

requested regarding; 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; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and 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 regarding this information collection received by March 20, 2023 will be considered. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

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.

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

*Title:* Animal Welfare.

*OMB Control Number:* 0579-0036.

*Summary of Collection:*

Under the Animal Welfare Act (AWA, 7 U.S.C. 2131 *et seq.*), the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to promulgate standards and other requirements governing the humane handling, care, treatment, and transportation of certain animals by dealers, exhibitors, operators of auction sales, research facilities, carriers and intermediate handlers. The Secretary has delegated responsibility for administering the AWA to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Animal Care.

Definitions, regulations, and standards established under the AWA are contained in 9 CFR parts 1, 2, and 3 (referred to below as the regulations). Part 1 contains definitions for terms used in parts 2 and 3. Part 2 provides administrative requirements and sets

forth institutional responsibilities for regulated parties, including licensing requirements for dealers, exhibitors, and operators of auction sales. Dealers, exhibitors, and operators of auction sales are required to comply in all respects with the regulations and standards (9 CFR 2.100(a)) and to allow APHIS officials access to their place of business, facilities, animals, and records to inspect for compliance (9 CFR 2.126). Part 3 provides standards for the humane handling, care, treatment, and transportation of covered animals. Part 3 consists of subparts A through E, which contain specific standards for dogs and cats, guinea pigs and hamsters, rabbits, nonhuman primates, and marine mammals, respectively, and subpart F, which sets forth general standards for warmblooded animals not otherwise specified in part 3.

### Need and Use of the Information

Administering the AWA requires the use of several information collection activities such as license applications and renewals, which now include a request to identify whether the business mailing address is a personal residence or not a personal residence; registration applications and updates; annual reports; acknowledgement of regulations and standards; inspections; requests; notifications; agreements; plans; written program of veterinary care and health records; itineraries; applications and permits; records of acquisition, disposition, or transport of animals; official identification; variances; protocols; health certificates; complaints; marking requirements; and recordkeeping. The information is used to provide APHIS with the data necessary to review and evaluate program compliance by regulated facilities, and provide a workable system to administer the requirements of the AWA and intent of Congress without resorting to more detailed and stringent regulations and standards that could be more burdensome to regulated facilities.

*Description of Respondents:* Individuals or Households; Businesses or Other For-Profit Entities; Not-For-Profit Institutions; State, Local, and Tribal Governments; Foreign Federal Governments.

*Number of Respondents:* 45,295.

*Frequency of Responses:* Recordkeeping; Reporting; Third Party Disclosure: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 330,408.

**Ruth Brown,**

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Final Record of Decision for the National Forests in North Carolina

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, Agriculture (USDA).

**ACTION:** Notice of approval of the revised Land Management Plan for the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests.

**SUMMARY:** James Melonas, the Forest Supervisor for the National Forests in North Carolina, Southern Region, signed the Final Record of Decision (ROD) for the revised Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests Land Management Plan (LMP). The final ROD documents the rationale for approving the revised LMP and is consistent with the Reviewing Officer's responses to objections and instructions.

**DATES:** The revised LMP for the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests will become effective 30 days after the publication of this notice of approval in the **Federal Register** (36 CFR 219.17(a)(1)).

**ADDRESSES:** To view the final ROD, Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), the revised LMP, and other related documents, please visit the National Forests in North Carolina website at: [www.fs.usda.gov/goto/nfsnc/nprevision](http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/nfsnc/nprevision). A legal notice of approval is also being published in the newspaper of record, Asheville Citizen Times. A copy of this legal notice will be posted on the National Forests in North Carolina website as listed in **ADDRESSES**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michelle Aldridge, Forest Planner, Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests, by telephone 828-257-4200, or via email at [michelle.aldridge@usda.gov](mailto:michelle.aldridge@usda.gov).

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf or hard of hearing (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 800-877-8339, 24 hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays. Written requests for information may be sent to National Forests in North Carolina, Attn: Forest Plan Revision, 160 Zillicoa Street, Ste. A; Asheville, NC 28801.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests span six ranger districts and

approximately 1.04 million acres across 18 counties in Western North Carolina. The Forests have a combined LMP. The LMP was developed pursuant to the 2012 Forest Service Planning Rule (36 CFR 219) and will replace the current LMP, which was significantly amended in 1994 following its 1987 release. The revised LMP describes desired conditions, objectives, standards, guidelines, and land suitability for project and activity decision-making and will guide all resource management activities on the Forests.

The Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests lie within one of the oldest mountain ranges in the world and are a global hotspot for biodiversity, with a rich diversity of ecosystems, unique habitats, and rare species. The Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests are among the most visited in the National Forest System with nationally recognized scenic and recreation destinations that are among the region's greatest economic assets. The Pisgah Forest is also home to the birthplace of scientific forestry in America.

The Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests initiated LMP revision in 2013. During revision, the Forests engaged with federal, state, and local governments; 18 counties; three regional councils of government; local congressional staff; scientists; numerous interest and industry groups; individuals; and three collaborative groups that serve as liaisons to broader communities of interests. The design of public and government involvement was dynamic, allowing opportunities to both inform and accept feedback on the planning process as well as specific elements of the LMP. Public participants had opportunities to engage through more than 49 traditional public meetings, as well as through virtual meetings, facilitated phone calls, social media, email, and postal mail. The Forests engaged in government-to-government consultation with 12 federally recognized tribes. The revised LMP honors and redeems the Forests' trust responsibility to tribes, recognizes tribes and tribal members as partners in stewarding the national forests, and values traditional ecological knowledge and places of tribal significance. The development of the LMP was shaped by the best available scientific information, current laws, and public and government input.

A 135-day public comment period on the draft LMP and associated Draft EIS was initiated on February 14, 2020. Comments were used to refine the preferred alternative and augment LMP. A draft ROD, LMP, and FEIS were released in January 2022, initiating a 60-

day objection filing period that closed March 22, 2022. The Forest Service received 825 eligible objections. Following the objection review, the Reviewing Officer held objection resolution meetings with objectors and interested persons. Based on these meetings, the Reviewing Officer issued a written response on January 19, 2023. The instructions from the Reviewing Officer were addressed in the ROD, LMP, and FEIS.

#### Lead and Cooperating Agencies

The Bureau of Land Management is a cooperating agency per their legal jurisdiction over the federal mineral estate underlying the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests and provides information and special expertise related to subsurface mineral resources.

#### Responsible Official

The Responsible Official for approving the revised LMP is James E. Melonas, Forest Supervisor, National Forests in North Carolina. The Responsible Official approving the list of species of conservation concern is Ken Arney, Regional Forester, Southern Region.

Dated: February 9, 2023.

#### Troy Heithecker,

*Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### **Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest; Washington; Forest Plan Amendment for Planning and Management of Domestic Sheep and Goat Grazing Within the Range of Bighorn Sheep; Correction**

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, Agriculture (USDA).

**ACTION:** Correction to notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** The USDA Forest Service published a notice of intent (NOI) to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) in the **Federal Register** on May 17, 2019 (84 FR 22432). The NOI served as the scoping document for the Forest Plan Amendment for Planning and Management of Domestic Sheep and Goat Grazing Within the Range of Bighorn Sheep for the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest (Forest). After the initial 2019 scoping effort, the Forest determined the need to

update the NOI with new dates for the draft EIS and final EIS, new contact information, revised need for action, revised proposed action, preliminary alternatives, and nature of the decision to be made.

**DATES:** Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by April 3, 2023. The draft EIS is expected December 2023 and the final EIS is expected December 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to: Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Domestic Sheep EIS, 215 Melody Lane, Wenatchee, Washington 98801. Written comments can be submitted in person at the above address during regular business hours between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Pacific Time, Monday through Friday. Comments may also be submitted online at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53257> or via facsimile to 509-664-9280.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Stacy Lundgren, Environmental Coordinator, via email at [stacy.lundgren@usda.gov](mailto:stacy.lundgren@usda.gov). Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339, 24 hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Purpose and Need for Action

The purpose for this action remains the same as described in the 2019 NOI found here: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-05-17/pdf/2019-10266.pdf>. The need has been revised to address new concerns related to existing allotment management plans.

To address these concerns, the Forest needs to amend both the Okanogan and Wenatchee Forest Plans to identify which existing grazing allotments are suitable or unsuitable for domestic sheep and goat grazing. The Forest also needs to identify potential site-specific grazing opportunities which could be made available to existing sheep permittees on the Forest. In contrast to the 2019 NOI, the proposed plan amendments and allotment analyses will *not* address grazing allotments on the Tonasket Ranger District, as that unit is now administered by the Colville National Forest.

#### Proposed Action

The revised proposed action would: (1) amend the Okanogan and Wenatchee Forest Plans to provide guidance for where domestic livestock grazing might be feasible and appropriate; and (2) develop site-specific allotment management plans for grazing of