

determine whether the requesting party consents to the fees charged by NAL.

Estimate of Burden: Average 1.00 minute per response.

Description of Respondents: Respondents to the collection of information are those libraries, institutions, or organizations that request interlibrary loans or copies of material in the NAL collections. Each respondent must furnish the information for each loan or copying request.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2100.

Frequency of Responses: Average 15 per respondent.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 525 hours.

Comments: Comments are invited on (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 a practical 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 those who are to respond, such as through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques. Comments may be sent to Wayne Thompson at the address listed above within 65 days after date of publication. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: September 8, 2005.

Edward B. Knipling,

Administrator, ARS.

[FR Doc. 05-18380 Filed 9-15-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Information Collection; Request for Comment; National Forest Visitor Use Monitoring

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Forest Service is seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on the extension with

revision of information collection, National Forest Visitor Use Monitoring.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing on or before November 15, 2005 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Comments concerning this notice should be addressed to Dr. Donald B.K. English, NVUM Program Manager, USDA-Forest Service, 1400 Independence Ave SW., Washington, DC 20250.

Comments also may be submitted via facsimile to (202) 205-1145 or by e-mail to: denglish@fs.fed.us.

The public may inspect comments received at Room 4 Central, Yates Building, USDA-Forest Service, Recreation and Heritage Resources staff, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC during normal business hours. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to (202) 205-9595 to facilitate entry to the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Donald B.K. English, Recreation and Heritage Resources staff, at (202) 205-9595. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf may call the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339, 24 hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 requires that Federal agencies establish measurable goals and monitor their success at meeting those goals. Two items the Forest Service must measure are: (1) The number of visits that occur on the National forest lands for recreation and other purposes, and (2) the views and satisfaction level of recreational visitors to National Forest System lands about the types and quality of recreation services the agency provides. The agency is often asked for this kind of information from a variety of organizations that include Congressional Staffs, newspapers, magazines, and recreational trade organizations.

National Forest System land managers will use the collected information to better understand their recreational customers, to improve recreational opportunities and services, and to identify barriers that prevent the agency from meeting the recreational needs of its customers. Data and results from this information collection are key considerations in revising land and resource management plans for National Forests, as required by the National Forest Management Act of 1976, and in agency strategic planning efforts. In

addition, information and results from this collection are directly used in several of the OMB Program Analysis Reporting Tool (PART) measures for the Forest Service Recreation program. Examples include measures of customer satisfaction, participation in physically active outdoor activities, and estimates of recreation visitation.

The currently approved information collection is designed to estimate the number of visits to National Forests and Grasslands for recreation as well as obtain information on key management issues including the proportion of visitors that engage in various outdoor recreation activities, the geographic and demographic populations served, visitor satisfaction with facilities and services provided, the amount of recreational use that occurs on designated wilderness areas, and salient economic aspects of recreational use of National Forests. The collected information will be shared with all National Forest System land managers and upon request, with others. Results from this collection will be published in agency reports and various research journals.

The sampling design, survey instrument, and analysis protocols are also being tested at several areas by the Department of the Interior (DOI), Bureau of Land Management to evaluate the applicability of this collection as a scientifically-credible and effective means of obtaining visitation estimates and visitor characteristics on its lands. As well, the DOI National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service will be testing the protocols on their lands in Southern Nevada to obtain information needed to conform with the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act.

Title: National Visitor Use Monitoring.

OMB Number: 0596-0110.

Expiration Date of Approval: April 30, 2006.

Type of Request: Extension with revision.

Abstract: Data from this information collection is used to estimate the number of recreational visits to National Forests and Grasslands, and designated wilderness areas, as well as the types of activities in which these visitors participate. The data are used to identify recreational markets, defined customers served, evaluate visitor satisfaction, and estimate the economic values and impacts of recreational visits. Respondents are asked questions about the activities in which they participate while visiting National Forest System lands, the duration of their visit, how often they visit, what types of items they have purchased during their visit, and

their satisfaction with various aspects of the locations they visited.

Forest Service or contractor personnel will interview visitors as they exit National Forest System lands at a stratified random sample of recreational sites and forest access points. Surveys will be conducted on about one-fifth of the National Forests each year, so that complete coverage of agency lands occurs over a five-year cycle. Results of this study will be published in agency reports and various research journals. Data gathered in this collection is not available from other sources.

Estimate of Annual Burden: 10 minutes.

