

800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 2009 Forest Plan provides management direction for activities on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest for the next 10 to 15 years, including direction on eight topics (vegetation, wildlife, aquatic resources, recreation and travel management, fire management, livestock grazing, timber and recommended wilderness).

In 2010, WildEarth Guardians, Friends of the Bitterroot, Inc., and Montanans for Quiet Recreation, Inc., filed a complaint in U.S. District Court for the District of Montana (Case 9:10-cv-00104-DWM) alleging inadequate analysis of the “site-specific impacts of snowmobile use on big game winter habitat and conflicting recreational uses” when developing the Forest Plan, failure “to apply certain criteria [referred to as the minimization criteria] when designating areas open to snowmobile use” and that Subpart C of the 2005 Travel Management Rule concerning over-snow vehicles was invalid. In its June 22, 2015 Opinion (*WildEarth Guardians et al. v. Montana Snowmobile Ass’n*, 790 F.3d 920 (9th Cir. 2015)), the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit found the Forest Service provided sufficient information to establish that it took a “hard look” at the impacts of snowmobile use on non-motorized recreational uses and sufficiently analyzed these conflicts. Further, the U.S. Court of Appeals found that plaintiffs’ challenge to the Subpart C exemption in the Travel Management Rule was not ripe for review.

However, in the same opinion, the U.S. Court of Appeals held that the Forest Service did not provide the public adequate access to information about the impact of snowmobiles on big game wildlife and habitat and did not allow the public to play an appropriate role in the decision-making process. The U.S. Court of Appeals also found the Forest Service did not adequately apply the minimization criteria found in the Travel Management Rule. The matter was remanded to the U.S. District Court for the District of Montana.

In an August 27, 2015 Order, the U.S. District Court for the District of Montana ordered the Forest Service to “properly disclose the information underlying its analysis of snowmobile impacts on big game wildlife” and “adequately appl[y] the minimization criteria in the [2005 Travel Management Rule].” The SEIS will disclose information underlying its analysis of snowmobile impacts on big

game wildlife and apply the minimization criteria to areas on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest open to over-snow vehicle use during the winter recreation season (December 2 through May 15).

A Draft SEIS is expected to be available for public review and comment in November 2015. The comment period for the Draft SEIS will be 90 days from the date the Notice of Availability is published in the **Federal Register** 36 CFR 219.16(a)(2).

Dated: September 4, 2015.

Melany Glossa,

Forest Supervisor.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utility Service

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

September 8, 2015.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to Office of Management and Budget (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, New Executive Office Building, 725—17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20502. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: 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.

Rural Utilities Service

Title: Advance of Loan Funds and Budgetary Control and Related Burdens.

OMB Control Number: 0572-0015.

Summary of Collection: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is authorized by the Rural Electrification Act (RE Act) of 1936, as amended, “to make loans in several States and territories of the United States for rural electrification and for the purpose of furnishing and improving electric and telephone service in rural areas and to assist electric borrowers to implement demand side management, energy conservation programs, and on-grid and off-grid renewable energy systems.” Borrowers will provide the agency with information that supports the use of the funds as well as identify the type of projects for which they will use the funds.

Need and Use of the Information: RUS electric borrowers will submit RUS form 595 and 219. Form 595, Financial Requirement & Expenditure Statement, to request an advance of loan funds remaining for an existing approved loan and to report on the expenditure of previously advanced loan funds. Form 219, Inventory of Work Orders, serves as a connecting line and provides an audit trail that verifies the evidence supporting the propriety of expenditures for construction of retirement projects that supports the advance of funds. The information collected will ensure that loan funds are expended and advanced for RUS approved budget process and amounts. Failure to collect proper information could result in improper determinations of eligibility or improper use of funds.

Description of Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions; Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 600.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 14,570.

Rural Utility Service

Title: 7 CFR 1773, Policy on Audits of RUS Borrowers.

OMB Control Number: 0572-0095.

Summary of Collection: Under the authority of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (ACT), as amended 7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*, the Administrator is authorized and empowered to make loans under certain specified circumstances for rural electrification and the furnishing of electric energy to persons in rural areas and for the purpose of furnishing and improving telephone service in rural areas. RUS, in representing the Federal Government as Mortgagee, relies on the information provided by the borrowers in their financial statements to make lending decisions as to borrowers' credit worthiness and to assure that loan funds are approved, advanced and disbursed for proper Act purposes. Borrowers are required to furnish a full and complete report of their financial condition, operations and cash flows, in form and substance satisfactory to RUS.

