

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Food Safety and Inspection Service****[Docket No. FSIS-2006-0036]****Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection (Registration Requirements)****AGENCY:** Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations, this notice announces the Food Safety and Inspection Service's (FSIS) intention to request an extension of a currently approved information collection regarding registration requirements.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before January 2, 2007.

ADDRESSES: FSIS invites interested persons to submit comments on this notice. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Mail, including floppy disks or CD-ROM's, and hand- or courier-delivered items:* Send to Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, 300 12th Street, SW., Room 102 Cotton Annex, Washington, DC 20250.

- *Electronic mail:*

fsis.regulationscomments@fsis.usda.gov.

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* This Web site provides the ability to type short comments directly into the comment field on this Web page or attach a file for lengthier comments. Go to <http://www.regulation.gov> and in the "Search for Open Regulations" box, select "Food Safety and Inspection Service" from the agency drop-down menu, then click on "Submit." In the Docket ID column, select FDMS Docket Number FSIS-calendar year-docket number to submit or view public comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically.

All submissions received by mail or electronic mail must include the Agency name and docket number. All comments submitted in response to this document, as well as research and background information used by FSIS in developing this document, will be available for public inspection in the FSIS Docket Room at the address listed above between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Comments will also be posted on the Agency's Web site at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_&

[policies/regulations_directives_&_notices/index.asp](#).

For Additional Information: Contact John O'Connell, Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, 300 12th Street, SW., Room 112, Washington, DC 20250-3700, (202) 720-0345.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Registration Requirements.

OMB Number: 0583-0128.

Expiration Date of Approval: 02/28/2007.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: FSIS has been delegated the authority to exercise the functions of the Secretary as specified in the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.*) and the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA) (21 U.S.C. 451, *et seq.*). These statutes provide that FSIS is to protect the public by verifying that meat and poultry products are safe, wholesome, unadulterated, and properly labeled and packaged.

FSIS is requesting extension of an approved information collection addressing paperwork and recordkeeping requirements regarding registration requirements. Provisions of the FMIA (21 U.S.C. 643) and the PPIA (21 U.S.C. 460(c)) prohibit any person, firm, or corporation from engaging in commerce as a meat or poultry products broker, renderer, animal food manufacturer, wholesaler, or public warehouseman, or from buying, selling, or transporting, or importing any dead, dying, or disabled or diseased livestock or poultry or parts of the carcasses of livestock or poultry that died otherwise than by slaughter, unless it has registered its business as required by the regulations.

According to the regulations (9 CFR 320.5 and 381.179), parties required to register with FSIS must do so by submitting a form (FSIS Form 5020-1, Registration of Meat and Poultry Handlers) and must provide current and correct information to FSIS, including their name, the address of all locations at which they conduct the business that requires them to register, and all trade or business names under which they conduct these businesses. In addition, parties required to register with FSIS must do so within 90 days after they begin to engage in any of the businesses that require registration. They must also inform FSIS when information on the form needs to be updated.

FSIS has made the following estimates based upon an information collection assessment:

Estimate of Burden: FSIS estimates that it will take respondents an average

of 10 minutes to complete and submit this form to FSIS.

Respondents: Brokers, renderers, animal food manufacturers, wholesalers, public warehousemen, meat and poultry handlers.

Estimated No. of Respondents: 600.

Estimated No. of Annual Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 100 hours.

Copies of this information collection assessment can be obtained from John O'Connell, Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, 300 12th Street, SW., Room 112, Washington, DC 20250-3700, (202) 720-5627, (202) 720-0345.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of FSIS' functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of FSIS' estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and, (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques, or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to both John O'Connell, Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, at the address provided above, and the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20253.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, in an effort to ensure that the public and in particular minorities, women, and persons with disabilities, are aware of this notice, FSIS will announce it on-line through the FSIS Web page located at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations/2006_Notices_Index/index.asp.

FSIS also will make copies of this **Federal Register** publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, recalls, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents

and stakeholders. The update is communicated via Listserv, a free e-mail subscription service consisting of industry, trade, and farm groups, consumer interest groups, allied health professionals, scientific professionals, and other individuals who have requested to be included. The update also is available on the FSIS Web page. Through Listserv and the Web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience.

In addition, FSIS offers an e-mail subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/news_and_events/email_subscription/. Options range from recalls to export information to regulations, directives and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves and have the option to password protect their account.

Done at Washington, DC, on October 31, 2006.

