

Request for Comments

This notice invites comments on the revisions being made to the *National Organic Program* collection and whether the revisions accurately reflect the time required for respondents to respond to this information collection. This notice relates strictly to Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35) requirements (<https://digital.gov/guides/ptra>) and is part of the routine process through which AMS requests continued approval from OMB to continue collecting information necessary to implement the OFPA and the USDA organic regulations. While this notice invites comments, commenters should know that changes to the USDA organic regulations are outside the scope of this activity. AMS invites comments on the following items:

1. If there are any concerns with the proposed revisions to the explanatory/instructional text in form TM–10CG, Application for Accreditations;
2. If there are any concerns with the proposed revisions to the explanatory/instructional text in form NOP 2110–1, NOP Import Certificate; and
3. If there are any refinements or corrective suggestions to AMS's plan to incorporate the burden estimates currently in the four separate collections *Strengthening Organic Enforcement*, *Origin of Livestock-Variance Request*, *Organic Livestock and Poultry Standards*, and *Market Development for Mushrooms and Pet Food*.

AMS also invites public comment on the entire *National Organic Program* information collection regarding the following topics:

- i. Whether the collection of information continues to be necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the NOP, including whether the information has practical utility;
- ii. The accuracy of the burden estimates of the collection of information;
- iii. Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the collected information; and
- iv. Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who must respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments received will inform AMS's submission to OMB. AMS responses to received comments will be summarized in a Supporting Statement submitted to OMB. This Supporting Statement will be accessible to the public by searching for OMB Control Number "0581–0191" on <http://www.reginfo.gov/>.

To submit a comment, access the background documents (such as the "AMS–71 Grid" used to estimate burden), or read comments received, search for Docket ID "AMS–NOP–26–1024" on <http://www.regulations.gov/>. See the **ADDRESSES** section above for more information on submitting a public comment.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. chapter 94.

Erin Morris

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

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 required regarding: 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; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and 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 October 26, 2026 will be considered. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

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.

Risk Management Agency

Title: Area Risk Protection Insurance.
OMB Control Number: 0563–0083.

Summary of Collection: FCIC is a wholly owned Government corporation created February 16, 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1501). The program was amended previously, but Public Law 96–365, dated September 26, 1980, provided for nationwide expansion of a comprehensive crop insurance program. The Federal Crop Insurance Act (Act), as amended in later years, further expanded the role of the crop insurance program to be the principal tool for risk management by producers of agricultural commodities. The Act further required that the crop insurance program operate on an actuarially sound basis. To meet these goals, existing crop programs must be improved and expanded, new crop products developed, and new insurance concepts studied for possible implementation. Meeting these goals requires the collection of a wide range of information (data elements). These data elements are used in part to determine insurance coverage, premiums, subsidies, payments, and indemnities. It creates an information database used to support continued development and improvements in crop insurance products available to producers and which meet the goal of a sound insurance program. The Act was again amended on June 20, 2000, by Public Law 106–224 which mandates changes to crop insurance regulations, provides for independent review of crop insurance products by persons experienced as actuaries and in underwriting, and gives contracting authority for the development of new products.

Need and use of the Information: The Area Risk Protection Insurance (ARPI) includes three separate plans of insurance: (1) Area Revenue Protection which protects against price declines and automatically includes Upside Harvest Price Protection (UHPP) which protects against price increases; (2) ARP with the Harvest Price Exclusion, which excludes UHPP and protects against price declines but not against price increases; and (3) Area Yield Protection which only protects against loss of yield. Using a wide range of data elements producers are required to report specific data when they apply for ARPI such as acreage and yields. Insurance companies accept applications; issue policies; establish and provide insurance coverage; compute liability, premium, subsidies,

and losses; indemnify producers; and report specific data to FCIC as required in Appendix III/M13 Handbook.

If producers and insurance companies did not submit the required data at the specified time, accurate liabilities, premium, and subsidies may not be determined, errors may not be resolved timely, producers may not receive accurate indemnities, payments may be late, crop insurance may not be actuarially sound as mandated by the Act.

Description of Respondents: Business-for-not-for-profit; Farms.

Number of Respondents: 14,755.

Frequency of Responses: Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 56,765.