Need and Use of the Information: RUS will collect information to evaluate borrowers' financial performance, determine whether current loans are at financial risk, and determine the credit worthiness of future losses. If information is not collected, it would delay RUS' analysis of the borrowers' financial strength, thereby adversely impacting current lending decisions.

Description of Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions; Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 1,340.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 14,914.

Rural Utilities Service

Title: 7 CFR 1751 Subpart B/State Telecommunications Modernization Plan.

OMB Control Number: 0572-0104.

Summary of Collection: The Rural Electrification Loan Restructuring Act (RELRA, Pub. L. 103-129), November 1, 1993, amended the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, 7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.* (the RE Act). RELRA required that a State Telecommunications Modernization Plan (Modernization Plan or Plan), meet all the statutory requirements of RELRA (Part 1751, Subpart B). The plan at a minimum must provide for: (1) The elimination of party line service; (2) the availability of telecommunications services for improved business, educational, and medical services; (3) must encourage computer networks and information highways for subscribers in rural areas; (4) must provide for subscribers in rural areas to be able to receive through telephone lines: (a) Conference calling; (b) video images; and (c) data at a rate of 1 million bits of information per second; and, the

proper routing of information to subscribers.

Need and Use of the Information: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) telecommunications program staff will review the Modernization Plan and approve the plans, if it complies with the requirements of the regulation. If the proposed Modernization Plan is approved, RUS will notify the developer of the approval. If not, RUS will make specific written comments and suggestions for modifying the proposed Modernization Plan so that it will comply with the requirements of the regulation. If the information is not collected, RUS' authority to make loans under the Rural Electrification Act will be restricted.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents: 1.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 350.

Charlene Parker,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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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: U.S. Census Bureau.

Title: Public Employment & Payroll Forms.

OMB Control Number: 0607-0452.

Form Number(s): E-1 through E-10.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Number of Respondents: 44,088.

Average Hours per Response: 1 hour and 5 minutes.

Burden Hours: 47,903.

Needs and Uses: This information collection request covers the questionnaires needed to conduct the public employment program for the 2015 Annual Survey of Public Employment & Payroll, the 2016 Annual Survey of Public Employment & Payroll, and the 2017 Census of Governments: Employment.

The Census of Governments: Employment and its related program, the Annual Survey of Public

Employment & Payroll, provide a rich source of data on state and local government employment and payroll in the United States. Data have been collected annually since 1957. A census is conducted every five years (years ending in '2' and '7'). A sample of state and local governments is used to collect data in the intervening years, with a new sample selected every five years (years ending in '4' and '9'). The survey provides state and local government data on full-time and part-time employment, part-time hours worked, full-time equivalent employment, and payroll statistics by governmental function (e.g., elementary and secondary education, higher education, police protection, fire protection, financial administration, central staff services, judicial and legal, highways, public welfare, etc.).

The 10 questionnaires for collecting the data are each tailored to the unique characteristics of the type and size of government or government agency to be surveyed. The type of employment and payroll data to be collected No changes will be made to the form content as currently approved. However, formatting changes will be made to the forms to facilitate data capture using current technology, Integrated Computer Assisted Data Entry (iCADE), and to clarify wording and form flow with respondents such as integrating the instruction in bullet form into the questions. These changes were cognitively tested.

The Census of Governments: Employment and its related program, the Annual Survey of Public Employment & Payroll, provide data on state and local government employment and payroll in the United States. Census Bureau staff apply a standard set of criteria while classifying government employment activity in order to provide what is perhaps the only complete and uniform set of data on the employment activities of governments in the United States.

Statistics compiled from data gathered using these forms are used in several important Federal government programs. Economists at the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) use the statistics for developing the National Income and Product Accounts. According to the Chief Statistician of BEA, "The data obtained from these forms are critical to BEA for maintaining reliable estimates. Specifically, BEA uses national, state, local, and type-of-government aggregate data by function for full-time and part-time employees, payroll, and number of part-time hours worked to prepare estimates of functional payrolls for the public sector