest survey. With an estimated 16,000 households responding to the permission slip, this amounts to 1,333 hours total annual burden.

**Note:** This form is maintained by the local village surveyor. The surveyor asks each household if that household will participate in the subsistence harvest survey. The surveyor then notes a "yes" or a "no" on a permission slip. Each household with a "yes" permission slip is given a survey form (described below). This form does not record, nor is it arranged or retrieved, by personal identifier.

*Title:* Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest Household Survey.

*Approval Number:* 1018-xxxx.

*Form number:* 7-FW-103.

*Frequency of Collection:* Three times per year—spring, summer, and fall.

*Description of Respondents:*

Households within the subsistence eligible areas of Alaska (50 CFR Part 92.5).

*Total Annual Responses:* 39,000. We estimate up to 13,000 of the approximately 26,000 households in the subsistence eligible areas will participate in the survey, responding three times annually.

*Total Annual Burden Hours:* 3,250 hours. We estimate the reporting burden to average 5 minutes per respondent for the Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest Household Survey. With an estimated 13,000 respondents filling out the form three times annually, the annual burden hours total 3,250 hours.

**Note:** The local village surveyor provides completed survey forms to us. The survey form consists of three pages, one page each for spring, summer, and fall. Each page has 51 bird illustrations, with spaces beside each illustration to mark down numbers of birds and eggs taken. This form does not record, nor is it arranged or retrieved, by personal identifier; the household number is written on each page of the survey form, along with a village number. The results of this annual survey help us understand the effect of subsistence hunting on migratory bird populations, while also evaluating the effects of newly established spring/summer season dates, species closures, and methods and means prohibitions.

We again invite comments on this proposed information collection on the following: (1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the agency, 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 on respondents.

Dated: July 28, 2003.

**Anissa Craghead,**

*Information Collection Officer, Fish and Wildlife Service.*

[FR Doc. 03-19490 Filed 7-30-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Information Collection Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Renewal Under the Paperwork Reduction Act; Special Use Permit Applications for National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has submitted a request to OMB to renew approval, under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, of the collection of information for special use permit applications on national wildlife refuges in Alaska. An estimate of the information collection requirement is included with this notice.

**DATES:** You must submit comments on or before September 2, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments on this information collection renewal to the Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior at OMB-OIRA via facsimile or e-mail using the following fax number or e-mail address: (202) 395-5806 (fax); [ruth\\_solomon@omb.eop.gov](mailto:ruth_solomon@omb.eop.gov) (e-mail). Please provide a copy of your comments to the Fish and Wildlife Service's Information Collection Clearance Officer, 4401 N. Fairfax Dr., MS 222 ARLSQ, Arlington, VA 22207; (703) 358-2269 (fax); or [anissa\\_craghead@fws.gov](mailto:anissa_craghead@fws.gov) (e-mail).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request a copy of the information collection request, explanatory information, or related forms, contact Anissa Craghead at (703) 358-2445; or electronically to [anissa\\_craghead@fws.gov](mailto:anissa_craghead@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 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), 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)). We submitted the following request to OMB to renew approval of the collection of information needed for special use permit applications for national wildlife refuges in Alaska. OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove this information collection but may respond after 30 days. To ensure maximum consideration, send your comments to OMB by the date listed in the **DATES** section near the beginning of this notice. We 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.

On February 14, 2003, we published a notice in the **Federal Register** (68 FR 7578) inviting the public to comment on this information collection. We did not receive any comments.

The National Wildlife Refuge Administration Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 668dd-ee) (Administration Act) authorizes us to permit uses, including commercial visitor services, on national wildlife refuges only when we find the activity to be compatible with the purposes for which the refuge was established. The National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (Pub. L. 105-57) (Improvement Act) amended the Administration Act and established "organic legislation" for the National Wildlife Refuge System with a unifying mission. It also modified the process for determining compatible uses on refuges and required that we determine the use of refuge lands to be compatible with the mission of the Refuge System, as well as the refuge purposes. We published proposed regulations for determining if a use is compatible in the **Federal Register** on September 9, 1999 (64 FR 49056), along with a draft compatibility policy.

The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) (16 U.S.C. 3101 *et seq.*) was signed into law on December 2, 1980. Its broad purpose is to provide for the disposition and use of a variety of federally owned lands in Alaska. Section 303 of ANILCA established the purposes for each Alaska refuge, and Section 304 requires that all uses we authorize on Alaska refuges first be found to be compatible with the refuge purposes. You can find regulations for administering special use permits on Alaska refuges in 50 CFR part 36.41.