Rachelle Ragland-Greene,

Departmental Collection Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

[RHS-26-MFH-0298]

Multifamily Housing Preservation Pilot and Multifamily Housing Guaranteed Loan Notice of Loan-to-Cost Percentage Change for Option 3 (Continuous Guarantee)

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Rural Housing Service (RHS or the Agency) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) issues this notice to implement two related actions. The first action is the Multifamily Housing (MFH) Preservation Pilot (the Pilot). This action has 3 parts: MFH Rural Rental Housing Loan (MFH Section 515) and MFH Section 538 Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing Program (MFH Section 538) programmatic variations involving transfers; MFH Section 515 transfers utilizing Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC); and Variations specific to MFH Section 538 for the First 200 Transactions. The transfers for above address three types of preservation related transfers: MFH Section 515 ownership transfers that do not fall within the Simple Transfer Pilot; MFH Section 515 ownership transfers involving Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC); and MFH Section 538 transactions regardless of whether a transfer is involved up to the first 200 guaranteed loans. In addition to both the MFH 515 and MFH 538 programmatic changes and transfer changes, the Agency includes a DSCR change for the

MFH 538 program, among other variations to that program, for the first 200 guaranteed loans in the Pilot. The Agency will use the Pilot to determine if it can improve program delivery efficiency for transactions that facilitate preservation of the low-income housing units in rural America while maintaining appropriate risk management of the portfolio. While the Pilot is active, the Agency will evaluate the Pilot's progress and identify opportunities to improve regulations, remove regulatory barriers, and reduce duplicative application requirements. These specific actions are critical for preserving assets in the MFH portfolio, which are aging and face significant delays and regulatory hurdles for transfers that significantly impact the assets long-term viability and overall portfolio risk; not only to the Agency but especially to the Rural population who reside in these assets. Therefore, for all parties involved, the Agency takes immediate action to ensure the Agency, owners and residents do not continue to struggle with the weight of government regulations slowing preservation of affordable, decent, safe and sanitary rural rental housing. The second action is Multifamily Housing Guaranteed Loan Notice of Loan-to-Cost Percentage Change. This action addresses a change to the loan terms for the MFH Section 538 Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing Program (MFH Section 538) under Option 3 (Continuous Guarantee) only. This action is not a part of the Pilot. Specifically, this action changes the maximum loan-to-cost percentage for loans guaranteed under Option Three (Continuous Guarantee) from 70 percent to 80 percent. The Agency is aligning with other federal agencies and the market to ensure demand for the guaranteed loans used for preservation and production of affordable, decent, safe and sanitary rural rental housing.

DATES: The pilot will begin on October 9, 2026 and continues until September 25, 2028.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jonathan Bell, Director, Production and Preservation Division, MFH, Rural Development, United States Department of Agriculture, via email: MFHprocessing1@usda.gov or phone at: 202-205-9217.

To submit an application for the Pilot, refer to "Application and Submission Information" section of this notice.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority

Sections 506(b), 515, and 538 of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1476(b), 1485, and 1490p-2).

Background

The MFH Programs support the expansion and revitalization of rural rental housing by providing loans, loan guarantees, and grants to property owners. The MFH Programs promote rental housing affordability for low-income households, elderly individuals, domestic farm laborers, disabled individuals, and their families.

The Housing Act of 1949, as amended (Act) (42 U.S.C. 1472 *et seq.*), authorizes USDA to provide MFH loan guarantees, direct loans, and grants to support the development of economically designed and constructed rural rental, cooperative, and farm labor housing. Owners must operate these properties as affordable, decent, safe, and sanitary housing for eligible very-low-, low-, and moderate-income households.

The MFH Program utilizes a variety of tools to revitalize and preserve the physical and financial health of more than 12,000 properties currently in USDA's rural rental housing portfolio. 42 U.S.C. 1476(b) provides for the conduct of demonstration or pilot programs which may include procedures and requirements that differ from existing published standards, rules, regulations, or policies. Under the Pilot, the Agency will apply all program requirements that are not expressly waived by this Notice.

The Agency commits to preserving affordable, decent, safe, and sanitary multifamily housing in its existing portfolio for very-low-, low-, and moderate-income households. In partnership with nonprofit and for-profit owners of Agency-financed or Agency-guaranteed properties, the Agency has provided affordable housing in rural communities for more than 60 years. The MFH Program provides affordable rental housing for rural low-income households comprising approximately 400,000 units; 95 percent of which are in the MFH Section 515 portfolio. The Agency increasingly relies on third-party financed preservation efforts for existing properties financed with the MFH Section 515 loans. These third-party financed preservation efforts often are paired with ownership transfers to sustain the portfolio and maintain affordability. The MFH Program must increase and expedite transfer activity as properties age, mortgages approach maturity, and long-term owners engage in estate planning or heirs resolve