

recreational and natural resources of the Columbia River Gorge." Recreation, while given equal weight in Scenic Area directives, must be compatible with the refuges' purposes for inclusion in refuge programs. Currently, the refuges are closed to public use with the exception of requested staff-led tours.

Construction of the Gateway Center and interpretive trail was approved in December of 1999, and will commence at Steigerwald Lake NWR in the near future. Opportunities to provide similar public uses at Franz Lake NWR and Pierce NWR are limited by access across a busy railroad track. With any increase in human visitation, the potential for disturbance to wildlife and the incidence of trespass, vandalism, and littering is anticipated to increase.

Public Comments

With the publication of this notice, the public is encouraged to attend public meetings and submit written comments for staff to consider in developing the CCP. Comments received shall be used to identify issues and draft preliminary alternatives. Comments already received are on record and need not be resubmitted.

All comments received from individuals on Environmental Assessments and Environmental Impact Statements become part of the official public record. Requests for such comments will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA regulations [40 CFR 1506.6(f)], and other Service and Departmental policy and procedures. When requested, the Service generally will provide comment letters with the names and addresses of the individuals who wrote the comments. However, the telephone number of the commenting individual will not be provided in response to such requests to the extent permissible by law. Additionally, public comment letters are not required to contain the commentator's name, address, or other identifying information. Such comments may be submitted anonymously to the Service.

The environmental review of this project will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), NEPA Regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), other appropriate Federal laws and regulations, the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, and Service policies and procedures for compliance with those regulations.

Public Meetings

Two public scoping meetings will be held in September. Dates, locations, and times follow. The format will be a presentation on the planning process and the refuges followed by facilitated discussions to gather public comments. The dates, times, and locations of the public meetings follow.

September 20, 2000, 7 pm to 9 pm,
Jemtegaard Middle School, 35300
Evergreen Blvd., Washougal,
Washington.

September 21, 2000, 7 pm to 9 pm, Rock
Creek Center, 710 SW Rock Creek
Drive, Stevenson, Washington.

Dated: August 21, 2000.

Don Weathers,

*Acting Regional Director, Region 1, Portland,
Oregon.*

[FR Doc. 00-21863 Filed 8-25-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Request for Comments on Land Acquisitions Information Collection

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs,
Interior.

ACTION: Notice of information collection
request renewal.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) invites comments on the information collection request which will be renewed. The collection is: 25 CFR 151 Land Acquisitions, 1076-0100.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before October 27, 2000 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments to Terrance L. Virden, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Director, Office of Trust Responsibilities, MS-4513/MIB/Code 200, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240, telephone (202) 208-5831.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Interested persons may obtain copies of the information collection requests without charge by contacting Terrance L. Virden at (202) 208-5831, or by facsimile at (202) 219-1255.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Interested persons may submit written comments regarding this information collection request to the location identified in the **ADDRESSES** section of this document.

Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours.

Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to request that we consider withholding your name, street address, and other contact information (such as Internet address, FAX, or phone number) from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will honor your request to the extent allowable by law. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 provides an opportunity for interested parties to comment on proposed information collection requests. This collection covers 25 CFR 151 as presently approved. It is not tied to the proposed rulemaking. We must keep this active to allow lands into trust requests to be honored. The Bureau of Indian Affairs, Division of Real Estate Services, is proceeding with this public comment period as the first step in obtaining a normal information collection clearance from OMB. The request contains (1) Type of review, (2) title, (3) summary of the collection, (4) respondents, (5) frequency of collection, (6) reporting and record keeping requirements, (7) reason for response.

Title: 25 CFR—Land Acquisitions.

Type of review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Summary: The Secretary of the Interior has statutory authority to acquire lands in trust status for individual Indians and federally recognized Indian tribes. The Secretary requests information in order to identify the party(ies) involved and a description of the land in question. Respondents are Native American tribes or individuals who request acquisition of real property into trust status. The Secretary also requests additional information necessary to satisfy those pertinent factors listed in 25 CFR 151.10 or 151.11. The information is used to determine whether or not the Secretary will approve an applicant's request. No specific form is used, but respondents supply information and data, in accordance with 25 CFR 151, so that the Secretary may make an evaluation and determination in accordance with established Federal factors, rules and policies.

