

# Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Natural Resource Conservation Service

#### Orchard Mesa Project, Mesa County, Colorado

**AGENCY:** Natural Resource Conservation Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of a finding of no significant impact.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR Part 1500); and the Soil Conservation Service Regulations (7 CFR Part 650); the Natural Resource Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, gives notice that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared for the Orchards Mesa Project, Mesa county, Colorado.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Duane L. Johnson, State Conservationist, Natural Resource Conservation Service, 655 Parfet St., Lakewood, Colorado, 80215-5517, telephone (303) 236-2886 ext. 202.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The environmental assessment of this federally assisted action indicates that the project will not cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. As a result of these findings, Duane L. Johnson, State Conservationist, has determined that the preparation and review of an environmental impact statement are not needed for this project.

The project purpose is to reduce salt loading of the Colorado River due to seepage from irrigation laterals. The planned works of improvement include the replacement of 34 miles of laterals.

The Notice of a Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been forwarded to the Environmental Protection Agency and to various Federal, State and Local agencies and

interested parties. A limited number of copies of the FONSI are available to fill single copy requests at the above address. Basic data developed during the environmental assessment are on file and may be reviewed by contacting Duane L. Johnson.

No administrative action on implementation of the proposal will be taken until 30 days after the date of this publication in the Federal Register.

Duane L. Johnson,

*State Conservationist.*

[FR Doc. 96-9678 Filed 4-18-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-M

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Bureau of the Census

#### 1997 Economic Census Covering Auxiliary Establishments

**ACTION:** Proposed agency information collection activity; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before June 18, 1996.

**ADDRESS:** Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Acting Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Jack Moody, Bureau of the Census, Room 2665, Building 3, Washington, DC 20233 on (301) 457-2689.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

The Census Bureau is the preeminent collector and provider of timely, relevant and quality data about the people and economy of the United States. Economic data are the Census

Bureau's primary program commitment during nondecennial census years. The economic census, conducted under authority of Title 13 U.S.C., is the primary source of facts about the structure and functioning of the Nation's economy and features unique industry and geographic detail. Economic census statistics serve as part of the framework for the national accounts and provide essential information for government, business and the general public. The 1997 Economic Census will cover virtually every sector of the U. S. economy, including approximately 48,000 auxiliary establishments as described below.

##### II. Method of Collection

Establishments covered in this submission will be selected for mailout from a frame given by the Census Bureau's Standard Statistical Establishment List. To be eligible for selection, an establishment must: (i) be an auxiliary establishment, defined as an establishment primarily engaged in performing management, supervision, general administrative functions and supporting services for other establishments of the same company, rather than for the general public or other business firms; (ii) have been in operation during any part of 1997; and (iii) be located in one of the 50 states or the District of Columbia. We estimate that the census mail canvass for 1997 will include approximately 48,000 auxiliary establishments.

##### III. Data

This information collected from auxiliary establishments will produce basic statistics for principal activity; sales, operating receipts, and revenues to other companies; employment; and payroll. It also will yield a variety of statistics on related topics, including employment by function and expenses by type.

*OMB Number:* Not Available.

*Form Number:* ES-9200.

*Type of Review:* Regular Review.

*Affected Public:* Businesses or Other for Profit Institution, Non-profit Institutions, Small Businesses or Organizations, and State or Local Governments.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 48,000.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 1 hour.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 48,000.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost:* The cost to the government for this work is included in the total cost of the 1997 Economic Census, estimated to be \$218 million.

#### IV. Request for 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 shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (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 respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: April 15, 1996.

Linda Engelmeier,

*Acting Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.*

[FR Doc. 96-9726 Filed 4-18-96; 8:45 am]

Billing Code 3510-07-P

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### National Weather Service Modernization and Associated Restructuring

**AGENCY:** National Weather Service (NWS), NOAA, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice and opportunity for public comment.

