

mitigation language for the MOA and that the parties would meet in August to review a revised MOA, such a meeting was never held. In early August, the FS chose to sign a slightly revised MOA, secured the signature of UA, and then, in a letter dated August 8, 2005, asked the other consulting parties to sign the MOA. Arguing that FS had violated an agreed upon approach, the tribes refused to sign the MOA. The ACHP provided the FS some recommended language for the MOA that included the use of a laminated wood pole, consultation protocols for projects at Mount Graham, and a management plan for the mountain, but those recommendations were not accepted.

As stated above, on a letter received by the ACHP in December 5, the FS notified the ACHP of its decision to terminate consultation and seek the formal comments from the ACHP.

Again, the ACHP seeks public input on those formal comments that ACHP will send to FS.

Dated: January 4, 2006.

John M. Fowler,
Executive Director.

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BILLING CODE 4310-K6-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Approval of Continued Information Collection for Forest Land Enhancement Program

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent; request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Forest Service announces its intent to seek approval to extend an information collection to implement the Forest Land Enhancement Program. This information collection consists of 7 components: (1) Forest Land Enhancement Program State priority plans; (2) State program accomplishment reports; (3) landowner management plans; (4) applications for cost-share payments; (5) program assignment of payment; (6) Power of Attorney forms; and (7) Internal Revenue Service (IRS) income reporting requirements for participants.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing on or before March 10, 2006.

ADDRESSES: All comments should be addressed to: Cooperative Forestry Staff, Forest Service, USDA, Stop Code 1123,

1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1123.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Hal Brockman, Cooperative Forestry Staff at (202) 205-1694.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Forest Service is seeking to extend a currently approved information collection to implement the landowner assistance program authorized through the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002. The first two components, State Priority Plans and State Accomplishments Reports, are necessary for the Forest Service to manage the Forest Land Enhancement Program (Program), which, by law, is implemented through State forestry agencies. The third component, Management Plans, will be used by State forestry agencies to assure landowner eligibility for the Program.

The remainder of the information (Application for Cost-Share Payments, Assignment of Payment, Power of Attorney 1, Power of Attorney 2, and Payment Limitation Requirements) will be collected from landowners requesting cost-share funds. Only the first component is mandatory for all applicants. In all States and participating Territories, this information or similar information will be collected through State-managed or State-contracted services.

For the purposes of the Program, the term "State" includes any of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands of the United States, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Data gathered in this information collection is not available from other sources.

Description of Information Collections

Title: Forest Land Enhancement Program.

OMB Number: 0596-0168.

Type of request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: This collection comprises 7 components.

First is the State priority plan which describes how the Program will be implemented in each State. Plans describe (1) how this program complements other USDA programs; (2) the distribution of available funding for administration, resource management expertise/technical assistance, education, and cost-share; (3) how cost-share funds shall be made available to eligible participants; (4) ownership and acreage limitations; (5) defines and describes a management plan (which is

required if a landowner is to receive cost-share assistance for practice implementation); (6) landowner cost-share payment limitations; (7) eligible cost-share practices; (8) how funds may be distributed to participants; and (9) program application and reimbursement processes.

Estimate of burden: 284 hours.

Type of respondents: Plans are prepared by State forestry staff with input from members of State Forest Stewardship Coordination Committees which include representatives of Federal and State agencies, private landowners, and forestry/conservation organizations.

Estimated number of responses per respondent: 1 plan per State.

Estimated total burden on respondents: 16,756 hours.

Second is the State Program accomplishment reports which provide statistics on various aspects of program implementation such as the number of acres and ownerships treated, numbers of technical site visits provided, and numbers of workshops held.

Estimate of burden: 40.6 hours.

Type of respondents: Accomplishments reports are prepared by State forestry staff.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 2 per State.

Estimated total burden on respondents: 4,791 hours.

Third is the landowner management plan that is typically prepared by a State forestry agency (or a certified forestry consultant hired by a State forestry agency) with input from the forest owner. The plan lays out management objectives for the forest or stand in question.

Estimate of burden: 4 hours.

Type of respondents: Non-industrial private forest owners.

Estimated number of respondents: 8,300.

Estimated number of responses per respondent: 1 per plan.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 33,200 hours.