Type of Respondents: People who visit National Forest System lands.

Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 66,000.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 11,000 hours.

Comment is invited on: (1) Whether this 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; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) 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.

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 request for Office of Management and Budget approval.

Dated: September 2, 2005.

Frederick R. Norbury,

Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System.

[FR Doc. 05-18385 Filed 9-15-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Plumas National Forest, Feather River Ranger District, California, Slapjack Project

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: The USDA Forest Service will prepare an environmental impact statement to disclose the environmental effects from construction of defensible fuel profile zones (DFPZs); harvest and reforestation of timber stands; watersted rehabilitation; control of noxious weeds; construction of temporary roads and reconstruction of specified roads; decommissioning of roads; road access restrictions, and underburning forest fuels and debris in the Slapjack project area.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received within 30 days of the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. The draft environmental impact statement is expected by January 2006, and the final environmental impact statement is expected by April 2006.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments concerning this notice to James M. Peña, Forest Supervisor, Plumas National Forest, P.O. Box 11500, 159 Lawrence Street, Quincy, CA 95971. Comments may be (1) mailed to the Responsible Official; (2) hand-delivered between the hours of 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays; (3) faxed to (530) 283-7746; or (4) electronically mailed to: *comments-pacificsouthwestplumas@fs.fed.us*. Comments submitted electronically must be in Rich Text Format (.rtf).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan Joyce, Project Leader, Feather River Ranger District, 875 Mitchell Avenue, Oroville, CA 95965, or call (530) 534-6500.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Project Location

The Slapjack project area is located approximately 19 air miles east of Oroville, California, near the communities of Challenge, Brownsville, Dobbins, Forbestown, Feather Falls, Woodleaf, Clipper Mills, and Strawberry Valley. The project area consists of approximately 27,000 acres of public and private land and is located within Butte, Yuba, and Plumas Counties, California. It is generally situated between Lake Oroville to Dobbins to the west, the North Yuba River to Wambo Bar on the East, and from Barton Hill to the town of Feather Falls to the North. The area ranges in elevation from approximately 1,300 to 3,800 feet above mean sea level.

The legal description of the project area is: Township (T) 20N, Range (R) 6E, portions of Sections 15, 23, 25, 26, and 34; T20N, R8E, portions of Section 32;

T19N, R6E, portions of Sections 2–5, 9, 11 and 14; T19N, R7E, portions of Sections 1, 8, 11–13, 16–21 and 27–34; T19N, R8E, portions of Sections 4, 5, and 6; T18N, R7E, portions of Sections 2, 3, 12, 14, 22, 23, 26, and 34, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian.

Proposed Action

The Forest Service proposes to construct approximately 18 miles of DFPZs with a total treatment area of approximately 4,800 acres. A DFPZ is a strategically located strip of land approximately ¼ mile in width on which fuels, both living and dead, have been modified in order to reduce the potential for sustained crown fire and to allow fire suppression personnel a safer location from which to take action against a wildfire. Proposed DFPZs are located primarily on ridges. Due to dense brush in the area, use of herbicides is proposed to maintain the effectiveness of the DFPZs. Use of mechanical ground based equipment is proposed on 1,099 acres in DFPZs for masticating woody shrubs and trees under 10 inches in diameter at breast height. The healthiest, largest, and tallest conifers would be left at a spacing of 18 to 25 feet, depending on size of the remaining trees. Mastication would break up fuel continuity in these stands.

The Forest Service also proposes to harvest approximately 12 million board feet of timber through application of group selection and individual tree selection harvest methods. Group selection timber harvest would be conducted on approximately 240 acres within and near the DFPZ treatment units. Group selection involves harvest of trees up to 30-inches in diameter from small (½ to 2 acres) groups. The 240 acres would be harvested from a total area of about 2,291 acres. Over time, this would create an uneven-aged (all-aged) forests made up of a patchwork of small groups of same-aged trees. Individual tree selection harvest would be conducted on 148 acres to improve forest health and favor fire resilient tree species.

Use of existing and temporary roads would be needed to access timber and DFPZ treatment areas. An estimated 26 miles of existing road would be reconstructed with 2 additional miles of road resurfacing. An additional 26 miles of road, no longer in use or needed, would be decommissioned or closed by various methods, such as removal of culverts, ripping and seeding, recountouring, and installing barriers.

Use of herbicides to control the spread of noxious weeds is proposed on 10 to 15 acres. Aquatic and riparian