Frequency of Collection: One Time.

Description of Respondents: Native American Tribes and Individuals

desiring acquisition of lands in trust status.

Total Respondents: 9,200.

Total Annual Responses: 9,200.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 36,800 hours.

Reason for response: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs solicits comments in order to:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the bureau, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the bureau's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond. Any public comments will be addressed in the Bureau of Indian Affairs' submission of the information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget.

Dated: August 21, 2000.

Kevin Gover,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 00-21861 Filed 8-25-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that the Information Collection Request for the Payment for Appointed Counsel in Involuntary Indian Child Custody Proceedings in State Courts has been submitted to OMB for review and renewal.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before September 27, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be directed to the Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior at: Office of Information and Regulation, Office of Management and Budget, Docket Library, Room 10102 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503. A copy of all written comments should be sent to Chester J. Eagleman, Sr., Bureau of Indian Affairs (Bureau), Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20503.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Chester J.

Eagleman, Sr., 202-208-2721 (This is not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

A state court that appoints counsel for an indigent Indian parent or Indian custodian in an involuntary Indian child custody proceeding in a State court may send written notice to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (Bureau) when appointment of counsel is not authorized by State law. The cognizant Bureau Regional Director uses this information to decide whether to certify that the client in the notice is eligible to have his counsel compensated by the Bureau in accordance with the Indian Child Welfare Act, Public Law 95-608.

On May 16, 2000, the Department of the Interior published a notice in the **Federal Register** (65 FR 31186) requesting public comments on the proposed information collection. The comment period ended July 17, 2000. No comments were received.

II. Method of Collection

The following information is collected in a notice from State courts in order to certify payment of appointed counsel in involuntary Indian child custody proceedings. The information collection is submitted to obtain or retain a benefit; i.e., payment for appointed counsel: the reason for the collection are listed in the following table:

Information collected	Reason for collection
(a) Name, address and telephone number of attorney appointed	(a) To identify attorney appointed as counsel and method of contact.
(b) Name and address of client for whom counsel is appointed	(b) To identify indigent party in an Indian child custody proceeding for whom counsel is appointed.
(c) Applicant's relationship to child	(c) To determine if the person is eligible for payment of attorney fees as specified in Public Law 95-608.
(d) Name of Indian child's tribe	(d) To determine if the child is a member of a federally recognized tribe and is covered by the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA).
(e) Copy of petition or complaint	(e) To determine if this custody proceeding is covered by the ICWA.
(f) Certification by the court that State law does not provide for appointment of counsel in such proceedings.	(f) To determine if other State laws provide for such appointment of counsel and to prevent duplication of effort.
(g) Certification by the court that the Indian client is indigent	(g) To determine if the client has resources to pay for counsel.
(h) The amount of payments due counsel utilizing the same procedures used to determine expenses in juvenile delinquency proceedings.	(h) To determine if the amount of payment due appointed counsel is based on State court standards in juvenile delinquency proceedings.
(i) Approved vouchers with court certification that the amount requested is reasonable considering the work and the criteria used for determining fees and expenses for juvenile delinquency proceedings..	(i) To determine the amount of payment considered reasonable in accordance with State standards for a particular case.

Proposed use of the information: The information collected will be used by the respective Bureau Regional Director to determine:

(a) If an individual Indian involved in an Indian child custody proceeding is eligible for payment of appointed counsel's attorney fees;

(b) If any State statutes provide for coverage of attorney fees under these circumstances;

(c) The State standards for payment of attorney fees in juvenile delinquency proceedings; and,

(d) The name of the attorney, and his actual voucher certified by the court for the work completed on a preapproved case. This information is required for payment of appointed counsel as authorized by Public Law 95-608.

III. Data

(1) *Title of the Collection of Information:* Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Payment for Appointed Counsel in Involuntary Indian Child Custody Proceedings in State Courts.

OMB Number: 1076-0111.

Expiration Date: August 31, 2000.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.