

and others as appropriate, will conduct the necessary quality controls to ensure that each information collection and its data collection instrument conforms to the guidelines of this generic approval, and will submit each information collection request to OMB for expedited review. Each collection will clearly fit within the overall plan and scope of this generic approval and will be well defined in terms of its research methods and sample or respondent pool. Standardization of methods and content across the country, as appropriate, will help provide reliable and consistent information to land managers, policy makers, and other decision makers over time.

*Description of Respondents:*

Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local or Tribal Government.

*Number of Respondents:* 104,200.

*Frequency of Responses:* On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 13,226.

**Ruth Brown,**

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2018-23525 Filed 10-26-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3411-15-P

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Submission for OMB Review;  
Comment Request**

October 24, 2018.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments are requested regarding (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (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 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 regarding this information collection received by November 28, 2018 will be considered. Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs,

Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20502. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: *OIRA\_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV* or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8958.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

*Title:* National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP).

*OMB Control Number:* 0579-0007.

*Summary of Collection:* Under the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 *et seq.*), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is authorized to among other things, administer the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP or the Plan), the primary purpose of which is to protect the health of the U.S. poultry population. NPIP is a voluntary Federal-State-industry cooperative program for the improvement of poultry flocks and products through disease control techniques. The NPIP regulations are contained in 9 CFR parts 56, 145, 146 and 147.

*Need and Use of the Information:* APHIS will collect information using several forms to continually improve the health of the U.S. poultry population and the quality of U.S. poultry products. If the information were collected less frequently or not collected, APHIS could not affectively monitor the health of the nation's poultry population.

*Description of Respondents:* Business or other for-profit; State, Local or Tribal Government.

*Number of Respondents:* 6,851.

*Frequency of Responses:*

Recordkeeping; Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 117,254.

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

*Title:* Animal Welfare.

*OMB Control Number:* 0579-0036.

*Summary of Collection:* Under the Animal Welfare Act (AWA, 7 U.S.C. 2131 *et seq.*), the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to promulgate standards and other requirements governing the humane handling, care,

treatment, and transportation of certain animals by dealers, exhibitors, operators of auction sales, research facilities, carriers and intermediate handlers. The Secretary has delegated responsibility for administering the AWA to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Animal Care.

Definitions, regulations, and standards established under the AWA are contained in 9 CFR parts 1, 2, and 3 (referred to below as the regulations). Part 1 contains definitions for terms used in parts 2 and 3. Part 2 provides administrative requirements and sets forth institutional responsibilities for regulated parties, including licensing requirements for dealers, exhibitors, and operators of auction sales. Dealers, exhibitors, and operators of auction sales are required to comply in all respects with the regulations and standards (9 CFR 2.100(a)) and to allow APHIS officials access to their place of business, facilities, animals, and records to inspect for compliance (9 CFR 2.126). Part 3 provides standards for the humane handling, care, treatment, and transportation of covered animals. Part 3 consists of subparts A through E, which contain specific standards for dogs and cats, guinea pigs and hamsters, rabbits, nonhuman primates, and marine mammals, respectively, and subpart F, which sets forth general standards for warmblooded animals not otherwise specified in part 3.

*Need and Use of the Information:* Administering the AWA requires the use of several information collection activities such as license applications and renewals, which now include a request to identify whether the business mailing address is a personal residence or not a personal residence; registration applications and updates; annual reports; acknowledgement of regulations and standards; inspections; requests; notifications; agreements; plans; written program of veterinary care and health records; itineraries; applications and permits; records of acquisition, disposition, or transport of animals; official identification; variances; protocols; health certificates; complaints; marking requirements; and recordkeeping. The information is used to provide APHIS with the data necessary to review and evaluate program compliance by regulated facilities, and provide a workable system to administer the requirements of the AWA and intent of Congress without resorting to more detailed and stringent regulations and standards that could be more burdensome to regulated facilities.

*Description of Respondents:* Individuals or Households; Businesses or Other For-Profit Entities; Not-For-Profit Institutions; State, Local, and Tribal Governments; Foreign Federal Governments.

*Number of Respondents:* 13,183.

*Frequency of Responses:* Recordkeeping; Reporting: On occasion; Third Party Disclosure.

*Total Burden Hours:* 366,021.

**Ruth Brown,**

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

October 24, 2018.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Comments are requested regarding (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (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 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 regarding this information collection received by November 28, 2018 will be considered. Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20502. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: [OIRA\\_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV](mailto:OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV) or fax (202) 395–5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250–7602. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720–8958.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information

unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

### National Institute of Food and Agriculture

*Title:* NIFA Grant Application.

*OMB Control Number:* 0524–0039.

*Summary of Collection:* The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) sponsors ongoing agricultural research, education, and extension programs under which competitive, formula, and special awards of a high-priority nature are made. These programs are authorized pursuant to the authorities contained in the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977, as amended (7 U.S.C. 3101), the Smith-Lever Act, and other legislative authorities. Before awards can be issued, certain information is required from applicants as part of an overall application. In addition to a project summary, proposal narrative, vitae of key personnel, and other pertinent technical aspects of the proposed project, supporting documentation of an administrative and budgetary nature also must be provided. This information is obtained via applications through the use of federal-wide standard grant application forms and NIFA specific application forms. Because competitive applications are submitted, many of which necessitate review by peer panelists, it is particularly important that applicants provide the information in a standardized fashion to ensure equitable treatment for all.

*Need and Use of the Information:* The fundamental purpose of the information requested is to provide information that is not obtained in the federal-wide application forms but is necessary for the NIFA proposal and award process. In addition to federal-wide standard grant application forms, NIFA will use the following program and agency specific components as part of its application package: Letter of Intent Form, Supplemental Information Form; Application Type Form; Form NIFA–2008, Assurance Statement(s); and Form NIFA–2010, Fellowships/Scholarships Entry/Annual Update/Exit Form.

*Description of Respondents:* Individuals or household; Federal Government; State, Local or Tribal Government.

*Number of Respondents:* 15,153.

*Frequency of Responses:* Recordkeeping; Reporting: Weekly; Monthly; Annually.

*Total Burden Hours:* 18,354.

### National Institute of Food and Agriculture

*Title:* NIFA Proposal Review Process.

*OMB Control Number:* 0524–0041.

*Summary of Collection:* The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), administers competitive, peer-reviewed research, education and extension programs. The reviews are undertaken to ensure that projects supported by NIFA are of a high-quality and are consistent with the goals and requirements of the funding program. These programs are authorized pursuant to the authorities contained in the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977, as amended (7 U.S.C. 3101), the Smith-Lever Act, and other legislative authorities.

*Need and Use of the Information:* The collected information from the evaluations is used to support NIFA grant programs. NIFA uses the results of each proposal to determine whether a proposal should be declined or recommended for award. In order to obtain this information, an electronic questionnaire is used to collect information about potential panel and ad-hoc reviewers. If this information is not collected, it would be difficult for a review panel and NIFA staff to determine which projects warrant funding, or identify appropriate qualified reviewers. In addition, Federal grants staff and auditors could not assess the quality or integrity of the review, and the writer of the application would not benefit from any feedback on why the application was funded or not.

*Description of Respondents:* Individuals or households; Federal Government; State, Local or Tribal Government.

*Number of Respondents:* 50,000.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: Weekly; Annually.

*Total Burden Hours:* 102,400.

**Ruth Brown,**

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

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