

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 69, No. 247

Monday, December 27, 2004

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

Farm Service Agency

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intent of the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to request an extension of a currently approved information collection used in support of the Standards for Approval of Volunteer Programs.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before February 25, 2005 to be assured consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. C. Mondina Jolley, USDA, Farm Service Agency, Human Resources Specialist, Domestic Operations Branch, Human Resources Division, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-0596, FAX 202-418-9120.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Volunteer Programs.

OMB Control Number: 0560-0232.

Expiration Date for Approval: October 30, 2004.

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

Abstract: The Volunteer Program PM Notice authorizes the FSA to enter into volunteer agreements with students, individuals, groups or organizations who sponsor individual's services without compensation, and who performs those services in furtherance of the programs of the Agency. The information collected allows FSA to effectively recruit, train, and accept, volunteers to carry out programs of, or supported by, the Department.

The forms covered by this collection are the Student; Individual; and

Sponsored Volunteer Program Service Agreements; and supporting documents that allow the Agency to document its use of individuals who are not Federal employees to provide voluntary service, except for the purpose of Chapter 81 of Title 5, U.S.C. (relating to Worker Compensation Program) and Sections 2671 through 2680 of Title 28 U.S.C. relating to tort claims. The forms are furnished to selected volunteers to secure and record information regarding the agreement and permit the volunteer to submit time and attendance information. Documentation is required by the Office of Personnel Management letter dated April 18, 1996, *i.e.*, to inform volunteers of the nature of their appointment with respect to service credit for leave or other employees benefits and record time and attendance.

Estimate of Burden: The recording keeping requirements in this clearance are normal business records and, therefore, have no burden. Public reporting burden for this information collection is estimated to average 15 minutes per response.

Total Number of Respondents: 20.

Total Travel Time Per Respondent: 1 hour.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 16.

Comments are invited on: (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 those who respond through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, or mechanical, collection techniques, or other forms of information technology. These comments should be sent to the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503 and to Ms. C. Mondina Jolley, Student Employment Program Manager, USDA, FSA, Human Resources Division, Domestic Operations Branch, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-0596. Copies of the information collection

may be obtained from Ms. Jolley at the above address.

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.

Signed in Washington, DC, on December 16, 2004.

James R. Little,

Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. 04-28160 Filed 12-23-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Freds Fire Restoration, Eldorado National Forest, El Dorado County, CA

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: In October 2004, the Freds Fire burned approximately 7,700 acres on the Eldorado National Forest and on private timberlands. The project area for this analysis is the approximately 4,600 acre portion of the Freds Fire on National Forest System lands. The USDA, Forest Service, Eldorado National Forest will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for a proposal to treat approximately 3,200 acres of fire killed and damaged trees in the Freds Fire burned area. The land allocations within the fire area, as identified in the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Supplemental EIS, are threat zone, defense zone, general forest, protected activity centers for spotted owls, spotted owl home range core areas, and riparian conservation areas adjacent to perennial, seasonal and ephemeral streams.

The purpose of the project is to: (1) Reduce long term fuel loading to reduce future fire severity and resistance to control; (2) improve roads and establish effective ground cover in severely burned areas to reduce erosion and sedimentation to streams in the short term, and to contribute to long term soil productivity; (3) recover the economic value of timber killed or severely injured by the fire, in an expeditious manner, for the purpose of generating funds to offset the cost of future restoration activities; and (4), reduce safety hazards to the public and forest workers.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by January 12, 2005. The draft environmental impact statement is expected in March 2005 and the final environmental impact statement is expected in June 2005.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to John D. Berry, Forest Supervisor, Eldorado National Forest, 100 Forni Road, Placerville, CA 95667, Attention: Freds Fire Restoration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laura Hierholzer, Project Leader, Placerville Ranger District, 4260 Eight Mile Road, Camino, CA 95709, or by telephone at 530-647-5382.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose and Need for Action

The fire burned with varying intensity. Many areas of the fire burned at high and moderate intensity, killing 75%–100% of the trees and completely consuming the duff and litter that protected the soil. In these areas, the fire resulted in high rates of soil erosion, sedimentation to streams, destruction of wildlife habitat for sensitive species, and loss of old forest characteristics. The fire killed tens of thousands of trees, that if left untreated will contribute to extremely high fuel loading over time. As these dead trees fall and fuel accumulates, future fires will be even more severe. Treating the dead and dying tree component of the landscape is the first step in reducing long term fuel loading and restoring the historic fire regime, thereby reducing the impacts of fires on the future forest and contributing to the restoration of old forest habitats. Without treatment to begin to restore the fire area, significant additional impacts to soil, water quality, cultural resources, and wildlife habitat are likely over the short and long term. This Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) addresses treating the dead and dying tree component of the landscape and improving rocks to reduce sediment delivery to streams. The process of removing dead trees would reduce soil erosion by immediately increasing effective ground cover (limbs, twigs, and small boles) and maintain soil productivity for tree growth.

Proposed Action

The proposed action would remove dead trees using ground based, skyline, and helicopter logging methods. Trees posing a safety hazard to the public and forest workers would be removed along roads, trails, residential and recreation areas. Roads would be reconstructed and improved to facilitate tree removal and to improve watershed condition.

Approximately 1 mile of newly constructed road would be built. Slash and small dead trees would be treated to provide ground cover and reduce short term fuel loading. Protection would be applied to sensitive plants and wildlife species, and cultural resources.

The proposed action is consistent with the 1989 Eldorado National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan as amended by the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment Record of Decision (2004).