**SUMMARY:** The National Weather Service is publishing proposed certifications for the proposed consolidations of:

- (1) Residual Minneapolis Weather Service Office (RWSO) into the future Minneapolis WFO;
- (2) Columbus Weather Service Office (WSO) into the future Birmingham, Tallahassee, and Atlanta Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs);
- (3) Residual Lubbock WSO into the future Lubbock WFO;
- (4) Macon WSO into the future Atlanta and Tallahassee WFOs;
- (5) Residual Portland, OR WSO into the future Portland, OR WFO; and

(6) Salem, OR WSO into the future Portland, OR WFO.

In accordance with Pub. L. 102-567, the public will have 60-days in which to comment on these proposed consolidation certifications.

**DATES:** Comments are requested by June 18, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Requests for copies of the proposed consolidation packages should be sent to Janet Gilmer, Room 12316, 1325 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, telephone 301-713-0276. All comments should be sent to Janet Gilmer at the above address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Julie Scanlon at 301-713-1413.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NWS anticipates consolidating:

- (1) the Residual Indianapolis Weather Service Office (RWSO) with the future Indianapolis WFO;
- (2) the Residual Minneapolis Weather Service Office (RWSO) with the future Minneapolis WFO;
- (3) the Columbus Weather Service Office (WSO) with the future Birmingham, Tallahassee, and Atlanta Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs);
- (4) the Residual Lubbock WSO with the future Lubbock WFO;
- (5) the Macon WSO with the future Atlanta and Tallahassee WFOs;
- (6) the Residual Portland, OR WSO with the future Portland, OR WFO; and
- (7) the Salem, OR WSO with the future Portland, OR WFO. In accordance with section 706 of Pub. L. 102-567, the Secretary of Commerce must certify that these consolidations will not result in any degradation of service to the affected areas of responsibility and must publish the proposed consolidation certifications in the FR. The documentation supporting each proposed certification includes the following:

- (1) a draft memorandum by the meteorologist-in-charge recommending the certification, the final of which will be endorsed by the Regional Director and the Assistant Administrator of the NWS if appropriate, after consideration of public comments and completion of consultation with the Modernization Transition Committee (the Committee);
- (2) a description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns which affect the weather services provided within the service area;
- (3) a comparison of the services provided within the service area and the services to be provided after such action;
- (4) a description of any recent or expected modernization of NWS operation which will enhance services in the service area;

(5) an identification of any area within the affected service area which would not receive coverage (at an elevation of 10,000 feet) by the next generation weather radar network;

(6) evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, which was considered in reaching the conclusion that no degradation in service will result from such action including the WSR-88D Radar Commissioning Report(s), User Confirmation of Services Report(s), and the Decommissioning Readiness Report (as applicable); and

(7) a letter appointing the liaison officer.

These proposed certifications do not include any report of the Committee which could be submitted in accordance with sections 706(b)(6) and 707(c) of Pub. L. 102-567. At their December 14, 1995 meeting the members "... resolved that the MTC modify its procedure to eliminate proposed certification consultations of noncontroversial closings, consolidations, relocations, and automation certifications but will provide final consultation on certifications after public comment and before final submission to the Secretary of Commerce."

Documentation supporting the proposed certifications is too voluminous to publish in its entirety. Copies of the supporting documentation can be obtained through the contact listed above.

Draft memoranda by the respective meteorologists-in-charge recommending the certifications are being published as an appendix to this notice.

Once all public comments have been received and considered, the NWS will complete consultation with the Committee and determine whether to proceed with the final certifications. If decisions to certify are made, the Secretary of Commerce must publish the final certifications in the FR and transmit the certifications to the appropriate Congressional committees prior to consolidating the offices.

Dated: April 12, 1996.

Elbert W. Friday, Jr.,

*Assistant Administrator for Weather Services.*

#### Appendix—Draft Memoranda

Memorandum For: Richard P. Augulis,  
Director, Central Region

From: Craig M. Edwards, MIC, NWSFO  
Minneapolis, MN

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation Certification.

In March 1995, a change of operations occurred when most personnel and most services provided by the WSFO at Minneapolis were transferred to the future