

purposes of the refuge are "for use as an inviolate sanctuary, or for any other management purpose, for migratory birds" (Migratory Bird Conservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 715d); "\* \* \* the conservation of the wetlands of the nation in order to maintain the public benefits they provide and to help fulfill international obligations contained in various migratory bird treaties and conventions. \* \* \*" (16 U.S.C. 3901(b)).

Upper Ouachita Refuge is located in northeastern Louisiana. The northern boundary lies on the Louisiana-Arkansas State line. The refuge borders both sides of the Ouachita River for 13.7 miles and extends 3.3 miles to the east and 13 miles to the west. The refuge extends approximately 20 miles in a north-south direction, and its widest east-west dimension is approximately 16 miles. The southernmost point on the refuge is approximately 20 miles north of Monroe, Louisiana. The refuge lies within the Ouachita River Basin, which encompasses much of southwest Arkansas and northeast Louisiana.

The refuge consists of 4,540 acres of pine and pine/hardwood mix, 19,767 acres of bottomland hardwoods, 2,000 acres of shrub-scrub, 1,182 acres of moist soil, 2,540 acres of agricultural fields, 9,236 acres of reforested bottomlands, 474 acres of fallow agricultural fields, and 2,907 acres of open water. Wildlife species found on the refuge are typical of forested wetlands, moist soils, early successional forests, and upland hardwood/pine habitats. The refuge provides habitat for thousands of wintering ducks and geese and year-round habitat for nesting wood ducks. Although no large rookeries are located on the refuge, thousands of wading and water birds, such as white ibis, herons, egrets, wood storks, cormorants, and anhingas, forage in the sloughs, bayous, and Mollicy Unit. Many neotropical migratory birds breed on the refuge while other species use the refuge during migration, especially along the Ouachita River. Resident game species include fox and gray squirrels, rabbits, and deer. Furbearers present include muskrat, nutria, mink, river otter, beaver, red and gray fox, and racoon.

Three threatened and endangered species utilize the refuge. Currently, there is one active group of the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker on the refuge. Threatened Louisiana black bear have become more common on the refuge recently. Many threatened bald eagles are seen during the year, mainly winter, on the refuge. Bald eagles have also begun to nest

successfully on the refuge within the last three years.

Hunting and fishing opportunities are permitted on most areas of the refuge, and is open year-round for wildlife observation, nature photography, and hiking.

The Service will conduct a comprehensive conservation planning process that will provide opportunity for State and local governments, agencies, organizations, and the public to participate in issue scoping and public comment. Comments received by the Planning Team will be used as part of the planning process.

**Authority:** This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, Public Law 105-57.

Dated: June 17, 2005.

**Cynthia K. Dohner,**

*Acting Regional Director.*

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**BILLING CODE 4310-55-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

#### Submission of Information Collection to the Office of Management and Budget for Review

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of submission of information collection to the Office of Management and Budget.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is submitting the information collection on Indian Service Population and Labor Force Estimates for review and renewal as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The OMB Control Number is 1076-0147.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before August 12, 2005.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments on the information collection to the Desk Officer for Department of the Interior at the Office of Management and Budget, by facsimile to (202) 395-6566 or you may send an e-mail to: [OIRA\\_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov](mailto:OIRA_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov).

Please send copy of your comments to Mr. Harry Rainbolt, Assistant to the Deputy Bureau Director, Tribal Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, 1951 Constitution Avenue, Mail Stop 320-SIB, NW., Washington, DC 20240; Telephone (202) 513-7640, Facsimile (202) 208-3112.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** You may request further information or obtain copies of the information

collection request submission from Mr. Rainbolt, as identified in the **ADDRESSES** section.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Information is mandated by Congress through Public Law 102-477, Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Demonstration Act (Act) of 1992, section 17. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is submitting the information collection for renewal. The Act requires the Secretary to develop, maintain and publish, not less than biennially, a report on the population by gender, income level, age, and availability for work. The report will be submitted to the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, as required by the Act, other Federal agencies and will be available to tribes and the general public upon request.

A request for comments on this information collection request appeared in the **Federal Register** on March 9, 2005 (70 FR 11687). No comments were received in response to the announcement.

#### Request for Comments

The Bureau of Indian Affairs requests you to send your comments on this collection to the two locations listed in the **ADDRESSES** section. Your comments should address:

(a) The necessity of this information collection 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 the burden (hours and cost) of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(c) Ways we could enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(d) Ways we could minimize the burden of the collection of the information on the respondents, such as through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that an agency may not sponsor or request, and an individual need not respond to, a collection of information unless it has a valid OMB Control Number.

It is our policy to make all comments available to the public for review at the location listed in the **ADDRESSES** section, room 320-SIB, during the hours of 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., e.s.t., Monday through Friday, except for legal holidays. If you wish to have your name and/or address withheld, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. We will honor your request according to the requirements of the

law. All comments from organizations or representatives will be available for review. We may withhold comments from review for other reasons.