Fourth is information collected from landowners applying for cost-share payments as well as from State forestry personnel and used to track the implementation of cost-share practices. The information is used to describe the practice to be cost-shared, record the estimated timing of practice completion, verify practice completion, determine landowner eligibility, identify the location of the property, record the cost-share amount approved, and several other administrative aspects of program management. Landowners provide signatures to verify that they have covered a specified cost of the practice.

The landowner also signs a statement agreeing to refund all or part of the cost-share assistance received if, before the specified practice lifespan, the landowner destroys the approved practice, or voluntarily relinquishes control over the land and the new owner or operator of the land does not agree in writing to maintain the practice properly for the remainder of the lifespan.

Estimate of burden: 15 minutes.

Type of respondents: Non-industrial private forest owners.

Estimated number of respondents: 8,300.

Estimated number of responses per respondent: 1.5 per participant.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 3113 hours.

Fifth is information collected to assign cost-share payment to a third party at the request of a program participant. Information collected includes the payment amount assigned, and the names, addresses, and signatures of assignor and assignee.

Estimate of burden: 10 minutes.

Type of respondents: Non-industrial private forest owners.

Estimated number of respondents: 8,300.

Estimated number of responses per respondent: 1 per assignment.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 1383 hours.

Sixth is information used to appoint power of attorney for the landowner. The landowner indicates whether power of attorney is being granted for (1) all actions; (2) the signing of an application; (3) the receiving of payments; (4) pledge of agreements; (5) the making of reports; or (6) other. It includes signatures by the landowner and witnesses.

Estimate of burden: 5 minutes.

Type of respondents: Non-industrial private forest owners.

Estimated number of respondents: 8,300.

Estimated number of responses per respondent: 1 per request.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 692 hours.

Another power of attorney is provided for participants who are husband and wife and who wish to assign each other power of attorney. It includes signatures by the husband and wife.

Estimate of burden: 5 minutes.

Type of respondents: Non-industrial private forest owners.

Estimated number of respondents: 8,300.

Estimated number of responses per respondent: 1 per request.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 692 hours.

Seventh is information used to review payment limitation requirements and assure that landowners do not exceed any annual or life-of-program caps. The same information is used to meet IRS income reporting requirements. Program participants provide their name and address, entity identification number, and date the entity formed. They indicate the type of entity (e.g. whether an individual, irrevocable trust, revocable trust, corporation, limited partnership, general partnership, joint venture, estate, or other). Participants also list all stockholders, members, heirs, or beneficiaries having an interest in the entity.

Estimate of burden: 25 minutes.

Type of respondents: Non-industrial private forest owners.

Estimated number of respondents: 8,300.

Estimated number of responses per respondent: 1.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 3,458 hours.

Comment Is Invited

The agency invites comments on the following: (a) Whether the proposed 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 estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Use of Comments

All comments received in response to this notice, including name and address when provided, will become a matter of public record. Comments received in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the request to Office of Management and Budget for approval.

Dated: December 27, 2005.

Robin L. Thompson,

Associate Deputy Chief, State and Private Forestry.

[FR Doc. E6-64 Filed 1-6-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Lower Tucannon Ecosystem Management Project, Umatilla National Forest, Columbia County, WA

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Cancellation notice.

SUMMARY: On July 9, 2003, a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Lower Tucannon Ecosystem Management Project on the Pomeroy Ranger District of the Umatilla National Forest, was published in the **Federal Register** (68 FR 40900). The Forest Service has decided to cancel the preparation of this EIS. The NOI is hereby rescinded.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions maybe addressed to Dean Millett, Timber Management Assistant, Pomeroy Ranger District, 71 West Main Street, Pomeroy, WA 99374, telephone 509-843-1891.

Dated: January 3, 2006.

Kevin Martin,

Forest Supervisor.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Siskiyou County Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Siskiyou County Resource Advisory Committee will meet in Yreka, California, January 16, 2006. The meeting will include routine business and the review and recommendation for implementation of submitted project proposals.

DATES: The meeting will be held January 16, 2006, from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Yreka High School Library, Preece Way, Yreka, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Talley, RAC Coordinator, Klamath National Forest, (530) 841-4423 or electronically at rtalley@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. Public comment opportunity will be provided and individuals will have the opportunity to address the Committee at that time.