

USDA Retrospective Review Plan Update as of July 2015

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USDA	Animal Plant Health & Inspection Service (APHIS)	Participation in the International Trade Data System (ITDS) via the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE)	0579- 0013, 0015, 0040, 0049, 0054, 0076, 0129, 0141, 0144,0145, 0165, 0172, 0173, 0190, 0195, 0207, 0213, 0214, 0218, 0221, 0228, 0230, 0232, 0234, 0242, 0245, 0271, 0274, 0285,0301, 0303, 0307, 0308, 0313, 0316, 0319, 0328,0372, 0379, 0384, 0393, 0395, 0396, and 0397	With the February 19, 2014, signing of the Executive Order on 21 st Century Trade Facilitation , the President mandated all Government agencies' to implement ITDS via the ACE. To remove any impediments to the full implementation of ITDS/ACE, APHIS will amend its regulations in 7 CFR chapter III and 9 CFR chapter I in instances where a specific import or export form is cited without an alternative being mentioned or where notice of arrival must be provided by mail, fax, or email with no other alternative (electronic) means offered. 7 CFR chapter III and 9 CFR chapter I includes regulations that address the importation and exportation of plants and plant products (title 7) and animals and animal products (title 9). The regulations include requirements for the submission of permit applications, health certificates, notices of arrival, and similar documents in connection with the importation or exportation of plants, animals, and plant & animal products.	Ongoing	APHIS and CBP anticipate cargo release functionality to be operational in November 2015. Additional functionality will be released in January 2016 with a full implementation in December 2016.	Electronic submission option Alternative forms	Analysis	
USDA	APHIS	APHIS eFile-Certification, Accreditation, Registration, Permits, and other Licenses (CARPOL)	0579- 0007, 0013, 0015, 0020, 0036, 0040, 0047, 0048, 0049, 0052, 0054, 0056, 0065,0076, 0085, 0088, 0093,0101, 0124, 0127, 0128,0129, 0130, 0131, 0137, 0141, 0142, 0144, 0145, 0146, 0148, 0159, 0160, 0165, 0172, 0173, 0176, 0185, 0189, 0190, 0192, 0195, 0198, 0203, 0207, 0213, 0218, 0221, 0224, 0228, 0230, 0234, 0240, 0242, 0245, 0256, 0266, 0271, 0274, 0278, 0279, 0281, 0282, 0284, 0285, 0286, 0289, 0297, 0301, 0302, 0303, 0307, 0308, 0312.	APHIS is creating a new electronic system to replace its ePermits system along with other IT systems, which will integrate programs/processes that are currently not electronic and/or part of a consolidated system. The CARPOL system will streamline all certification, accreditation, registration, permitting, and other license processes across APHIS and will communicate with other systems and support the ITDS ACE initiative with Homeland Security/Customs and Border Protection.	Ongoing	APHIS anticipates to have the permitting module completed by March 2016 with modules on certifications, registrations, accreditations, and other licenses to follow.	Streamlined requirements; sunset of legacy IT system	Public comment, Analysis	

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USDA	Food Safety & Inspection Service (FSIS)	Electronic Export Application and Certification Fee	0583-AD41	The electronic export application and certification system will be a component of the Agency's Public Health Information System (PHIS). The export component of PHIS will be available as an alternative to the paper based application and certification process, and will have the ability to interface and facilitate exchange of data with Customs and Border Protection's Automated Commercial Environment (ACE).	Ongoing	5/2015.	Electronic submission option	Analysis	
USDA	Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)	Input Export Form Numbers into the Automated Export System	TBD	This change would require exporters to upload copies of USDA-AMS export certificate forms into the Automated Export System that is administered by the US Census Bureau for the Export Fruit Acts: Export Grape and Plum Act (Title 7 CFR Part 35). While these changes provide no quantifiable savings, they will enable AMS to provide more effective oversight of the industry thus ensuring to all exporters that all participants are complying with the regulations.	Ongoing	09/2016 for Proposed rule	Electronic submission option	Public comment, Analysis	
USDA	AMS	Revision of the Regulations for the Inspection of Eggs providing electronic submission of the Import Request, Shell Eggs	0581-AD40	Revision of the Regulations for the Inspection of Eggs (7 CFR 57) providing electronic submission of the Import Request, Shell Eggs. Access to the Automated Customs Environment (ACE) maintained by Customs and Border Protection will allow enhanced communication of the status of the clearance process involving the Food and Drug Administration, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.	Ongoing	Proposed rule published 6/2015 (80 FR 32867); public comment closes 8/2015 Publication of the final rule is targeted for 12/2015	Electronic submission option	Public comment	The time for completion of the inspection/clearance process for release of the cargo will be reduced by approximately 48 hours.

