

use to assist the homeless, and the property will not be available.

Properties listed as unsuitable will not be made available for any other purpose for 20 days from the date of this Notice. Homeless assistance providers interested in a review by HUD of the determination of unsuitability should call the toll free information line at 1-800-927-7588 for detailed instructions or write a letter to Ann Marie Oliva at the address listed at the beginning of this Notice. Included in the request for review should be the property address (including zip code), the date of publication in the **Federal Register**, the landholding agency, and the property number.

For more information regarding particular properties identified in this Notice (i.e., acreage, floor plan, existing sanitary facilities, exact street address), providers should contact the appropriate landholding agencies at the following addresses: *Coast Guard*: Commandant, United States Coast Guard, Attn: Jennifer Stomber, 2100 Second St. SW., Stop 7901, Washington, DC 20593-0001; (202) 475-5609; *Interior*: Mr. Michael Wright, Acquisition & Property Management, Department of the Interior, Mailstop 4262; 1849 C Street NW., Washington, DC 20240; (202)-513-0795; *Navy*: Mr. Steve Matteo, Department of the Navy, Asset Management Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Washington Navy Yard, 1330 Patterson Ave. SW., Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20374; (202)-685-9426 (This is not toll-free numbers).

Dated: January 24, 2013.

**Mark Johnston,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Special Needs.*

**TITLE V, FEDERAL SURPLUS PROPERTY PROGRAM FEDERAL REGISTER REPORT FOR 02/01/2013**

**Unsuitable Properties**

*Building*

California

Facility 31075

1 Admin. Circle

China Lake CA 93555

Landholding Agency: Navy

Property Number: 77201310001

Status: Excess

Comments: w/in secured boundary of a military reservation; public access denied & no alternative method to gain access w/out compromising nat'l security

Reasons: Secured Area

New York

U.S. Coast Guard Station

W. 2nd

Oswego NY 13126

Landholding Agency: Coast Guard

Property Number: 88201310001

Status: Excess

Comments: located on secured military installation; public access denied & no alternative method to gain access w/out compromising nat'l security

Reasons: Secured Area

Pennsylvania

Tract 101-42

Audubon Rd.

Norristown PA 19403

Landholding Agency: Interior

Property Number: 61201310001

Status: Excess

Directions: Wagonseller garage, shed, tenant house 2, & greenhouse

Comments: documented deficiencies; all properties' roofs are completely collapsed; floors are severally dry rotted; unsound foundation w/multi-large cracks in foundation

Reasons: Extensive deterioration

[FR Doc. 2013-01892 Filed 1-31-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4210-67-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

[Docket No. FR-5695-N-01]

**Request for Comment on the Redesign of the American Housing Survey**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, HUD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the intent of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to redesign the American Housing Survey (AHS) for 2015 and later years. As part of this redesign, HUD is soliciting public comments. HUD is interested in all comments, especially from government policy makers, academic researchers, and AHS data users that specify: (1) Concerns related to redesigning the AHS sample; (2) important content that should be added to the AHS to meet current and future housing data needs; (3) current content that is no longer relevant, or has limited usefulness; and (4) ideas for expanding the dissemination of the AHS data. To aid in the development of public comments, HUD has listed questions that have been posed by AHS survey managers and current AHS users. HUD encourages persons interested in commenting to consider these questions and to propose additional questions or provide additional topics HUD should take into consideration.

**DATES:** Comments Due Date: April 2, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments must refer to the above docket number and title.

There are two methods for submitting public comments.

1. *Submission of Comments by Mail.* Comments may be submitted by mail to Shawn Bucholtz, Director, Housing and Demographic Analysis Division, Office of Policy Development and Research, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th St. SW., Room 8222, Washington, DC 20410.

