

Number of Respondents: 50.
Frequency of Responses:
 Recordkeeping: Reporting: On occasion.
Total Burden Hours: 656.

• **National Agricultural Statistic Service**

Title: Honey Survey.
OMB Control Number: 0535-0153.
Summary of Collection: Respondents provide information on honey production, number of colonies, production, and stocks.

Need and Use of the Information: Estimates of the information are used by producers and the agribusiness sector of the honey industry to make production and marketing decisions.

Description of Respondents: Farms.
Number of Respondents: 6,200.
Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 2,067.

Donald Hulcher,

Departmental Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-19517 Filed 7-23-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 97-001-1]

Handling, Training, and Exhibition of Potentially Dangerous Exotic or Wild Animals

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Request for information.

SUMMARY: Through this document, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is requesting information concerning what practices are currently used for handling and training potentially dangerous exotic or wild animals used in exhibition (such as, but not limited to, elephants, lions, or tigers), and what training and experience levels trainers and handlers of such animals have. We are seeking this information to help us more thoroughly examine all issues pertaining to the training and handling of potentially dangerous exotic or wild animals used in exhibition.

DATES: Consideration will be given only to comments received on or before September 22, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Please send an original and three copies of your comments to Docket No. 97-001-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, suite 3C03, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238.

Please state that your comments refer to Docket No. 97-001-1. Comments received may be inspected at USDA, room 1141, South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect comments are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the comment reading room.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Stephen Smith, Staff Animal Health Technician, Animal Care, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 84, Riverdale, MD 20737-1234, (301) 734-7833.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under the Animal Welfare Act (the Act) (7 U.S.C. 2131 *et seq.*), the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to promulgate regulations governing the humane handling, housing, care, treatment, and transportation of certain animals by dealers, research facilities, exhibitors, and carriers and intermediate handlers. Regulations established under the Act are contained in 9 CFR parts 1, 2, and 3. 9 CFR part 2 contains regulations that cover training and handling of animals under the Animal Welfare Act. These regulations generally prohibit physical abuse of performing animals, describe minimum standards for exhibition of animals to prevent risk or harm to the animals and to the public, and require that dangerous animals be directly supervised by a knowledgeable animal handler during public exhibition.

We are seeking additional information concerning the training and handling of potentially dangerous wild and exotic animals used in exhibition in order to obtain a better understanding of the issues pertaining to their welfare. Specifically, we are seeking information that will help us explore the following issues:

1. What handling and training practices are used, both by the majority of the performing animal industry and by other groups, and what practices are considered abusive;
2. What practices are used for controlling potentially dangerous animals that show aggression during exhibition, such as standards for chemical immobilization and recapture of aggressive animals, and what practices are used for preventing animals from being aggressive during exhibition;
3. What is the incidence of aggressive behavior in these animals during exhibition;

4. What identification methods are used for tracking wild or exotic animals (such as tattoos or microchips); and

5. What professional or industry standards exist concerning training and experience levels for trainers and handlers.

We are most interested in receiving information that is in the form of published industry standards, published reports in peer-reviewed journals, studies, and objective scientific data. For those issues on which data or published information is not available, APHIS also requests comments on the most cost-effective means to obtain such data. Interested parties are invited to submit comments on the issues stated above and other pertinent issues related to the training and handling of potentially dangerous wild or exotic animals. Written comments should be submitted within the 60-day comment period specified in this notice under the section entitled **DATES** to the address listed under the section entitled **ADDRESSES**.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 2131-2159; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.2(g).

Done in Washington, DC, this 18th day of July 1997.

Terry L. Medley,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 97-19498 Filed 7-23-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Luck Lake Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: The Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to provide timber for the Ketchikan Area timber sale program. The Record of Decision will disclose how the Forest Service has decided to provide harvest units, roads, and associated timber harvesting facilities. The proposed action is to harvest an estimated 13 million board feet (mmbf) of timber on an estimated 1000 acres. A range of alternatives will be developed and will include a no-action alternative. The proposed timber harvest is located within Tongass Forest Plan Management Area K09 Value Comparison Units 572, 581 and 582 on Prince of Wales Island, Alaska, on the Thorne Bay Ranger