

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**Health Care Financing Administration**

[Document Identifier: HCFA-10014]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), Department of Health and Human Services, has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) the following proposal for the collection of information. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

Type of Information Collection Request: Extension of a Previously Approved Collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Informatics, Telemedicine, and Education Demonstration Project; *Form No.:* HCFA-10014 (OMB# 0938-0806); *Use:* Section 4207 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 mandated HCFA to conduct a demonstration project to evaluate the effectiveness of advanced computer and telecommunications technology ("telemedicine") to manage the care of people with diabetes; *Frequency:* Semi-annually; *Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit and Individuals or Households; *Number of Respondents:* 5,550; *Total Annual Responses:* 10,043; *Total Annual Hours:* 19,999.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access HCFA's Web Site Address at <http://www.hcfa.gov/regs/prdact95.htm>, or E-mail your request, including your address and phone number, to Paperwork@hcfa.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collections must be mailed within 30 days of this notice directly to the OMB Desk Officer designated at the following address: OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch,

Attention: Allison Eydt, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: July 13, 2001.

John P. Burke III,

HCFA Reports Clearance Officer, HCFA, Office of Information Services, Security and Standards Group, Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4572-D-19]

Redelegation of Authority To Remove Appraisers From FHA Roster

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing, HUD.

ACTION: Notice of redelegation of authority to remove appraisers from the FHA roster pursuant to the HUD regulation at 24 CFR part 200.204.

SUMMARY: By this action, the Assistant Secretary for Housing-Federal Housing Commissioner re-delegates to certain HUD officials, in the FHA Single Family Homeownership Centers (HOCs) in Philadelphia, PA; Atlanta, GA; Denver, CO and Santa Ana, CA, the power and authority to issue notices of removal from the FHA roster to appraisers who have been found in violation of HUD regulations at 24 CFR 200.204(a)(1).

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 19, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vance T. Morris, Director, Office of Insured Single Family Housing Program Development, Room 9266, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20410; telephone (202) 708-2700 (this is not a toll-free number. This number may be accessed via TTY by calling the Federal Information Relay Service a 1-800-877-8339).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: HUD's regulation at 24 CFR 200.204 sets forth reasons for removing an appraiser from the FHA roster, procedures for removal and reinstatement of the appraiser, and types of remedies available to the Department against an appraiser found to have violated HUD statutes or regulations. On July 27, 2000, the Assistant Secretary for Housing re-delegated to designated officials in each HOC the power and authority to issue written notices of proposed removal, and to process any appeals of the notice of proposed removal, including conducting an informal conference if requested by the appraiser. (See 65 FR 49004, August 10, 2000.) The re-

delegation indicated that, unless extended, it would automatically expire on July 27, 2001. The Assistant Secretary has determined that the re-delegation should be extended subject to the limitations in Section B below.

Therefore, the Assistant Secretary for Housing hereby retains and re-delegates authority, as follows:

Section A. Re-Delegation of Authority

1. *Notices of Proposed Roster Removal:* In accordance with 24 CFR 200.204(a)(2)(i), the Director of the Processing and Underwriting Division within each HOC, and the Branch Chief of the Technical Branch within that Division, are each, individually, re-delegated the authority to issue the written notice of proposed roster removal to the appraiser. This notice will include the reasons for the proposed removal and the duration of the removal.

2. *Appeals of Proposed Roster Removals:* In accordance with 24 CFR 200.204(a)(2)(iii), the Director of the HOC, and the Deputy Director of the HOC, are each, individually, re-delegated the authority to handle appeals of the notice of proposed removal, including conducting an informal conference if so requested by the appraiser. Also, in accordance with 24 CFR 200.204(a)(2)(iii), within 30 days of receiving a written response from an appraiser, or within 30 days of the completion of an informal conference, the Director or Deputy Director of the HOC will review the appraiser's appeal and will issue a final decision either affirming, modifying or canceling an appraiser's removal from the appraiser roster. The time period for responding to an appraiser's appeal may be extended upon notice to the appraiser. The HOC Director or Deputy Director may not have been involved in HUD's initial removal decision.

Section B. Limitations on Authority

1. *Waiver of HUD Regulations:* The authority re-delegated does not include the authority to waive HUD regulations.

2. *Term of Re-delegation:* The Assistant Secretary for Housing may revoke this re-delegation of authority, in whole or part, at any time.

3. *No Further Re-delegation of Authority:* The authority re-delegated herein may not be further re-delegated.

Authority: Single Family Mortgage Insurance; Appraiser Roster Removal Procedures, 24 CFR part 200; Notice of Consolidated Delegations of Authority for Housing, 54 FR 22033, May 22, 1989, as amended.