Barbara J. Masters,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. E6-18580 Filed 11-2-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Gauley Ranger District, Monongahela National Forest, WV; Lower Williams Vegetation Project EIS

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service, Monongahela National Forest, Gauley Ranger District, intends to prepare a draft environmental impact statement to disclose the environmental consequences of timber harvest, road construction, wildlife habitat improvement, and associated activities in the Lower Williams area of Webster County, WV to move this area towards the desired condition.

DATES: Comments and suggestions concerning the scope of the analysis should be submitted (postmarked) by December 4, 2006 to ensure timely consideration. The draft environmental impact statement is expected to be available May 2007 and the final environmental impact statement is expected to be September 2007.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to O'Dell Tucker, ID Team Leader, Lower Williams Project, 932 North Fork Cherry RD., Richwood, WV 26261. Send electronic comments to [comments-](mailto:comments-eastern-monongahela-gauley@fs.fed.us)

[eastern-monongahela-gauley@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-eastern-monongahela-gauley@fs.fed.us) (please note: when commenting by e-mail be sure to list *Lower Williams Vegetation Project EIS* in the subject line and include a U.S. Postal Service address so we may add you to our mailing list). See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for information on how to send electronic comments. For further information, mail correspondence to O'Dell Tucker at the address above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: O'Dell E. Tucker, project team leader, see the address above under **ADDRESSES**. Copies of documents may be requested at the same address. The scoping letter and maps for the Lower Williams EIS are posted on the MNF Web site: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/monongahela>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Monongahela National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) sets site-specific goals for the management of forest resources. The National Forest System Land within the Lower Williams Project Area is in Management Prescription (MP) 3.0, which emphasizes age class diversity and sustainable timber production, habitat for wildlife species tolerant of disturbances, such as deer, grouse, and squirrel, a variety of forest scenery, and primary motorized recreation environment.

The Forest Service is proposing actions that would move the Lower Williams Project Area from the existing condition towards the Desired Future Condition (DFC) and would maintain the DFC in situations where it has been attained. The DFC is described in the 2006 Monongahela National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan).

Purpose and Need for Action

The purpose and need for action in the Lower Williams Project is to: (1) Create early successional forest habitat and permanent openings within the area to improve habitat for species such as grouse, deer, and squirrel; (2) reduce the amount of competition between trees for light and water resources in dense, over-crowded stands to provide for sustainable timber and mast production; and (3) regenerate shade-intolerant tree species and diversity forest age classes to improve the long-term sustainability of timber and increase the quality and growth rate of crop trees and mast producing trees.

Proposed Action

Proposed activities to meet the desired condition fall into three main categories. (1) *Timber harvest and*

reforestation treatments consist of: Regeneration harvest, commercial thinning, shelterwood harvest, manual site preparation and release, herbicide application, planting and tubing of American Chestnut and Butternut. (2) *Wildlife habitat improvement treatments* consist of: Savannah construction, water hole construction, opening maintenance, and herbicide use. (3) *Transportation treatments* consist of: Road reconditioning, road construction, and road reconstruction.

Responsible Official: This decision will be subject to appeal under 36 CFR 215. The responsible official is James L. Lowe, Gauley Ranger District, 932 North Fork Cherry RD., Richwood, PA 26261.

Nature of Decision To Be Made

The decision to be made is whether to implement the proposed action, an alternative to the proposed action, or to defer activities related to this project. If an action alternative is selected, the deciding official will decide what, if any, mitigation measures are included and if a Forest Plan is required.

Scoping Process: This notice of intent initiates the scoping process, which guides the development of the environmental impact statement. The scoping process will begin the day following the publication of this notice of intent in the **Federal Register**.

Preliminary Issues: Preliminary issues were identified based on internal review of the project area, issues developed for similar projects, and site-specific concerns raised by the resource specialists. The resource concerns within the project area are impacts to water quality, soils, and aquatic wildlife.

Comments Requested: Your comments will help the Forest Service refine and enhance the list of issues that are considered when analyzing alternatives to the proposed action.

Review: When this analysis is nearly complete, the Draft EIS will be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency and become available for public review (expected by May 2007). At that time the Environmental Protection Agency will publish a Notice of Availability of the document in the **Federal Register** (this will begin the 45-day comment period on the Draft EIS). After the comment period ends on the Draft EIS, the comments will be analyzed and considered by the Forest Service in preparing the final environmental impact statement. The Final EIS and Record of Decision are scheduled for release in September 2007.