Section 810 of ANILCA (16 U.S.C. 3120) requires that we evaluate the effect of any proposed use of refuge lands on subsistence uses and needs in determining whether to permit such uses. It restricts us from permitting a use which would significantly restrict

subsistence uses unless we give notice to the appropriate State agency and local committees and regional councils, hold a hearing in the vicinity of the area involved, and determine that such a restriction of subsistence uses is necessary, is consistent with sound management principles, is for the utilization of public lands, will involve the minimum amount of public lands necessary, and will include reasonable steps to minimize adverse impacts.

Sections 1303 and 1315 of ANILCA (16 U.S.C. 3193; 3203–3204) allow the Secretary of Interior to permit construction, use, and occupancy of cabins in national wildlife refuges in Alaska under certain conditions. Section 1303(b)(3) of ANILCA states that we will issue no special use permits for cabins unless the permit applicant provides certain items of information. You can find regulations issued to implement these provisions in 50 CFR part 36.33.

Section 1307 of ANILCA (16 U.S.C. 3197) contains two provisions concerning persons and entities to whom we are to give special rights and preferences with respect to providing “visitor services” on refuges in Alaska. Section 1307 defines “visitor services,” as “\* \* \* any service made available for a fee or charge to persons who visit a conservation system unit, including such services as providing food, accommodations, transportation, tours and guides, excepting the guiding of sport hunting and fishing.” You may find regulations issued to implement these activities in 50 CFR part 36.37.

We will provide the permit applications as requested by interested Alaska citizens. We will use information provided on the required written forms and/or verbal applications to determine if the proposed activity is compatible with refuge purposes and to ensure that the applicant is eligible for a permit, or in the case of competitively awarded permits, we will use the information to determine the most qualified applicant to receive benefits of a refuge permit. In the case of permits awarded under section 1307 of ANILCA, we will use the information to determine whether the applicant is: A member of a Native Corporation; a local resident; and/or was engaged in adequately providing visitors services on or before January 1,

1979; or is eligible to receive Cook Inlet Region rights.

We make provision in our general refuge regulations for public entry for specialized purposes, including economic activities such as the operation of guiding and other visitor services on refuges by concessionaires or cooperators under appropriate contracts or legal agreements (found in 50 CFR part 25.61) or special use permits (found in 50 CFR parts 36.37, 36.41, 26.22(b) and 26.25). These rules provide the authorities and procedures for selecting permittees on Alaska refuges, the vast majority of which are providers of services and facilities to the public. We will issue permits for a specific period as determined by the type and location of the use or visitor service provided.

We have made several minor revisions to the special use permit application form we use for Alaska refuges (USFWS Form 3–2001), and we explain the changes as follows:

1. On the page one, item 2, we added the phrase, “\* \* \* and are not inconsistent with public safety” to the end of the first sentence to be consistent with Service regulations and policy requirements that we consider public safety, as well as the other factors listed, before authorizing uses on national wildlife refuges.

2. On page one, item 3, we corrected the last sentence to state that permit applicants must provide their social security number or taxpayer identification number for activities subject to collection of fees by the Service, and we provided the legal citation for this requirement.

3. On page one, item 6, we modified the first sentence to reflect our revised estimates of the public reporting burden.

4. On page 2, we modified the application to provide the applicant the option to provide his/her taxpayer identification number or social security number.

5. On page 2, we requested “valid dates” for the alternate phone number.

6. On page 3, we replaced a confusing table with a list of Alaska refuges and types of uses in order to simplify the application. On the revised application, the applicant only needs to identify the refuge and the proposed activities

applicable to his/her application by marking with an “X” on the lists provided on the application form. By eliminating the table, we also provided more space on the application to provide a description and location of the proposed activity or use.

7. We rearranged the permit information required on page 4 into a more logical sequence and format in order to simplify the application. We also added a statement of reference to an enclosed Insurance Information Sheet for minimum insurance requirements.

8. On page 5, item 14, we added language to clarify that we need copies of only those State or Federal licenses, certifications, and registrations that are required for the activity the applicant proposes to conduct on the refuge.

In addition to the revisions identified above, we made a few minor editorial changes to the application form for clarification and plain language requirements. The editorial changes do not affect the information requirements of the application.

We revised the estimated number of respondents reported in the **Federal Register** notice published on February 14, 2003 (68 FR 7578), but we did not revise our estimated number of responses or our total annual burden estimate. We previously estimated the annual number of respondents (applicants) to be the same as the number of responses (applications). We reduced the estimated number of applicants because many individuals submit separate applications for different types of activities and/or for difference refuges.

*Title:* Special Use Permit Applications for National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska.

*OMB Control Number:* 1018–0014.

*Service Form Number:* 3–2001.

*Frequency of collection:* On occasion.

*Description of the respondents:* Individuals and households; business and other for-profit institutions; farms; and State, local or Tribal governments.

*Total Annual Number of respondents (applicants):* 200.

*Total Annual Number of responses (applications):* 350 (180 competitive permit applications and 170 non-competitive permit applications).

