

collected can be used to respond to indicators or standards in a Forest plan or Wilderness Area plan without requiring a mandatory permit system to gather and record the data. Use of the Visitor Registration Card Form is one of the most efficient means of collecting data from visitors. It allows the Forest Service to collect data in remote locations, where it is not feasible to have permanent staffing.

The Visitor Registration Card Form allows managers to identify heavily used areas, to prepare restoration and monitoring plans that reflect where use is occurring, and in extreme cases, to develop plans to move forest users to lesser impacted areas. It also provides managers with information useful in locating lost forest visitors. Not having the Visitor's Registration Card Form could result in overuse and site deterioration in some environmentally sensitive areas. Furthermore, without the registration card, the Forest Service would be required to undertake special studies to collect use data, and could be pressed to make management decisions based on insufficient or inaccurate data.

The Visitor Registration Card Form provides information from wilderness and special management area visitors including name and address, area to be visited, dates of visit, length of stay, method of travel, number of people, and number of pack and saddle stock (that is, the number of animals either carrying people or their gear) in the group, and number of watercraft or vehicles.

Method of Collection

The Visitor Registration Card Form (FS-2300-32) is normally made available at un-staffed entry locations such as trailheads, and is completed by the visitor without Forest Service assistance. The information is collected once from visitors during their visit, by Forest Service employees who then analyze the information. The information collected will not be shared with other organizations inside or outside the Government.

Estimate of Annual Burden: 3 minutes per card.

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

Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 241,500 per year.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 12,075 hours.

Comment Is Invited

Comment is invited on: (1) The necessity of the information for the

stated purposes and the proper performance of agency functions, including the practical or scientific utility of the information; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimated burden of the information collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) the enhancement of the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the minimization of the information collection burden 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 be a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized and included in the submission request toward Office of Management and Budget approval.

Dated: August 19, 2003.

Gloria Manning,

Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System.

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Dated: August 19, 2003.

Paul Hart,

Designated Federal Official, Okanogan and Wenatchee National Forests.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Tehama County Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Tehama County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet in Red Bluff, California. Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Introductions, (2) Approval of Minutes, (3) Public Comment, (4) Chairman's Report, (5) Update on Approved Projects from the Mendocino, (6) Report from Tehama Fire Plan, (7) General Discussion, (8) Next Agenda.

DATES: The meeting will be held on September 11, 2003, from 9 a.m. and end at approximately 12 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Lincoln Street School, Conference Room A, 1135 Lincoln Street, Red Bluff, CA. Individuals wishing to speak or propose agenda items must send their names and proposals to Jim Giachino, DFO, 825 N. Humboldt Ave., Willows, CA 95988.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bobbin Gaddini, Committee Coordinator, USDA, Mendocino National Forest, Grindstone Ranger District, PO Box 164, Elk Creek, CA 95939. (530) 968-5329; email ggaddini@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. Committee discussion is limited to Forest Service staff and Committee members. However, persons who wish to bring matters to the attention of the Committee may file written statements with the Committee staff before or after the meeting. Public input sessions will be provided and individuals who made written requests by September 8, 2003, will have the opportunity to address the committee at those sessions.

Dated: August 19, 2003.

Robert McCabe,

Acting Designated Federal Official.

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