

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

These records contain information relating to the education and training; employment history and earnings; appraisal of past performance; convictions and offenses against the law; results from written test; appraisal of potential; honors, awards or fellowships; military service; veterans preference, birthplace; date of birth; SSN; and home address of persons who have applied for Federal employment or are employed in the Federal services and correspondence related thereto. These records may also include information concerning the date of application, qualification status, employment consideration, priority grouping, and other information relating to the consideration of the individual for employment.

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:

5 U.S.C. 1302, 3301, 3302, Executive Order 10577.

PURPOSE(S):

Records in this system are used to determine individuals' eligibility and evaluate their qualifications for placement in positions within the Board.

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

A. To respond to requests for information from the Office of Personnel Management to the extent their request is compatible with the purpose for which the records are maintained.

B. To disclose information to a congressional office from the record of an individual in response to an inquiry from a Member of Congress made at the request of that individual.

C. In the event of litigation where the defendant is (1) the Board, or any employee of the Board in his or her official capacity; (2) the United States where the Board determines that the claim, if successful, is likely to directly affect the operations of the Board; or (3) any Board employee in his or her individual capacity where the Justice Department has agreed to represent such employee, the Board may disclose such records as it deems desirable or necessary to the Department of Justice to enable that Department to present an effective defense provided such disclosure is compatible with the purpose for which the records were collected.

D. In the event that this system of records indicates a violation or potential violation of law, whether civil, criminal or regulatory in nature, and whether arising by general statute or particular

program statute, or by regulation, rule or order issued pursuant thereto, the relevant records in the system of records may be referred, as a routine use, to the appropriate agency, whether Federal or foreign, charged with the responsibility of investigating or prosecuting such violation or charged with enforcing or implementing the statute, rule, regulation or order issued pursuant thereto.

E. Information may be disclosed as a "routine use" to a Federal, state or local agency maintaining civil, criminal or other relevant enforcement records or other pertinent records, such as current licenses, if necessary to obtain a record relevant to an agency decision concerning the hiring or retention of an employee, the issuance of a security clearance, the letting of a contract, or the issuance of a license, grant or other benefit. Information may be disclosed to a Federal agency, in response to its request, in connection with the hiring or retention of an employee, the issuance of a security clearance, the reporting of an investigation of an employee, the letting of a contract or the issuance of a license, grant, or other benefit by the requesting agency, to the extent that the record is relevant and necessary to the requesting agency's decision on the matter.

F. Where Federal agencies have the power to subpoena other Federal agencies' records, such as the Internal Revenue Service or the Civil Rights Commission, issue a subpoena to the Board for records, the Board will make such records available.

G. Information may be disclosed to student volunteers, individuals working under a personal services contract, and other individuals performing functions for the Board but technically not having the status of agency employees, if they need access to the records in order to perform their assigned agency functions.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**STORAGE:**

Variably stored in card files, discs, magnetic tape, forms and lists.

RETRIEVABILITY:

Records are indexed by any combination of name, date of birth, SSN, and identification number.

SAFEGUARD:

Access to and use of these records are limited to those persons whose official duties require such access. Personnel screening is employed to prevent unauthorized disclosure.

RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:

Records are retained until the applicant is selected for a position, or for two years. After the applicant is selected for a position, the records are filed in the Official Personnel Folder which is retained until the employee leaves the Board. If the applicant is not selected for a position within two years, the records are destroyed.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:

Chief, Mission Support Services, Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board, 1717 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Suite 700, Washington, DC 20006.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:

Inquiries concerning this system should be directed to the Freedom of Information Act Office, Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board, 1717 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Suite 700, Washington, DC 20006.

RECORDS ACCESS PROCEDURES:

To locate a specific record, you must provide the name of the individual and provide at least two items of identification (date of birth, employee identification number, or similar information). The address is the same as indicated in the notification procedure.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

Contact the official at the address specified under notification procedure above and reasonably identify the record and specify the information to be contested.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

The information is provided by current and former employees.

EXEMPTIONS CLAIMED FOR THE SYSTEM:

None.

