

Agency	Sub-agency	Title Of Initiative/Rule or ICR	RIN/OMB Control Number	Summary of Initiative	Status of Initiative -- New to this update, Ongoing, or Completed	Target Completion Date (if completed, please add the publication date and cite in Federal Register for example)	Does the Initiative include regulatory flexibilities such as pilot projects, safe harbor exemptions, sunset provisions, trigger provisions, streamlined requirements, state flexibilities, or other similar strategies?	What methods will you engage in to Identify Improvements (public comment, analyses, third party assessments, etc). Please identify all that apply	If Available, anticipated or realized savings in costs &/or burdens and anticipated or realized changes in benefits
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 21st 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.	Completed	<p>In response to stakeholder concerns, the implementation date for ACE/ITDS functionality was changed. Mandatory use of ACE began for some agencies on March 31, 2016, with full implementation planned for July 23.</p> <p>APHIS published a final rule in the <i>Federal Register</i> on June 21, 2016, to amend the regulations regarding the importation or exportation of animals and animal products and plants and plant products to provide for the use of electronic systems as an additional alternative when a regulation has a limiting requirement.</p>	Electronic submission option Alternative forms. APHIS published two notices in the <i>Federal Register</i> announcing the opportunity for stakeholders to pilot with APHIS. The first was published on 8/6/15, for the Lacey Act Program. The second was published 10/2/15, for the other APHIS CORE programs. APHIS also received a waiver from OMB to continue collecting certain forms required for importation in a paper rather than electronic format. The waiver was granted for documents certified by officials in the exporting country that must be validated upon importation of the goods. APHIS has drafted a notice that ends the pilot project and announces that all submissions of APHIS-required data must be submitted in accordance with the procedures on the CBP Web site after July 31, 2016. The notice is currently at MRP for review and permission to publish.	Analysis	

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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, 0311, 0314, 0316, 0319, 0322, 0323, 0331, 0332, 0337, 0338, 0346, 0347, 0350, 0351, 0355, 0357, 0358, 0363, 0366, 0371, 0372, 0373, 0374, 0375, 0378, 0380, 0384, 0386, 0387, 0390, 0391, 0392, 0393, 0394, 0395, 0396, 0397, 0400, 0401, 0402, 0403, 0405, 0406, 0408, 0411, 0413, 0415, 0418, 0419, and 0429	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 September 2016 with modules on certifications, registrations, accreditations, and other licenses to follow.	Streamlined requirements; sunset of legacy IT system.	Public comment, Analysis, and Third Party Assessments	TBD

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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	7/2016 (final rule)	Electronic submission option.	Analysis	

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USDA	Food Safety & Inspection Service (FSIS)	Requirements for the Disposition of Non-Ambulatory Disabled Veal Calves	0583-AD54	This change would amend the ante-mortem inspection regulations to remove a provision that permits establishments to set apart and hold for treatment veal calves that are unable to rise from a recumbent position and walk because they are tired or cold. The existing regulations permit such calves to proceed to slaughter if they are able to rise and walk after being warmed and rested. The proposed amendment would require that non-ambulatory disabled (NAD) veal calves that are offered for slaughter be condemned and promptly euthanized instead. This would be in conformance with existing regulations on NAD mature cattle.	Completed	Proposed rule published 5/2015 (80 FR 27269); public comment period closed 8/2015 Publication of the final rule is targeted for 7/2016.	Streamlined requirements to improve inspection efficiency by saving personnel time and resources.	Public comment, Analysis	

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USDA	Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)	Input Export Certificate Number or a USDA-defined exemption code into the Automated Export System	TBD	This change would require exporters to enter an export certificate number or a USDA-defined exemption code into the Automated Export System that is administered by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Export Fruit Acts: Export Apple Act (Title 7 CFR Part 33) and the Export Grape and Plum Act (Title 7 CFR Part 35). It would also require exporters to provide copies of the certificates, upon request, to AMS. 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. In addition, these changes will support the International Trade Data System, a key White House economic initiative that is mandated for completion by 12/31/16.	Ongoing	08/2016 (proposed rule)	Electronic submission option.	Public comment, Analysis	

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USDA	AMS	Revision of the Regulations for the Inspection of Eggs providing electronic submission of the Import Request, Shell Eggs	N/A Exempt EO 12866 Rulemaking	Revision of the Regulations for the Inspection of Eggs (7 CFR 57) providing electronic submission of the Import Request, Shell Eggs. The time for completion of the inspection/clearance process for release of the cargo will be reduced by approximately 48 hours. 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.	Completed	Proposed rule published 6/2015 (80 FR 32867); public comment period closed 8/2015 Final rule published 1/13/16 (81 FR 1481).	Electronic submission option.	Public comment	