2. *Electronic Submission of Comments.* Interested persons may submit comments electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). HUD strongly encourages commenters to submit comments electronically. Electronic submission of comments allows the commenter maximum time to prepare and submit a comment, ensures timely receipt by HUD, and enables HUD to make them immediately available to the public. Comments submitted electronically through the [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) Web site can be viewed by other commenters and interested members of the public. Commenters should follow the instructions provided on that site to submit comments electronically.

**Note:** To receive consideration as public comments, comments must be submitted through one of the two methods specified above. Again, all submissions must refer to the docket number and title of the rule.

*No Facsimile Comments.* Facsimile (FAX) comments are not acceptable.

*Public Inspection of Public Comments.* All properly submitted comments and communications submitted to HUD will be available for public inspection and copying between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays at the above address. Due to security measures at the HUD Headquarters building, an advance appointment to review the public comments must be scheduled by calling 202-402-5538 (this is not a toll-free number). Individuals with speech or hearing impairments may access this number via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339. Copies of all comments submitted are available for inspection and downloading at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Shawn Bucholtz, Director, Housing and Demographic Analysis Division, Office of Policy, Development and Research, 451 7th Street SW., Room 8222, Washington, DC 20410-0500, telephone number 202-402-5538 (this is not a toll-free number). Hearing or speech-impaired individuals may access this number via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at telephone number 1-800-877-8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

## A. Background

The American Housing Survey provides a periodic measure of the size and composition of the country's housing inventory. HUD provides all funding and oversight for the AHS. Through an interagency agreement, the Census Bureau provides operational management and field data collection.

The current sample was drawn in 1985, with additions and subtractions to account for new construction, demolitions and conversions. The 2013 AHS will be the final survey administered to the current sample. HUD will draw a new sample for 2015, presenting HUD with an opportunity to redesign the survey to better meet current and future needs.

The current AHS biennially collects data on subjects such as the amount and types of changes in the housing stock, the physical condition of the housing stock, the characteristics of the occupants, housing costs, the persons eligible for and beneficiaries of assisted housing, and the number and characteristics of vacant units. Starting in 2009, the AHS questions were classified into "core" modules and "rotating topical" modules in order to minimize respondent burden and satisfy widening needs for data content.

Questions in the core modules are asked in each survey and typically undergo only minor revisions between surveys. Questions in the rotating topical modules are asked on a rotating basis. For instance, questions about potential health and safety hazards and home modifications made to assist occupants living with disabilities that were added to the 2011 AHS will not be included in the 2013 AHS. The 2013 AHS may include questions about neighborhood characteristics, people who had to temporarily move in with other households, ability to travel via public transportation, bicycling, or walking, energy efficiency, and emergency preparedness that were not in the 2011 AHS.

The current AHS sample includes approximately 60,000 housing units that are visited every two years for the purposes of generating national estimates and additional housing units in metropolitan areas that are visited periodically for the purposes of generating metropolitan area estimates. These are referred to as metropolitan area oversamples. In 2011, 29 metropolitan area oversamples were conducted.

HUD uses the AHS data to monitor the interaction among housing needs, demand and supply, as well as changes in housing conditions and costs, to aid

in the development of housing policies and the design of housing programs appropriate for different target groups, such as first-time home buyers and the elderly. The AHS data allow HUD to evaluate, monitor, and design HUD programs to improve efficiency and effectiveness. Policy analysts, program managers, budget analysts, and Congressional staff use AHS data to advise executive and legislative branches about housing conditions and the suitability of public policy initiatives. Academic researchers and private organizations use AHS data in efforts of specific interest and concern to their respective communities.

## B. AHS Sample Redesign Issues

The current AHS sample design includes a single longitudinal panel. As previously mentioned, some housing units in this single panel are surveyed every two years (for national estimates) and some are surveyed less frequently (for metropolitan area estimates). In 2011, the Census Bureau and HUD published a whitepaper on sample redesign options. This whitepaper evaluated the performance of the current sample design, identified potential problems with the current sample design, and presented options for alternative sample designs. After evaluating the whitepaper, HUD determined that the current single panel sample design was the best option.