*Information Collection Burden Estimate:*

Type of permit application	Annual number of responses	Completion time (hours)	Annual burden (hours)
Competitively issued permit .....	180	30	5,400
Non-competitively issued permit .....	170	1.5	255
Combined Total .....	350	.....	5,655

We invite comments concerning this renewal on: (1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of our 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. This information collection is part of a system of record covered by the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552(a)).

Dated: July 28, 2003.

**Anissa Craghead,**

*Information Collection Officer, Fish and Wildlife Service.*

[FR Doc. 03-19491 Filed 7-30-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### **Availability of Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment for Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuge Complex in Iowa, Illinois and Missouri**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Refuge Improvement Act of 1997, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has published a draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment for Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuge Complex (Complex). This Plan describes how the Service intends to manage the Refuge Complex for the next 15 years.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by September 30, 2003. All comments should be addressed to Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Attention: CCP Comment, 1704 North 24th Street, Quincy, Illinois 62301, or direct e-mail to [r3planning@fws.gov](mailto:r3planning@fws.gov). Comments may also be submitted through the Service's regional Web site at <http://midwest.fws.gov/planning>.

**ADDRESSES:** A draft Plan or summary may be obtained by writing to the Service or submitting a request electronically. These documents will also be made available in portable document format (pdf) on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Web site at <http://midwest.fws.gov/planning>. Address requests to: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Branch of Ascertainment and Planning, Attn: CCP Comment, BHW Federal Building, 1 Federal Drive, Ft. Snelling,

MN, 55111; or direct e-mail to [r3planning@fws.gov](mailto:r3planning@fws.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For additional information on the draft comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment, contact Dick Steinbach, Complex Manager, at the address above or call the Refuge at 217/224-8580.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In 1997, Congress mandated that the Service prepare a comprehensive conservation plan for each refuge within the National Wildlife Refuge System. Comprehensive conservation plans guide management decisions over the course of 15 years. The Mark Twain NWR Complex includes Port Louisa NWR, Great River NWR, Clarence Cannon NWR, Two Rivers NWR, and Middle Mississippi River NWR, which are all located along the Upper Mississippi River. The Draft Plan identifies goals and objectives for habitat management, land protection and wildlife-dependent recreation, as well as strategies for achieving those goals and objectives.

Dated: September 6, 2002.

**William F. Hartwig,**

*Regional Director.*

[FR Doc. 03-19484 Filed 7-30-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### **North American Wetlands Conservation Act: Request for Small Grants Proposals for Year 2004**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of request for proposals.

**SUMMARY:** The purpose of this notice is to advise the public that we, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Council), are currently entertaining proposals that request match funding for wetland and wetland-associated upland conservation projects under the Small Grants program. Projects must meet the purposes of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989, as amended. We will give funding priority to projects from new grant applicants with new partners, where the project ensures long-term conservation benefits. However, previous Act grantees are eligible to receive funding and can compete successfully on the basis of strong project resource values.

**DATES:** Proposals must be postmarked no later than Friday, November 28, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Address proposals to: Division of Bird Habitat Conservation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop 4075, Arlington, Virginia 22203, Attn: Small Grants Coordinator.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Keith A. Morehouse, Small Grants Coordinator, or Office Secretary, Division of Bird Habitat Conservation, 703.358.1784; facsimile 703.358.2282.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the 1989 North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA), as amended (16 U.S.C. 4401 *et seq.*) is, through partnerships, to promote long-term conservation of North American wetland ecosystems and the waterfowl and other migratory birds, fish and wildlife that depend upon such habitats. Principal conservation actions supported by NAWCA are acquisition, enhancement and restoration of wetlands and wetlands-associated upland habitat.

Initiated in 1996, the underlying objective of the NAWCA-based Small Grants program is to promote long-term wetlands conservation activities through encouraging participation by new grantees and partners who may not otherwise be able to compete in the Standard Grants program. We also hope that successful participants in the Small Grants program later will be encouraged to participate as a grantee or partner in the Standard Grants program. Over the first seven years of the Small Grants program, about 630 proposals requesting a total of approximately \$24.1 million competed for funding. Ultimately, 206 projects were funded over this period for about \$8.7 million. For 2004, with the approval of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, we have made the Small Grants program operational at approximately \$2.0 million. That is, up to \$2.0 million in Small Grants wetland projects may be funded. However, ultimately, the level of Small Grant funding depends upon the quality of the pool of grant proposals.

To be considered for funding in the 2004 cycle, proposals must have a grant request no greater than \$50,000. We will accept all wetland conservation proposals that meet the requirements of the Act. However, considering appropriate proposal resource values, we will give funding priority to projects from new grant applicants (individuals or organizations who have never received a NAWCA grant) with new partners, where the project ensures