Nature of Decision To Be Made

The decision to be made is whether to adopt and implement the proposed action, an alternative to the proposed action, or take no action to remove fire killed and damaged trees in the project area, to undertake road improvements, or to implement fuel treatments.

Other alternatives will be developed based on significant issues identified during the scoping process for the environmental impact statement. All alternatives will need to respond to the specific condition of providing benefits equal to or better than the current condition. Alternatives being considered at this time include: (1) The Proposed Action and (2) No Action.

Scoping Process

Public participation will be especially important at several points during the analysis. The Forest Service will be seeking information, comments, and assistance from the Federal, State, and local agencies and other individuals or organizations who may be interested in or affected by the proposed action. To facilitate public participation, information about the proposed action will be mailed to all who express interest in the proposed action and notification of the public scoping period will be published in the Mountain Democrat, Placerville, CA.

Comments submitted during the scoping process should be in writing and should be specific to the proposed action. The comments should describe as clearly and completely as possible any issues the commenter has with the proposal. The scoping process includes:

- (a) Identifying potential issues;
- (b) Identifying issues to be analyzed in depth;
- (c) Eliminating nonsignificant issues or those previously covered by a relevant previous environmental analysis;
- (d) Exploring additional alternatives;
- (e) Identifying potential environmental effects of the proposed action and alternatives.

A public meeting will be held on Thursday, January 13, 2005, from 7 p.m.

to 9 p.m. at the Pollock Pines Community Center, Sanders Drive, Pollock Pines, California.

Comment Requested

This notice of intent initiates the scoping process which guides the development of the environmental impact statement.

Early Notice of Importance of Public Participation in Subsequent Environmental Review

A draft environmental impact statement will be prepared for comment. The comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

The Forest Service believes, at this early state, it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of draft environmental impact statements must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft environmental impact statement stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the 45 day comment period so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final environmental impact statement.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the draft environmental impact statement should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft environmental impact statement or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the

National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points.

Comments received, including the names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposal and will be available for public inspection.

(Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7 and 1508.22; Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, Section 21.)

The final EIS is scheduled to be completed in June, 2005. In the final EIS, the Forest Service is required to respond to substantive comments received during the comment period that pertain to the environmental consequences discussed in the draft EIS and applicable laws, regulations, and policies considered in making the decision regarding this proposal.

John D. Berry, Forest Supervisor, Eldorado National Forest is the responsible official. As the responsible official he will document the decision and reasons for the decision in the Record of Decision. That decision will be subject to Forest Service appeal regulations (36 CFR part 215).

Dated: December 17, 2004.

Kathryn D. Hardy,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 04-28141 Filed 12-23-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

[I.D. 122004C]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce has submitted 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: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Title: Weather Modification Activities Reports.

Form Number(s): NOAA Forms 17-4, 17-4A, 17-4B.

OMB Approval Number: 0648-0025.

Type of Request: Regular submission.

Burden Hours: 330.

Number of Respondents: 55.

Average Hours Per Response: 30 minutes for Forms 17-4 and 17-4A; 5 hours for Form 17-4B.

Needs and Uses: The Weather Modification Activities Reports are required by Public Law 92-205, Section 6(b). All entities which engage in weather modification (e.g. cloud-seeding to enhance precipitation or

disperse fog) are required to report various data to NOAA. NOAA maintains the data for use in scientific research, historical statistics, international reports, and other purposes.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations; individuals or households; not-for-profit institutions; Federal government; State, local or tribal government.

Frequency: On occasion, annually.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0266, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, FAX number (202) 395-7285, or David_Rostker@omb.eop.gov.

Dated: December 17, 2004.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 04-28130 Filed 12-23-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-KD-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

[I.D. 122004B]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce has submitted 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: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Title: Processed Products Family of Forms.

Form Number(s): NOAA Forms 88-13, 88-13c.

OMB Approval Number: 0648-0018.

Type of Request: Regular submission.

Burden Hours: 680.

Number of Respondents: 1,320.

Average Hours Per Response: 30 minutes for Form 88-13; 15 minutes for Form 88-13c.

Needs and Uses: This is a survey of seafood and industrial fish processing firms. The firms processing fish from certain fisheries must report on their

annual volume, the wholesale value of products, and monthly employment figures. Data are used in economic analyses to estimate the capacity and extent to which processors utilize domestic harvest. These analyses are necessary to carry out the provision of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: Monthly, annually.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0266, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, FAX number (202) 395-7285, or David_Rostker@omb.eop.gov.

Dated: December 17, 2004.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 04-28133 Filed 12-23-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under Secretary for Industry and Security

[Docket No. 03-BIS-013]

In the Matters of: Yaudat Mustafa Talyi a.k.a. Yaudat Mustafa a.k.a. Joseph Talyi, 41 Chamale Cove East, Slidell, Louisiana 70460, Respondents; Decision and Order

On June 22, 2004, the Bureau of Industry and Security ("BIS") issued a charging letter against the respondent, Yaudat Mustafa Talyi, a.k.a. Yaudat Mustafa, a.k.a. Joseph Talyi ("Talyi"), that alleged 11 violations of the Export Administration Regulations (Regulations),¹ which were issued under the Export Administration Act of 1979,

¹ The violations charged occurred between 2001 and 2002. The Regulations governing the violations at issue are found in the 2001 and 2002 versions of the Code of Federal Regulations (15 CFR parts 730-774 (2001-2002)). The 2004 Regulations establish the procedures that apply to this matter.