

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

July 22, 2009.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (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 should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8681.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to

the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Forest Service

Title: Day Use on the National Forests of Southern California.

OMB Control Number: 0596-0129.

Summary of Collection: Users of urban proximate National Forests in Southern California come from a variety of ethnic/racial, income, age, educational, and other socio-demographic categories. The activities pursued, sources utilized, and site attributes preferred are just some of the items affected by these differences. Additional information is needed for the managers of the National Forests in Southern California, in part to validate previous results and in part because of the continuously changing profile of the visitor population recreating on the National Forests of Southern California. In the absence of the resultant information from the proposed series, the Forest Service (FS) will be ill-equipped to implement management changes required to respond to needs and preferences of day use visitors. FS will collect information using a questionnaire and face-to-face interviews. The statute authorizing the collection of information is the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-307, 92 Stat. 353).

Need and Use of the Information: FS will collect information on-site from recreation visitors to the urban National Forest day use areas on socio-demographic profile; National Forest visitation history and patterns; activity patterns; and why they recreate at particular sites, etc. The information will be used to assist resource managers in their effective management of recreation activities in the region studied. The Wildland Recreation and Urban Cultures Project will use the information to further expand its information base on visitor characteristics, safety, fire management, and mitigation of depreciative behaviors, such as vandalism. If the information is not collected, resource managers will have to make visitor based decisions on limited information.

Description of Respondents:

Individuals or households.

Number of Respondents: 600.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 80.

Forest Service

Title: Urgent Removal of Timber.

OMB Control Number: 0596-0167.

Summary of Collection: Periodically, catastrophic events such as severe drought conditions, insect and disease outbreaks, wildfires, floods, and windthrow occur on forested lands within, or near, National Forest System (NFS) lands. As a result of such catastrophic event, substantial amounts of private and other public timber may be severely damaged. The damaged timber must be harvested within a relatively short time period to avoid substantial losses in both the quantity and quality of the timber due to deterioration. The critical time period available for harvesting this damaged timber and avoiding substantial deterioration varies with the season of the year, the species of timber, the damaging agent, and the location of the damaged timber. The following statute is applicable to extension of National Forest System timber sales: The National Forest Management Act of 1976 (16 U.S.C. 472a), and 36 CFR 223.115 and 36 CFR 223.53.

Need and Use of the Information: The Forest Service (FS) will collect the following information: (1) Name of the timber sale purchaser; (2) Identity of catastrophic event creating the need for urgent removal of timber; (3) Name of the NFS sale contract(s) for which an urgent removal extension is requested; (4) Quantity of urgent removal from qualifying catastrophic event purchaser has under contract and/or plans to harvest subject to approval by FS of urgent removal extension of sale(s) identified in purchaser's request; and (5) General information showing the manufacturing and/or logging equipment capacity available to purchaser.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; individuals or households; Federal Government; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 23.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 58.

Forest Service

Title: The Role of Local Communities in the Development of Agreement or Contract Plans through Stewardship Contracting.

OMB Control Number: 0596-0201.

Summary of Collection: Section 323 of Public Law 108-7 (16 U.S.C. 2104 Note) requires the Forest Service (FS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to report to Congress annually on the role of local communities in the development of agreement or contract plans through stewardship contracting. To meet that requirement FS plans to conduct an annual telephone survey to gather the necessary information for use by both the FS and BLM in developing their separate annual reports to Congress.

Need and Use of the Information: The survey will collect information on the role of local communities in the development of agreement or contract plans through stewardship contracting. The survey will provide information regarding the nature of the local community involved in developing agreement or contract plans, the nature of roles played by the entities involved in developing agreement or contract plans, the benefits to the community and agency by being involved in planning and development of contract plans, and the usefulness of stewardship contracting in helping meet the needs of local communities.

Description of Respondents: Individuals or households; business or other for-profit; not-for-profit institutions; Federal Government; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 401.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 301.

Charlene Parker,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2009-0027]

National Animal Identification System; Close of Comment Period

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is a notice to inform the public that the comment period for the submission of stakeholder concerns related to the implementation of the National Animal Identification System will be closing on August 3, 2009. The comment period opened on May 1,

2009, with the publication of our first notice announcing public meetings on the subject. The last meeting was held on June 30, 2009, and it was our intention to continue to provide the public with the option of submitting written comments for at least 30 days following that final meeting.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before August 3, 2009.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main?main=DocketDetail&d=APHIS-2009-0027> to submit or view comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically.

- *Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:* Please send two copies of your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2009-0027, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. APHIS-2009-0027.

Reading Room: You may read any comments that we receive on this docket in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690-2817 before coming.

Other Information: Additional information about APHIS and its programs is available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Adam Grow, Director, Surveillance and Identification Programs, National Center for Animal Health Programs, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 200, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 734-3752.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As part of its ongoing efforts to safeguard animal health, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) initiated implementation of a National Animal Identification System (NAIS) in 2004. The NAIS is a cooperative State-Federal-industry program administered by USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). The purpose of the NAIS is to provide a streamlined information system that will help producers and animal health officials respond quickly and effectively to animal disease events in the United States.

The ultimate long-term goal of the NAIS is to provide State and Federal officials with the capability to identify all animals and premises that have had direct contact with a disease of concern within 48 hours after discovery. Meeting that goal requires a comprehensive animal-disease traceability infrastructure. An NAIS User Guide and a Business Plan, both available on our Web site at http://animalid.aphis.usda.gov/nais/animal_id/index.shtml, provide detailed information about our plans for implementing the system.

Despite concerted efforts, APHIS has not been able to fully implement the NAIS. Many of the same issues that producers originally had with the system, such as the cost and impact on small farmers, privacy and confidentiality, and liability, continue to cause concern.

In order to provide individuals and organizations an opportunity to discuss their concerns regarding the NAIS and offer potential solutions, we have held 14 public meetings throughout the country and have been soliciting comments via our Web site.

Our goal is to gather feedback and input from a wide range of stakeholders to assist us in making an informed decision regarding both the future of the NAIS and the objectives and direction for animal identification and traceability. We would particularly welcome feedback on the following topics:

- *Cost.* What are your concerns about the cost of the NAIS? What steps would you suggest APHIS use to address cost?

- *Impact on small farmers.* What are your concerns about the effect of the NAIS on small farmers? What approaches would you suggest APHIS take to address the potential impact on small farmers?

- *Privacy and confidentiality.* What are your concerns regarding how the NAIS will affect your operation's privacy and/or the confidentiality of your operation? What steps or tactics would you suggest APHIS use to address privacy and confidentiality issues?

- *Liability.* What are your concerns about your operation's liability under the NAIS? What would you suggest APHIS consider to address liability concerns?

- *Premises registration.* Do you have any suggestions on how to make premises registration, or the identification of farm or ranch locations, easier for stakeholders? How should we address your concerns regarding premises registration?