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USDA	APHIS	Animal Welfare; Establishing De Minimis Exemptions From Licensing	0579-AD99	In the 2014 Farm Bill, Congress amended the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) to provide the Secretary of Agriculture with the authority to determine what facilities and activities involving AWA regulated animals are de minimis and therefore exempt from licensure and oversight. We are proposing to amend the AWA regulations to enact this new provision. This change would provide APHIS with the flexibility to exempt from licensing those dealers and exhibitors who provide adequate levels of humane care to their animals, allowing us to target our enforcement resources where they are most needed. Dealers and exhibitors operating at or below the threshold would be exempted from APHIS licensing and oversight under the AWA.	Ongoing	Proposed rule, 8/2016	Categorical exclusions, Streamlined requirements.	Public comment	The cost of a license for the smallest entities is between \$40 and \$85 annually. Identification tags for dogs and cats cost \$1.12 to \$2.50 each. Other covered animals can be identified by a label attached to the primary enclosure containing a description of the animals in the enclosure at negligible cost. We estimate that approximately 212 currently licensed exhibitors, breeders, and dealers would no longer require licensing following implementation of this proposal, and the estimated cost savings for all these entities would total between about \$39,220 and \$48,960 annually.

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USDA	Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Risk Management Agency (RMA)	Acreage and Crop Reporting Streamlining Initiative	0563-0084	<p>ACRSI is a joint effort between producers, the Farm Service Agency (FSA), the Risk Management Agency (RMA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The project is a strategic initiative for USDA and supported by the Department with strong leadership driving the success and outcomes. The USDA vision for ACRSI is to "have a common USDA framework for producer commodity reporting in support of USDA programs." The program goals target:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reducing producer burden 2. Increasing reporting accuracy 3. Integrating data standards; and 4. Establishing producer self-service opportunities 	Ongoing	<p>Implementation is to be conducted in phases. One of the key components considered in selecting the initial counties and agricultural commodities for each phase was the prevalence of the use of technology through Precision Agriculture.</p> <p><u>Fall 2011 Phase 1:</u> for wheat in 4 selected counties in Kansas.</p> <p><u>Spring 2015 Phase 2:</u> covered 9 crops in 30 selected counties in Illinois and Iowa.</p> <p><u>Fall 2015:</u> covered 9 crops in all counties of 15 selected states. Pilot launched in October 2015</p> <p><u>States:</u> AR, DE, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, MD, MT, NC, ND, PA, SC, SD, and TN</p> <p><u>Crops:</u> Alfalfa, Corn, CRP, Fallow, Grass, Oats, Rye, Soybeans, and Wheat</p> <p>FSA farm+ released on January 8, 2016, as producer self-service solution.</p> <p><u>Spring 2016 Expansion</u> released nationwide on May 6, 2016. The expansion to 50 States included four additional crops: Cotton, Peanuts, Rice and Sorghum.</p>	<p>Streamlined requirements.</p> <p>Pilot projects completed for both ACRSI and FSA farm+</p>	Public comment, Analysis	

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						<p>Lessons learned from previous expansions will continue to inform subsequent program adjustments and expansions. <i>FSA farm+</i> released on January 8, 2016 as Producer self-service solution.</p>			

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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); public comment period closed 8/2015 Publication of the final rule is targeted for 7/2016	Categorical exclusions, Streamlined requirements.	Public comment, Analysis	

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USDA	Natural Resources Conservation Service	Conservation Delivery Streamlining Initiative (CDSI) – Conservation Client Gateway (CCG)	TBD	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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. <p>Other paperwork reductions will result from NRCS' implementation of mobile planning tools and other process streamlining.</p>	Ongoing	<p>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.</p>	Streamlined requirements.	Public comment	<p>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.</p>

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USDA	Rural Business-Cooperative Service (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.	Completed	The proposed rule published on 9/2014. The final rule published on June 3, 2016, with an effective date of August 2, 2016.	Streamlined requirements.	Public comment	Estimated reduction in Burden up to 500 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 9/2016. Final Rule 5/2017.	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	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.	Ongoing	Final rule 1/2017	Streamlined requirements.	Public comment	Hours of paperwork/reporting eliminated: 27,184

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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 b	Ongoing	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	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	

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USDA	FSA	Streamlined Farm Loan Programs Direct Loan Making	0560-0237	<p>Within in the Information Collection Request (ICR), FSA added a streamlined version of form FSA-2314 that is used by some respondents. Repeat customers (borrowers) whose information has not changed can use the new form, which is streamlined and requires less information and therefore less burden. The change allows those returning customers to use the 1 new form instead of the 6 existing forms. Therefore, burden hours have decreased in some forms (FSA-2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006) due to the resulting lower number of responses by the current participants.</p> <p>Later, as a separate change in the ICR, in implementing the 2014 Farm Bill (Pub. L. 113-79) change to Microloans FSA updated 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.</p>	Completed	OMB approved the ICR for the returning customers change on 2/2013. OMB approved the ICR for the Microloans form change on 9/2014.	Streamlined requirements.	Public comment, Analysis	<p>Hours of paperwork/reporting eliminated:</p> <p>Eliminated 6,271 annual burden hours and 17,898 responses.</p> <p>\$198,853 cost savings for the farmers (6,721 burden hours x \$31.71 per hour) and \$647,728, federal cost savings for processing by the Federal Government employees (17,898 responses x \$36.19 per hour).</p> <p>There are no changes to the burden hour for the Microloan form changes.</p>

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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	