Ivan J. Flores,

Paralegal Specialist, Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service**

[Docket No. APHIS-2009-0008]

Availability of an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for a Biological Control Agent for Russian Knapweed

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that an environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact have been prepared by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service relative to the release of a gall midge, *Jaapiella ivannikovi*, into the continental United States for use as a biological control agent to reduce the severity of Russian knapweed infestations. Based on its finding of no significant impact, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has determined that an environmental impact statement need not be prepared.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. L. Carmen Soileau, Senior Staff Entomologist, Permits, Registrations, Imports, and Manuals, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road, Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737-1237; (866) 524-5421.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is proposing to issue permits for the release of a gall midge, *Jaapiella ivannikovi*, into the continental United States for use as a biological control agent to reduce the severity of Russian knapweed (*Acroptilon repens*) infestations.

Russian knapweed is a long-lived perennial in the plant tribe Asteraceae (sunflower, aster, or daisy family). The highly invasive weed was first introduced into North America in 1898. By 1998, the weed had spread to 313 counties in 45 of the 48 contiguous States in the United States with 80 percent of the infestation occurring in the States of Colorado, Idaho, Washington, and Wyoming.

The proposed biological control agent, *J. ivannikovi*, is an insect measuring 1.6 to 2.5 mm in length with relatively large wings, long legs, and a long ovipositor (egg-laying organ) that can be extended from the tip of the abdomen. The female gall midge deposits its eggs on the surface of the buds situated on the tips of the main and side shoots of the Russian knapweed. Larval feeding causes stunted growth of the shoot and fusion of leaves, resulting in a so-called "rosette gall."

On March 12, 2009, we published in the **Federal Register** (74 FR 10707-10708, Docket No. APHIS-2009-0008) a notice¹ in which we announced the availability, for public review and comment, of an environmental assessment (EA) that examined the

potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed release of this biological control agent into the continental United States.

We solicited comments on the EA for 30 days ending April 14, 2009. We received one comment by that date, from the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer of the Bois Forte Band of Ojibwe in Minnesota. The commenter indicated her disagreement with biological control in general, but did not raise any specific issues regarding the content of the EA on the release of the particular organism under consideration.

In this document, we are advising the public of our finding of no significant impact (FONSI) regarding the release of the gall midge *J. ivannikovi* into the continental United States for use as a biological control agent to reduce the severity of Russian knapweed infestations. The finding, which is based on the EA, reflects our determination that release of this biological control agent will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

The EA and FONSI may be viewed on the Regulations.gov Web site (see footnote 1). Copies of the EA and FONSI are also available for public inspection 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 copies are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the reading room. In addition, copies may be obtained by writing to the individual listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

The EA and FONSI have been prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), (2) regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1b), and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

Done in Washington, DC, this 23rd day of June 2009.

Kevin Shea,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. E9-15307 Filed 6-26-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request**

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

Title: Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) Management Information Reporting System.

OMB Control Number: 0693-0032.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular submission.

Burden Hours: 7,080.

Number of Respondents: 59.

Average Hours per Response: 120.

Needs and Uses: Sponsored by NIST, the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) is a national network of locally-based manufacturing extension centers working with small manufacturers to assist them in improving their productivity, profitability, and enhance their economic competitiveness. The information collected will provide the MEP with information regarding MEP Center performance regarding the delivery of technology, and business solutions to U.S.-based manufacturers. The collected information will assist in determining the performance of the MEP Centers at both local and national levels, provide information critical to monitoring and reporting on MEP programmatic performance, and assist management in policy decisions. Responses to the collection of information are mandatory per the regulations governing the operation of the MEP Program (15 CFR parts 290, 291, 292, and H.R. 1274—section 2). The information collected will include center inputs and activities including services delivered, clients served, center staff, quarterly expenses and revenues, partners and affiliates, strategic plan, operating plans, and client success stories. No confidentiality for information submitted is promised or provided.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: Quarterly, annually, and biennially.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

OMB Desk Officer: Jasmeet Sehra, (202) 395-3123.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek,

¹ To view the notice, environmental assessment, finding of no significant impact, and the comment we received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main?main=DocketDetail&d=APHIS-2009-0008>.