



United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and  
Inspection Service

1400 Independence  
Avenue, SW.  
Washington, D.C.  
20250

6/5/2024

**TO:** Dominic Mancini  
Deputy Director  
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs  
Office of Management and Budget

**THROUGH:** Levi S. Harrell  
Departmental Clearance Officer  
Information Management Division  
Office of the Chief Information Officer

**FROM:** Dr. Jose Emilio Esteban  
Under Secretary for Food Safety

Paul Kiecker   
Administrator  
Food Safety and Inspection Service

**SUBJECT:** Request for Emergency Approval of a New Information Collection for Voluntary Bison or Buffalo Inspection at Establishments Owned by Native Americans or Operating on Tribal Lands

**DISCUSSION:** Pursuant to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) procedures established at 5 CFR Part 1320, Controlling Paperwork Burdens on the Public, the Food Safety and Inspection Service, (FSIS) requests that the proposed information collection project, *Voluntary Bison or Buffalo Inspection at Establishments Owned by Native Americans or Operating on Tribal Lands*, be processed in accordance with section 1320.13, Emergency Processing.

SEC. 765 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024, (Public Law No: 118-42) states that: “Notwithstanding the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622 et seq.) and 9 CFR part 352, the Committee provides an additional \$700,000 to the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service to cover voluntary meat inspection fees for the slaughtering or processing of bison/buffalo at Native American owned establishments or establishments operating on tribal lands.”

FSIS needs to collect information from establishments to determine eligibility for the additional appropriated funding. FSIS has determined that this information must be collected prior to the expiration of time periods established under Part 1320 and that this information is essential to distribute the funding Congress provided to cover voluntary inspection fees for the slaughtering or processing of bison or buffalo at establishments

owned by Native Americans or operating on tribal lands during fiscal year 2024. FSIS requests that OMB approve this new information collection for at least 4 months, so that FSIS can distribute congressional funding for the current fiscal year.

Please provide an approval/disapproval determination of this request to collect information under an emergency clearance by close of business June 14, 2024.

Thank you for your time and consideration.