

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

May 15, 2014.

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), New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503. 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 by June 20, 2014. 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.

Grain Inspection, Packers & Stockyards Administration

Title: “Clear Title”—Protection for Purchasers of Farm Products.

OMB Control Number: 0580–0016.

Summary of Collection: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) have the responsibility for the Clear Title Program (Section 1324 of the Food Security Act of 1985. Clear Title Program was enacted to facilitate interstate commerce in farm products and protect purchasers of farm products by enabling States to establish central filing systems. The Clear Title Program purpose is to remove burden on and obstruction to interstate commerce in farm products such as double payment for the products, once at the time of purchase and again when the seller fails to repay the lender. The Food Security Act of 1985 permits the states to establish “central filing systems”. These central filing systems notify buyers of farm products of any mortgages or liens on the products.

Need and Use of the Information: A state submits information one time to GIPSA when applying for certification. The type of information required by the regulations includes how the system will operate, information to be submitted to the State for inclusion in the central filing system, information on storage, retrieval, and distribution of information contained in the central filing system. GIPSA reviews the information submitted by the states to certify that those central filing systems meet the criteria set forth in section 1324 of the Food Security Act of 1985. The information received from the State is available for public inspection.

Description of Respondents: State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 1.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 80.

Charlene Parker,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2014–11754 Filed 5–20–14; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

May 15, 2014.

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Rural Utilities Service

Title: Telecommunications System Construction Policies and Procedures.

OMB Control Number: 0572-0059.

Summary of Collection: The Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (RE Act), 7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*, was amended in 2002 by Title IV, Rural Broadband Access, by Farm Security and rural Investment Act, which authorizes Rural Utilities Service (RUS) to provide loans and loan guarantees to fund the cost of construction, improvement, or acquisition for facilities and equipment for the provision of broadband service in eligible rural communities in the States and territories of the United States. Title VI of the RE Act requires that loans are granted only to borrowers who demonstrated that they will be able to repay in full within the time agreed. RUS has established certain standards and specification for materials, equipment and construction to assure that standards are maintained; loans are not adversely affected, and loans are used for intended purposes.

Need and Use of the Information: RUS has developed specific forms for borrowers to use when entering into contracts for goods or services. The information collected is used to implement certain provisions of loan documents about the borrower's purchase of materials and equipment and the construction of its broadband system and is provided on and as needed basis or when the individual borrower undertakes certain projects. The standardization of the forms has resulted in substantial savings to borrowers by reducing preparation of the documentation and the costly review by the government.

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

Number of Respondents: 513.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 10,720.

Charlene Parker,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2014-11708 Filed 5-20-14; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Dakota Prairie Grasslands; North Dakota; Environmental Impact Statement for Greater Sage-Grouse Grasslands Plan Amendment

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended (FLPMA), and the Resources Planning Act of 1974, as amended by the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (NFMA), the Forest Service intends to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to amend the Dakota Prairie Grasslands Land and Resource Management Plan (DPG LRMP). This notice is announcing the beginning of the scoping process to solicit public comments and identify issues relative to the greater sage-grouse. This analysis will be the basis of the record of decision.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by July 7, 2014. The draft environmental impact statement is expected November 2014, and the final environmental impact statement is expected June 2015.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to: Dennis Neitzke, Grasslands Supervisor, 1200 Missouri Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58504. Comments may also be sent via email to: comments-northern-dakota-prairie@fs.fed.us or via facsimile to: 701-989-7299.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information and/or to have your name added to our mailing list, contact Cristi Corey-Luse, Environmental Coordinator, phone 559-359-5608 or email ccoreyluse@fs.fed.us. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a replay during normal business hours. In all correspondence, please include your name, address, and organization name if you are commenting as a representative of an organization.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In March of 2010 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) published a "warranted, but precluded" Endangered Species Act-listing-petition decision for the greater sage-grouse. Inadequacy of regulatory mechanisms was identified as a significant factor in the USFWS finding on the petition to list the species. The USFWS concluded that existing regulatory mechanisms to protect greater sage-grouse, "... afford sufficient discretion to the decision makers as to render them inadequate to ameliorate the threats to the [greater sage-grouse]." The major threat in regards to actions authorized on

national forest system and other public lands is habitat modification. Habitat modification on Federal lands includes threats from infrastructure (fences, powerlines, and roads), recreation, mining, energy development, grazing, fire, invasive species, noxious weeds, conifer encroachment, and climate change.

Purpose and Need for Action

The purpose of the project is to determine what management direction (that is, regulatory mechanisms) should be incorporated into the DPG LRMP to conserve, enhance, and/or restore sagebrush and associated habitats to contribute to the long-term viability of the greater sage-grouse. This is needed to address the recent "warranted, but precluded" ESA decision from the USFWS by addressing needed changes in the management and conservation of greater sage-grouse habitats on lands managed by the Dakota Prairie Grasslands within the State of North Dakota.

Proposed Action

The Forest Service is proposing to amend the DPG LRMP by adding to or changing some of the management direction (that is, regulatory mechanisms) that would reduce, eliminate, or minimize threats to the greater sage-grouse on National Forest System lands that are considered priority and general habitat for the greater sage grouse. A planning area map is provided in the scoping document (see "Scoping Process" subsection below).

Based on threats identified in the USFWS decision on the petition listing for the greater sage-grouse, the proposed management direction would address at a minimum the following resource areas and resource uses on national forest system lands: Recreation management, fire and fuels management, rangeland management, invasive species, rights-of-way management, special uses, transportation system and facilities management, minerals management (locatable, fluid, and saleable), habitat restoration/vegetation management, and renewable energy development.

Specific desired conditions, goals, objectives, standards, and guidelines amendments to the LRMP, although not yet developed, would focus on creating specific habitat objectives for the greater sage-grouse. These desired conditions, goals, objective, standards, and guidelines would relate to the following areas:

- Activity restricting seasonal time frames;