precautionary approach and principles in a structured manner to the Second Session of the Ad Hoc Group on Food Safety.

(2) Selected international organizations (the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Office of International Epizootics, the World Trade Organization and the OECD) would contribute to a compendium of international food safety activities.

The Draft reports from OECD members and from international organizations are due to the OECD Secretariat by the end of February, 2000, in preparation for the Ad Hoc Group's second session, scheduled for March 27–28.

The time-frame for completion of the work of the Ad Hoc Group on Food Safety is very short. Participants agreed that the two compendia should be in suitable form by the end of April 2000 for transmittal, via the OECD Council, to the G–8.

The program of work described above, and the US' submission to the compendium of national food safety systems will be discussed at the public meeting.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, in an effort to better ensure that minorities, women, and persons with disabilities are aware of this meeting notice, FSIS will announce it and provide copies of this **Federal Register** publication in the FSIS Constituent Update. FSIS provides a weekly FSIS Constituent Update, which is communicated via fax to over 300 organizations and individuals. In addition, the update is available on line through the FSIS web page located at http://www.fsis.usda.gov. The update is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, recalls, and any other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents/stakeholders. The constituent fax list consists of industry, trade, and farm groups, consumer interest groups, allied health professionals, scientific professionals, and other individuals that have requested to be included. Through these various channels, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. For more information and to be added to the constituent fax list, fax your request to the Congressional and Public Affairs Office, at (202) 720–5704.

Done at Washington, DC on: February 24, 2000.

Patrick J. Clerkin,

Associate U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

Margaret M. Dotzel,

Acting Associate Commissioner for Policy.

[FR Doc. 00–4849 Filed 2–29–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE FSIS 3410–DM–P; FDA 4160–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Reinstatement of a Previously Approved Information Collection; Request for Comments; Visitor's Permit Form FS–2300–30 and Visitor Registration Card FS–2300–32

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Forest Service announces its intention to request reinstatement of a peviously approved information collection for Visitor's Permit Form FS–2300–30 and Visitor Registration Card Form FS–2300–32. The collected information will help the Forest Service ensure that visitors' use of National Forest System lands is in the public interest and is compatible with the mission of the agency. Information will be collected from National Forest System land visitors, who will be asked to describe their intended use of the land and their estimated duration of use.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing on or before May 1, 2000.

ADDRESSES: All comments should be addressed to the Wilderness Program Manager; Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness Resources Staff; Mail Drop 1125; Forest Service, USDA; P.O. Box 96090; Washington, DC 20090–6090.

Comments also may be submitted via facsimile to (202) 205–1145 or by email to jstokes/wo@fs.fed.us.

The public may inspect comments in the Office of the Director, Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness Resources Staff, 201 14th Street, SW, Washington DC Visitors are encouraged to call (202) 205–1706 to facilitate entrance into the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jerry Stokes, Wilderness Program Manager, Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness Resources Staff at (202) 205–0925.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Organic Administration Act (16 U.S.C. 473), Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131), Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1271), and Executive Order 11644 of February 8, 1972, (Use of Off-Road Vehicles on the Public Lands) authorize the Forest Service to manage National Forest System lands to benefit the land and the people for present and future generations.

Each year, millions of people visit National Forest System lands. These lands include wilderness and special management areas, such as wild and scenic rivers, restricted off-road vehicle areas, and campgrounds. Access to many of these areas requires reservations and/or permits.

The Forest Service developed Visitor's Permit Form FS–2300–30 and Visitor Registration Card Form FS–2300–32 to facilitate visitor access to wilderness and special management areas. Forest Service personnel collect information from visitors as they register or apply for permits to use or visit wilderness or special management areas.

Visitors will be asked to provide their name and address, the site they plan to visit, their expected length of stay, the number of people in their group, their point of entry and point of exit, their primary method of travel, the number of pack or saddle animals they plan to bring, and number of watercraft or vehicles they plan to bring.

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

Description of Information Collection

The following describes the information collection to be reinstated:

Title: FS–2300–30, Visitor's Permit.

OMB Number: 0596–0019.

Expiration Date of Approval: October 31, 1999.

Type of Request: This is a request for reinstatement of an information collection previously authorized by the Office of Management and Budget.

Abstract: The Forest Service will analyze the collected data to identify the National Forest System lands and wilderness areas most frequently visited by the public.