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USDA	APHIS	Forms for Declaration Mandated by 2008 Farm Bill	0579-AD99	The Lacey Act amendments included in the 2008 Farm Bill require the declaration of imported plant and plant products. APHIS, in cooperation with other Federal entities, has implemented a number of initiatives to reduce the burden on importers. APHIS, in cooperation with other Federal entities, has been developing an electronic entry system and solicited public comment on regulatory options on several issues, including a de minimis exemption for the declaration requirement.	Ongoing	Electronic entry system: Implemented 9/2014, 12/2015 (proposed rule)	Electronic submission option	Public comment	Electronic entry system: cost savings to industry estimated at \$1.7 million - \$5.7 million. De minimis exemption: if it is assumed that at least 2 percent of all declarations currently received would not be received under de minimis, the savings would be 120,000 hours (12 million anticipated under full implementation *0.02*0.5 hours per declarations)and \$7.2 million to \$24 million (240,000 declarations * \$30 to \$100 in broker's fees).
USDA	Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Risk Management Agency	Acreage and Crop Reporting Streamlining Initiative	0563-0084	To improve and streamline the existing information collection activities currently approved by OMB by eliminating or minimizing the duplication of information collected by each of the agencies	Ongoing	Implementation is to be conducted in phases. One of the key components considered in selecting the counties and agricultural commodities for each phase is the prevalence of the use of technology through Precision Agriculture. Fall 2011 Phase 1: in 4 selected counties in Kansas. Spring 2015 Phase 2: selected counties in Illinois and Iowa. Continuing to expand in phases by geographical area and agricultural commodities until all counties and commodities are included.	Streamlined requirements	Public comment, Analysis	