Through formal discussions with the Census Bureau and through informal discussions with AHS data users, HUD has identified other sample redesign issues that it has explored or will explore as part of the redesign process. The following is a list of questions already raised concerning the AHS sample redesign:

1. What is the appropriate sample size for generating national estimates, taking into consideration the necessary level of precision required by AHS users?

2. Should the AHS continue to oversample metropolitan areas? If so, how many metropolitan areas should be oversampled, which metropolitan areas should be oversampled, and how large should the sample size be for metropolitan oversamples?

3. What housing unit subgroups should HUD consider oversampling? For instance, in prior years, HUD has oversampled HUD-assisted housing, assisted housing for the elderly, and manufactured housing.

## C. AHS Content and Question Redesign Issues

While a good sample design is necessary for a useful survey, the survey's content and questions are the

most important features. Relevant content gathered through poorly-designed questions impacts the accuracy of survey results. Irrelevant content gathered through well-designed questions may not be useful. For a survey to maximize its usefulness the content must be relevant and it must be gathered through properly designed questions that yield accurate answers from respondents.

The AHS is a housing survey and housing is a multi-dimensional good. An individual household's choice of a particular housing unit is a complex decision and may rely on many factors. As such, housing surveys should include content about the structure of the housing unit, the characteristics of the location of the housing unit, and the occupants of the housing unit. To accomplish this goal, the current AHS includes core modules that are used in each survey and rotating topical modules that are used as deemed necessary by HUD.

Through formal discussions with the Census Bureau and through informal discussions with AHS data users, HUD has identified content and question issues that it will explore as part of the redesign process. The following is a list of issues raised concerning the AHS content and questions:

1. Should HUD continue the strategy of core and rotating topical modules?

2. What content should be included in the core modules, considering that housing characteristics change slowly?

3. What topics should HUD consider for rotating topical modules from 2015–2019?

4. What questions should HUD consider reformatting to elicit more accurate responses? For instance, are the questions on utility usage providing accurate information?

5. What questions in the AHS are duplicative with other surveys and should be under consideration for removal from the survey?

6. What data collection modes (web, telephone, face-to-face interviews, administrative data matching) should be used, given the secular decrease in response rates in both face-to-face and telephone surveys? How should questions be formulated differently if we anticipate multimode data collection?

## D. AHS Data Dissemination Redesign Issues

AHS data is disseminated in three ways. First, summary statistics tables are created by the Census Bureau and are made available on the web in tabular format. Second, AHS microdata is made available through a public use file

(PUF), which is available on the web. Due to the complexity of the PUF, several other PUF resources are made available to assist AHS users. Third, researchers wishing to use aspects of the AHS microdata that cannot be released publicly without risking the privacy of AHS respondents can gain access at one of the Census Research Data Centers with HUD and Census Bureau approval. HUD is interested in knowing how the AHS data might be disseminated differently to add value for the AHS user community and the general public.

1. What geographic identifiers should be disclosed on the PUF, taking into consideration that disclosure policies require that geographic identifiers do not reveal geographic entities with less than 100,000 persons? Prior geographic identifiers include specific metropolitan area name, metropolitan area status, Census Urban Area classifier, State name, County name, and HUD-created sub-metropolitan area zones.

2. Are the national and metropolitan area summary tables useful to AHS data users?

3. In what ways can HUD improve the organization and dissemination of the PUF?

#### E. Request for Comments

HUD is seeking additional information from the public regarding AHS redesign issues. Governmental policy makers, academic researchers, and other interested parties are encouraged to participate by submitting comments. Official address, contact, and due date for submitting comments are stated above.

Dated: January 23, 2013.

**Jean Lin Pao,**

General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research.

