

(1) The MMS specifically solicits comments on the following questions:

(a) Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the proper performance of MMS's functions, and will it be useful?

(b) Are the estimates of the burden hours of the proposed collection reasonable?

(c) Do you have any suggestions that would enhance the quality, clarity, or usefulness of the information to be collected?

(d) Is there a way to minimize the information collection burden on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology?

(2) In addition, the PRA requires agencies to estimate the total annual reporting and recordkeeping cost burden for the collection of this information. The MMS needs your comments on this item. Your response should split the cost estimate into two components: (a) total capital and startup cost component; and (b) annual operation, maintenance, and purchase of services component. Your estimates should consider the costs to generate, maintain, and disclose or provide the information. You should describe the methods you use to estimate major cost factors, including system and technology acquisition, expected useful life of capital equipment, discount rate(s), and the period over which you incur costs. Capital and startup costs include, among other items, computers and software you purchase to prepare for collecting information; monitoring, sampling, drilling, and testing equipment; and record storage facilities. Generally, your estimates should not include equipment or services purchased: before October 1, 1995; to comply with requirements not associated with the information collection; for reasons other than to provide information or keep records for the Government; or as part of customary and usual business or private practices.

MMS Information Collection Clearance Officer: Jo Ann Lauterbach, (202) 208-7744.

Dated: January 12, 1998.

E. P. Danenberger,

Chief, Engineering and Operations Division.
[FR Doc. 98-1628 Filed 1-22-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Umatilla Basin Project, Umatilla, OR

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) proposes to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) on implementing Phase III of the Umatilla Basin Project. The Phase III study will evaluate the potential for modifying and expanding Reclamation's existing Umatilla Basin Project (Project) to provide additional flows in the Umatilla River for anadromous fish. In addition, the study will evaluate potential measures to improve municipal and industrial water supplies in the study area. Alternatives, including no action, will be evaluated in the EIS.

ADDRESSES:

Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Regional Office, 1150 N Curtis Road, Suite 100, Boise, ID 83706-1234.

Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Columbia Area Office, P.O. Box 1749, Yakima, WA 98907-1749.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For information on the study, contact Robert Hamilton, Activity Manager, at (208) 378-5087 or at the above regional office address. For information regarding the NEPA process, contact John Tiedeman, Environmental Specialist, at (509) 575-5848 ext. 238 or at the above area office address.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authorization for this study is contained in the Feasibility Studies Act of 1966, Public Law 89-561. The study will build upon prior activities authorized as part of the Project. These activities meet some but not all of the fishery needs of the basin. Recent data collected from monitoring of instream flows indicate that the restoration of flows resulting from Project activities to date will be less than originally estimated.

This study will evaluate the potential of providing water from the Columbia River to the Westland Irrigation District in exchange for water normally diverted from the Umatilla River. This would leave additional flows for resident and anadromous fish species in the river downstream of the Westland Irrigation District diversion. Restoration of the fishery would be of major cultural and

economic importance to the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation for whom anadromous fisheries are Indian Trust Assets. Other opportunities for instream enhancement and opportunities for enhancement of municipal and industrial water supplies will also be evaluated.

Reclamation plans to conduct public scoping meetings to identify issues and concerns will be used in the development of alternatives. The dates, times, and locations of public scoping meetings will be noted in newspapers of general circulation in the Pendleton and Hermiston, Oregon, areas and surrounding communities.

Dated: January 15, 1998.

John W. Keys, III,

Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region.

[FR Doc. 98-1600 Filed 1-22-98; 8:45 am]

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AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Renew Collections: Comment Request.

SUMMARY: U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is making efforts to reduce the paperwork burden. USAID invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Comments are requested concerning: (1) Whether the continuing collections of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether information shall have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the burden estimates; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected, and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection are best assured of having their full effect if received within 60 days of this notification.

ADDRESSES INFORMATION TO: Beverly Johnson, Bureau for Management, Office of Administrative Services, Information and Records Division, U.S. Agency for International Development, Washington, D.C. 20523, 202-712-1365 or via e-mail bjohnson@usaid.gov.