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USDA	FSA	Environmental Policies and Procedures; Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and Related Authorities	0560-AH02	FSA is consolidating, updating, and amending its regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA). FSA's NEPA regulations have been in place since 1980. Significant changes to the structure of FSA and the scope of FSA's programs require changes in FSA's NEPA regulations. The proposed changes would also better align FSA's NEPA regulations with the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) NEPA regulations and guidance and meet the FSA responsibilities for periodic review of their categorical exclusions.	Ongoing	Proposed rule published 9/2014 (79 FR 52239); Publication of the final rule is targeted for 8/2015	Categorical exclusions, Streamlined requirements	Public comment, Analysis	
USDA	Natural Resources Conservation Service	Conservation Delivery Streamlining Initiative (CDSI) – Conservation Client Gateway (CCG)	TBD	Although NRCS' Conservation Delivery Streamlining Initiative (CDSI) is not an effort focused on paperwork reduction, the new processes and technologies being implemented will result in some paperwork reduction for NRCS' clientele. Most of the efficiency gains for clients will result from the Conservation Client Gateway, which will provide an online portal that will allow customers to: - work with NRCS 24/7 at their convenience, reducing or eliminating the needs for trips to the NRCS office; - view, finalize, and electronically sign documents using remote electronic signature, eliminating the generation, processing, and management of some paper documents; and - request assistance, describe problems, obtain resource information, and check on payments in less time and with fewer steps. Other paperwork reductions will result from NRCS' implementation of mobile planning tools and other process streamlining.	Ongoing	The Conservation Client Gateway public facing web application was deployed in FY 2014 (December 19, 2014) and the nationwide implementation was initiated on May 27, 2015. The Conservation Client Gateway application will provide benefits for both NRCS employees and its clients. Other CDSI systems (Conservation Desktop and Mobile Planning Tool) and streamlined processes that will enhance the paperwork reduction are scheduled for implementation in fiscal year 2017; and with subsequent releases thereafter.	Streamlined requirements	Public comment	While not within the scope of PRA, examples of such time savings include: 110,000 hours result from reduced travel time by clients to NRCS offices, or 40,000 hours result from reduced time interpreting and applying the simplified and consolidated documents being implemented through CDSI. The Conservation Client Gateway results in a cost-savings for NRCS customers by reducing the number of trips customers must make to the NRCS office to participate in the Agency's programs.
USDA	Rural Business Services (RBS)	Business and Industry Loan Guaranteed Program	0570-AA85	The rule will alter the way RBS services the loan guarantees making the program operate at a lower cost.	Ongoing	The proposed rule published on 9/2014. Final rule published by 9/2015.	TBD	Public comment	Estimated reduction in burden up to 2,000 hours.
USDA	Rural Housing Service	Community Facilities Loan and Grants	0575-AC91	Update program operation in an effort to consolidate, streamline, and simplify existing processes.	Ongoing	The proposed rule 5/2015. Final Rule 12/2015.	Streamlined requirements	Public comment	The agency is aligning its application requirements with the lending industry. As such, approximately 90 applicants each year would not be required to provide an examination opinion, which averages about \$45,000 each. Hence, this change will save the public approximately \$4 million a year.

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USDA	FSIS	Electronic Import Inspection and Certification of Imported Products and Foreign Establishments	0583-AD39	This rule amended import inspection regulations to provide for the electronic transmittal of foreign establishment certificates and foreign inspection certificates. FSIS also amended its regulations to give importers the option of submitting electronic import inspection applications through Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) Automated Commercial Environment (ACE), using the International Trade Data System (ITDS) PGA Message Set.	Completed	The final rule was published on 9/2014 (79 FR 56220). This rule was effective 11/2014.	Electronic submission option	Analysis	The final rule, in conjunction with the Public Health Information System, will reduce the information collection burden on importers by approximately 10,000 hours.
USDA	Forest Service (FS)	National Environmental Policy Act Efficiencies	0596-AD01	The Forest Service added new categorical exclusions (CEs) to its NEPA Regulations. These CEs, designed to expedite landscape restoration activities on National Forests, Grasslands, and Prairies, are included in Agency categorical exclusions found in 36 CFR part 220.6.	Completed	The rulemaking was published on 9/2013 (78 FR 56513).	Categorical exclusions	Public comment	
USDA	FSA	Streamlined Farm Loan Programs Direct Loan Making	0560-0237	FSA added a streamlined version of form FSA-2314 that will be used by some respondents. Repeat customers (borrowers) whose information has not changed will be able to use the new form, which will be streamlined and require less information and therefore less burden. The burden hours have decreased in some forms (FSA-2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006) due to lower number of responses by the current participants. The 2014 Farm Bill (Pub. L. 113-79) change to Microloans required FSA to update a form to include Microloan information. FSA chose to implement the change in a way that provides flexibility; Microloan applicants may select either the special applicant or the regular Operating Loan interest rate.	Completed	OMB approved the ICR for the change on 10/2013. OMB approved the ICR for the Microloans form change on 9/2014.	Streamlined requirements	Public comment, Analysis	Hours of paperwork/reporting eliminated: Eliminated 17,898 responses and 6,271 annual burden hours. There are no changes to the burden hour for the Microloan form changes. \$162,607 cost savings for the respondents and \$647,728, federal cost savings for processing by the Federal Government employees.
USDA	Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)	Direct Certification for School Meals	0584-AE10	Under the direct certification process, a local educational agency obtains documentation of a child's receipt of SNAP benefits from the State or local program office. By eliminating the need for paper applications for many low-income families, direct certification helps to substantially reduce paperwork burden and simplify program access for participants.	Completed	The final rule was published on 2/2013 (78 FR 12221). This rule was effective 3/2013.	Streamlined requirements	Public comment	Hours of paperwork/reporting eliminated: 113,000.
USDA	FSIS	Prior Labeling Approval System; Generic Label Approval	0583-AC59	This rulemaking expands the types of labeling that are generically approved.	Completed	The final rule was published on 11/2013 (78 FR 66826). This rule was effective 1/2014.	Streamlined requirements	Public comment, Analysis	The final rule is expected to reduce the information collection burden hours on industry by 34,971.