[FR Doc. E3-2013-2261 Filed 1-31-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-62-P

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R2-ES-2012-N271;

FXES1112020000F2-134-FF02ENEH00]

#### Notice of Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for a General Conservation Plan for the American Burying Beetle for Pipelines and Well Field Development in Oklahoma and Texas

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

**ACTION:** Notice of intent; announcement of meetings; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), advise the public that we intend to prepare a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) to evaluate the impacts of, and alternatives to, the proposed General Conservation Plan (GCP) for incidental take of the federally listed American burying beetle (ABB) resulting from activities associated with construction, maintenance, operation, and repair of oil and gas pipelines, and related well field activities. Individual oil and gas companies would apply for an Endangered Species Act 10(a)(1)(B) permit and agree to implement the approved GCP. A GCP is a conservation plan suitable for the needs of a local area where the NEPA requirements and permit issuance criteria are met. After approval of the GCP, individuals apply for a permit for incidental take associated with activities covered in the GCP and agree to comply with the terms and conditions of the GCP. We notice these permit applications and request comments from the public.

**DATES:** In order to be included in the analysis, all comments must be received by March 4, 2013. We will hold two public scoping meetings within the 43-county proposed covered area within the ABB's range. Exact meeting locations and times will be noticed in local newspapers and at the Oklahoma Ecological Services Office Web site, <http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/Oklahoma/>, at least 2 weeks prior to each event.

**ADDRESSES:** Please provide comments in writing, by one of the following methods:

*Email:* [ABB\\_GCP@fws.gov](mailto:ABB_GCP@fws.gov); or  
*U.S. mail:* Field Supervisor,

Oklahoma Ecological Services Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 9014 E. 21st St., Tulsa, OK 74129.

Please specify that your information request or comments concerns the Oil and Gas draft EIS/GCP.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Dixie Porter, by U.S. mail at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Oklahoma Ecological Services Field Office, 9014 E. 21st St., Tulsa, OK 74129, or by phone at 918-581-7458.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** We publish this notice in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), and its implementing regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 40 CFR 1506.6, and section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). We intend to gather the information necessary to prepare an EIS to evaluate the impacts of, and

alternatives to, the proposed issuance of incidental take permits under the Act to applicants who agree to implement the GCP, which is also under development. The proposed GCP is a habitat conservation plan that will cover take of the ABB that is incidental to activities associated with the construction, operation, maintenance, and repair of oil and gas pipelines and related well field activities, and will include measures necessary to minimize and mitigate impacts to covered species and their habitats to the maximum extent practicable. All NEPA requirements and permit issuance criteria will be met up front; then, after approval of the GCP, companies will apply for an incidental take permit pursuant to the GCP.

#### Background

Section 9 of the Act prohibits "taking" of fish and wildlife species listed as endangered under section 4 of the Act. The Act's implementing regulations extend, under certain circumstances, the prohibition of take to threatened species. Under section 3 of the Act, the term "take" means "to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct." The term "harm" is defined by regulation as "an act which actually kills or injures wildlife. Such act may include significant habitat modification or degradation where it actually kills or injures wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including breeding, feeding, or sheltering" (50 CFR 17.3). The term "harass" is defined in the regulations as "an intentional or negligent act or omission which creates the likelihood of injury to wildlife by annoying it to such an extent as to significantly disrupt normal behavioral patterns which include, but are not limited to, breeding, feeding, or sheltering" (50 CFR 17.3).

Under Section 10(a)(1)(B), the Secretary of the Interior may authorize the taking of federally listed species if such taking occurs incidental to otherwise legal activities and where a conservation plan has been developed that describes: (1) The impact that will result from such taking; (2) the steps an applicant will take to minimize and mitigate that take to the maximum extent practicable, and the funding that will be available to implement such steps; (3) the alternative actions to such taking that an applicant considered and the reasons why such alternatives are not being utilized; and (4) other measures that the Service may require as being necessary or appropriate for the purposes of the plan. Issuance criteria for an incidental take permit requires