Dated: July 19, 2001.

John C. Weicher,

*Assistant Secretary for Housing-Federal
Housing Commissioner.*

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Intent To Hold a 30-Day Scoping Period To Solicit Public Comments for a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Decision on a Proposed Habitat Conservation Plan for the Lake Erie Water Snake

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service,
Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to conduct a 30-day scoping period to solicit public comments for a NEPA decision on a proposed Habitat Conservation Plan and Incidental Take Permit for the Lake Erie water snake.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) intends to gather information relevant to the proposed Habitat Conservation Plan and Incidental Take Permit for the Lake Erie water snake. In addition, the Service is considering options for compliance with NEPA, which is required for completion of the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and its associated Incidental Take Permit (ITP). Two options being considered to comply with NEPA are development of a categorical exclusion or an Environmental Assessment (EA). The Service is seeking substantive comments on several aspects of this proposed project: the appropriate level of NEPA review; identification of issues with the proposed development that should be considered in regard to the Lake Erie water snake; and identification of any other environmental issues that should be considered with regard to the proposed development and permit action. These comments will be considered by the Service in complying with the requirements of NEPA and in the development of an HCP.

A private developer is seeking an ITP for development of eight residential sites on 17 acres located on Long Point, Kelley's Island, Erie County, Ohio, which is located approximately 3 miles northeast of Marblehead, Ohio. Development is proposed to include eight primary residences, associated outbuildings, construction of a new access road, individual septic systems, and associated amenities.

A number of actions are proposed to minimize and mitigate taking and harming Lake Erie water snakes and their habitat. These measures include: seasonal restrictions on development and construction activities; a 125-foot protective setback from the ordinary high water mark of Lake Erie to remain in its current natural state for the protection and recovery of the Lake Erie water snake; abandonment of the west shoreline access road to increase shoreline shelter for the Lake Erie water snake; development of a new Long Point access road away from the Lake Erie shoreline to reduce road-kill mortality of Lake Erie water snakes; preservation of old foundations, concrete slabs, and piles of limestone rocks that presently occur on the Long Point, LLC property; placement of rocks and vegetation on the abandoned access road to increase shoreline shelter for Lake Erie water snakes and to prevent vehicle use; monetary support for Lake Erie water snake studies and monitoring; usage of architectural designs with minimal footprints; construction of an access road and driveways with minimal widths; and usage of signs posting speed restrictions along the Long Point access road. These measures are proposed to minimize and mitigate the effects of potential incidental take of Lake Erie water snakes to the maximum extent practicable, consistent with the otherwise lawful activity of residential construction on the Long Point, LLC property.

This notice is being furnished as provided for by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations (40 CFR 1501.7 and 1508.22). The intent of the notice is to obtain suggestions and additional information from other agencies and the public on the scope of issues to be considered. Comments and participation in this scoping process are solicited.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before August 27, 2001. All comments received from individuals become part of the official public record. Requests for such comments will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6(f)). Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. If a respondent wishes us to withhold his/her name

and/or address, this must be stated prominently at the beginning of the comment.

Public Involvement: The public is invited to participate in the scoping process. No public meetings are planned for this project but submission of written comments by either mail, facsimile, or electronic mail are encouraged. Comments should be submitted to the appropriate address shown below. Written scoping comments should be received by the closing date stated in the section above.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to: Ms. Angela Boyer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Reynoldsburg Field Office, 6950 Americana Parkway, Suite H, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-4127. Electronic mail comments may also be submitted within the comment period to: lewatersnake@fws.gov or by facsimile to: (614) 469-6919.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Angela Boyer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Reynoldsburg Field Office, 6950 Americana Parkway, Suite H, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-4127, telephone: (614) 469-6923 extension 22, facsimile: (614) 469-6919.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Lake Erie water snake (*Nerodia sipedon insularum*) was listed on August 30, 1999, by the Service as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA). The population decline of this snake species is attributed to loss of shoreline habitat and the killing of snakes by people. The Lake Erie water snakes are an important member of Lake Erie's aquatic ecosystem. They live along shorelines of the western basin Lake Erie islands where they feed on small fish and amphibians. The snakes usually grow from 1 to 3.5 feet, in length.

The Service currently has no information regarding whether the approximately 17 acres site contains facilities which are eligible to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places or whether other historical, archaeological, or traditional cultural properties may be present. The National Historic Preservation Act and other laws require that any such properties and resources be identified and considered in project planning. The public is requested to inform the Service of concerns about archaeological sites, buildings and structures, historic events, sacred and traditional areas, and other historic preservation concerns.