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USDA	FSIS	Modernization of Poultry Slaughter Inspection	0583-AD32	This rule will modernize young chicken and turkey slaughter inspection in the United States by focusing FSIS inspection resources on the areas of the poultry production system that pose the greatest risk to food safety. The new inspection system shifts the responsibility for detecting visible carcass defects from FSIS inspectors to plant employees. FSIS will continue to conduct an on-line carcass-by- carcass inspection, but FSIS inspectors will be located further down the production line, where they will be presented with carcasses that have fewer defects to inspect.	Completed	The final rule was published on 8/2014 (79 FR 49566).	Risk-based inspections	Public comment	
USDA	FNS	Simplified Cost Accounting and Other Actions to Reduce Paperwork in the Summer Food Service Program	0584-AD84	This rulemaking amends the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) to extend simplified cost accounting and reporting procedures to SFSP sponsors in all States, and eliminate the cost comparison requirements for determining payments to sponsors. In addition, this rulemaking proposes several discretionary changes to improve administrative efficiency and reduce paperwork in the management of the SFSP. Finally, this rulemaking proposes a change to the National School Lunch Program regulations to create consistency among the Child Nutrition Programs with regard to notice procedures.	New to this update	Final rule will be published 6/2016	Streamlined requirements	Public comment	Hours of paperwork/reporting eliminated: 27,184
USDA	RBS	Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance	0570-AA73 0570-0065	The subsequent interim rule expands the original program to include the ability to fund biobased product manufacturing facilities and to remove the requirement that the majority of the biorefinery production must be an advanced biofuel, thereby allowing biorefineries whose primary product is a renewable chemical to be eligible for funding. The subsequent interim rule also implements a new 2-phase application process that reduces the overall burden and streamlines the application process.	New to this update	The subsequent interim rule with comment was published on June 24, 2015 with an effective date of August 23, 2015.	Streamlined requirements	Public comment	By implementing the 2-phase application process, the Agency estimates that approximately 30,000 hours will be saved when compared to using the current process of all applicants submitting complete applications (equivalent to Phase 1 and Phase 2 applications). This is equivalent to reducing public burden for applications by approximately 45 percent. These reductions are based on an estimated 95 applicants submitting Phase 1 applications, of which 34 of the 95 Phase 1 applicants then submit Phase 2 applications.

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USDA	RBS	Rural Energy for America Program	0570-AA76 0570-0050 0570-0061 0570-0059	The rule changed the RES and EEI grant application requirements to reduce burden and streamline the application process by requesting documentation for a complete application based on total project costs.	Completed	The final rule was published 12/2014 (79 FR 78220), and was effective 2/2015.	Streamlined requirements	Public comment	An estimated 20 percent reduction in the number of hours it takes to complete a technical report for those applications for projects with total project costs (TPC) of more than \$80,000 to \$200,000; the elimination of a technical report for those applications for projects with TPC of \$80,000 or less; and a 50 percent reduction in the number of hours it takes to complete the narrative portion of an application.