Visitor's Permit Form FS–2300–30 will be used only where public access must be managed and/or monitored to prevent damage to the natural resources, to preserve the quality of the visitor's experience, or to provide for public safety.

When asking visitors to complete Form FS–2300–30, Forest Service personnel will take the opportunity to discuss with visitors how they can protect the natural resources while visiting, proper camping techniques they should use, fire prevention, safety, and sanitation requirements. The very

issuance of this permit will provide information that will help the Forest Service identify the wilderness and special management areas that will be visited most frequently and will provide the agency with opportunities to encourage people to visit less popular sites.

To determine the estimate of burden, three Forest Service employees not familiar with the form were requested to individually complete Visitor's Permit Form FS–2300–30.

Estimate of Burden: 3 minutes.

Type of Respondents: Individuals and groups requesting use of National Forest System wilderness and special management areas.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 100,000.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 5,000 hours.

Description of Information Collection

The following describes the information collection to be reinstated:

Title: FS–2300–32, Visitor Registration Card.

OMB Number: 0596–0019.

Expiration Date of Approval: October 31, 1999.

Type of Request: This is a request for reinstatement of an information collection previously authorized by the Office of Management and Budget.

Abstract: The Visitor Registration Card FS–2300–32, like the Visitor Permit Form FS–2300–30, will provide the Forest Service with information that will help the agency identify National Forest System wilderness and special management areas most frequently visited and will provide the agency with opportunities to encourage people to visit less popular sites. Completing the Visitor Registration Card will be a voluntary exercise by visitors; it is not a requirement for visitation to a site.

Visitor Registration Cards will be available to visitors at field locations, such as trailheads. Visitors will complete the cards and place them in a container designed for that purpose.

To determine the estimate of burden, one Forest Service employee not familiar with the form was asked to complete the Visitor Registration Card FS–2300–32.

Estimate of Burden: 3 minutes.

Type of Respondents: Individuals and groups visiting National Forest System wilderness and special management areas.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 210,000 respondents.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 10,500 hours.

Comment is Invited

The agency invites comments on the following: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the stated purposes and the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical or scientific utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's 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 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 names and addresses when provided, will become a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval.

Dated: February 22, 2000.

Paul Brouha,

Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest Systems.

[FR Doc. 00–4863 Filed 2–29–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–11–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Big Creek Resource Management Project, Flathead National Forest, Flathead County, Montana

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: The Forest Service will prepare an environmental impact statement on a proposal to harvest trees; conduct prescribed burning; pre-commercially thin trees; reconstruct recreational trails and facilities; implement access management changes, including road reclamation; and conduct rehabilitation activities in aquatic habitat within the Big Creek watershed. The area is located 10 miles north of Columbia Falls, Montana.

The Forest Service is seeking further information and written comments from Federal, State and local agencies and other individuals or organizations who may be interested in or affected by the proposed actions. These comments will be used to prepare the draft EIS.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis should be received in writing by April 4, 2000. The draft EIS is expected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency and made available for public review in September, 2000. No date has yet been determined for filing the final EIS.

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

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to David Ondov or Jimmy DeHerrera, Glacier View Ranger District, P.O. Box 290340, Hungry Horse, Montana, 59919.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Ondov, Planning Team Leader, 406–387–3800.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Nature and Scope of the Proposed Action

This proposal is necessary to address resource conditions related to wildlife, forest health, fisheries and watershed, recreation use, and other human uses within the 58,000 acre Big Creek watershed which are outside desired ranges. There is also the desire to maintain resource conditions across the landscape that are similar to what fire and other natural disturbance processes would have created historically.

The purpose of the proposal is to restore landscape composition, structure, and patterns to conditions similar to that expected under natural disturbance and succession regimes, and to restore fire as an important ecological process in this watershed; to reduce existing populations of selected invasive (noxious) weeds; to improve diversity of viewing opportunities into Glacier National Park and the east facing slope of Demers Ridge; to protect human and environmental values in this watershed from the effects of catastrophic fire; to improve the quality and quantity of ungulate winter and spring range forage; to improve grizzly bear security; to improve water quality and fisheries habitat; to reconstruct the Smokey Range Trail to an acceptable standard for visitor use; to provide a developed trailhead and visitor information at the northern terminus of the Demers Ridge Trail; and to relocate a portion of the Canyon Creek Snowmobile Trail onto a route that is suitable for grooming.