OMB has up to 60 days to make a decision on the submission for renewal, but may make the decision after 30 days. Therefore, to receive the best consideration of your comments, you should submit them closer to 30 days than 60 days.

#### Information Collection Abstract

OMB Control Number: 1076-0147.

Type of review: Renewal.

Title: Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Service Population and Labor Force Estimates.

Brief Description of collection: The Office of Tribal Services contacted 10 of the 562 federally recognized Indian tribes. The 10 tribes contacted ranged in size from small (less than 500 members) to large tribes (more than 20,000 members). The estimated time it took each tribe to respond to the biennial report was between 1 hour and 4 days depending on the sophistication of the tribal government. All things considered, it takes each tribe an estimated 8 hours to complete the survey.

Respondents: American Indian Tribes.

Number of Respondents: 562.

Estimated Time per Response: 8 hours.

Frequency of Response: Biennially.

Total Annual Burden to Respondents: 4496 hours biennially.

Total Annual Cost to Respondents: N/A.

Dated: July 5, 2005.

Michael D. Olsen,

Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 05-13761 Filed 7-12-05; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WY-070-1232-DA]

#### Notice of Temporary Closure of Public Lands to Motorized Vehicle Use

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of temporary closure of certain public lands to all types of motor vehicle use in Sheridan County, Wyoming.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Subpart 8364, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces its intentions to temporarily close certain BLM-administered public

lands to all types of motor vehicle use during the period of time the Buffalo Field Office develops, completes, and approves a management plan for recently acquired lands. These lands are hereafter referred to as "Welch Management Area." This temporary closure is needed to protect public lands and resources from the effects of unauthorized use and motorized vehicle use of existing roads and two-track trails that were present when the land was transferred to the United States Government.

**DATES:** This temporary closure will be effective the date this notice is published in the **Federal Register** and will continue to either December 31, 2006, or when a management plan for the Welch Management Area is completed and approved, whichever comes first.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Chris Hanson, Buffalo Field Manager, or Jim Sparks, Assistant Field Manager, Buffalo Field Office, 1425 Fort Street, Buffalo, Wyoming 82834. Mr. Hanson and Mr. Sparks may also be contacted by telephone: (307) 684-1100.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The BLM-administered public lands affected by this closure include approximately 1,745 acres, more or less, in Sheridan County, Wyoming. These lands are:

T. 57 N., R. 84 W., 6th PM, Wyoming section 1, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ; section 2, lots 2, 3, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ , S $\frac{1}{2}$ ; section 3, lots 3, 4, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ; section 4, lots 1 through 4, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ .

This area was known as "the Welch lands" and is further described in the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Pittsburg and Midway Coal Mining Company Coal Exchange Proposal; (July 2003) and its Record of Decision (November 2004). In exchange for Federal coal and other lands, the Welch lands were transferred to the United States Government from private ownership. Prior to the completion of the transfer, the area was subject to limited and controlled motorized vehicle use. The existing roads were neither constructed nor designed for unlimited vehicular traffic in all types of weather conditions.

Excessive use of the roads by motorized vehicles during wet weather conditions would be detrimental to the area and its associated natural resources. Soils in the area are highly erodible. Any motorized vehicular travel during certain conditions could greatly increase soil erosion and potentially increase sedimentation into the Tongue River, especially when off-

road vehicles are used as the means of transport.

The BLM is in the process of developing a management plan for the area hereafter referred to as the Welch Management Area. The use of these lands; including use by motorized vehicles, will be addressed in the plan. During development of the management plan, the public will be invited to participate in its formation through their provision of comments and resource information.

Upon completion of the management plan, actions addressed in the plan will be implemented and the temporary closure will no longer be necessary. Maps of the planning area and information on land-use planning progress may be obtained from the Buffalo Field Office.

Main entry points to the area will be signed and posted as closed to travel by all types of motorized vehicles used by the public (*i.e.* any motorized vehicle including cars, trucks, sport utility vehicles, motorcycles, snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, etc.).

Information as to when the area would no longer be closed to motorized vehicular travel would be posted at the Buffalo Field Office. In addition, the BLM plans to announce the lifting of the closure through the media including but not limited to, announcement in local newspapers.

Temporary closure orders may be implemented as provided in 43 CFR, subparts 8341.2 and 8364.1. Violations of this closure are punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000, and/or imprisonment; not to exceed 12 months.

Persons who are administratively exempt from this closure include: Any Federal, State or local officer or employee acting within the scope of their duties, members of any organized rescue or fire-fighting force in performance of an official duty, and any person holding written authorization from the Bureau of Land Management.

Dated: March 25, 2005.

Robert A. Bennett,

State Director.

[FR Doc. 05-13787 Filed 7-12-05; 8:45 am]

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