

interest in the commodity involved and requests service.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.0 hour per response.

*Respondents:* Applicants who are applying for grading and inspection services.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 100.

*Estimated Number of Responses:* 100.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 1.0.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) 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; (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 those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: May 25, 2007.

**Lloyd C. Day,**

*Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.*

[FR Doc. E7-10526 Filed 5-31-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket # AMS-LS-07-0064; LS-07-10]

#### Notice of Request for Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection.

**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) intention to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for an extension and revision to the currently approved

information collection "Referendum for the Lamb Promotion, Research and Information Order (Order)." Once approved, AMS will request that OMB merge this information collection with the information collection for National Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Programs.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by July 31, 2007 to be assured of consideration.

*Additional Information or Comments:* Interested persons are invited to submit written comments concerning this notice of request. Comments must be sent to Kenneth R. Payne, Chief, Marketing Programs Branch, Livestock and Seed Program, AMS, USDA, Room 2628-S, STOP 0251, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0251; Fax: (202) 720-1125; or online at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). All comments should reference the docket number, the date, and the page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**. Comments will be available for public inspection via the internet at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) or during regular business hours at the same address.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Lamb Promotion, Research, and Information Program.

*OMB Number:* 0581-0227.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* December 31, 2007.

*Type of Request:* Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

*Abstract:* The information collection request is essential to carry out the intent of the Commodity Promotion, Research, and Information Act of 1996 (Act) and the Order. According to the Order, the Secretary of Agriculture (Secretary) shall conduct a referendum among persons subject to assessments who, during a representative period, have engaged in the production, feeding, handling, or slaughter of lamb or the exportation of lamb or lamb products. The purpose of the referendum is to determine whether the persons subject to assessments favor the continuation, suspension, or termination of the Order. In accordance with the Act, a referendum must be held no later than 7 years after assessments begin, but may also be held at the request of the American Lamb Board, at the request of at least 10 percent or more of lamb producers, feeders, first handlers, and exporters eligible to vote, or by the Secretary. The form requires the minimum information necessary to effectively carry out the requirements of a referendum, and their use is necessary to fulfill the intent of the Act. Such information can be supplied without

data processing equipment or outside technical expertise. In addition, there are no additional training requirements for individuals filling out the forms. The forms are simple, easy to understand, and place as small a burden as possible on the person required to file the information.

The timing and frequency of collecting information are intended to meet the needs of the industry while minimizing the amount of work necessary to fill out the required reports. In addition, the information included on this form is not available from other industry sources because such information relates specifically to individuals or organizations subject to the provisions of the Act and the Order.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.03 hours per response.

*Respondents:* Producers, seedstock producers, market agencies, first handlers, feeders, and exporters.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 69,761.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 2,093 hours.

*Comments are invited on:* (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) 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; (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 those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Kenneth R. Payne, Chief, Marketing Programs Branch, Livestock and Seed Program, AMS, USDA, Room 2628-S, STOP 0251, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0251; Fax: (202) 720-1125; or online at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). All comments should reference the docket number, the date, and the page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**. Comments will be available for public inspection via the internet at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) or during regular business hours. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: May 25, 2007.

Lloyd C. Day,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. E7-10527 Filed 5-31-07; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Shasta-Trinity National Forest; California; Gemmill Thin Project

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

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

**SUMMARY:** This notice for the Gemmill Thin project revises the first notice for the project which was published in the *Federal Register* on December 12, 2005 (page 73430). Comments received during the first comment period (December 12, 2006 to January 13, 2007) as well comments received during the comment period for this notice will be considered by the Responsible Official in the development of the draft environmental impact statement.

The Shasta-Trinity National Forest proposes to improve, maintain and protect wildlife habitat for late-successional and old-growth associated species in the Chancelulla Late-Successional Reserve on the South Fork Management Unit. The proposal includes thinning trees in overcrowded natural stands, thinning plantations and reducing the amount of existing fuels on a total of approximately 1,610 acres of National Forest System land. The project area is located on South Fork Management Unit in T.29 and 30 N., R.10 and 11 W., Mt. Diablo Meridian, northeast of the community of Wildwood, California and south of Chancelulla Wilderness. Wildwood has been listed as a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), identifying it as a community at risk from the threat of wildfire and giving it higher priority for fuels reduction treatments. The Forest Land and Resource Management Plan allocates this area to Late-Successional Reserve, Riparian Reserve (wetlands and areas adjacent to streams), and Matrix (commercial timber harvest emphasis). The project area is within designated critical habitat for the Northern spotted owl (CA-36).

**DATES:** Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received no later than 30 days after the publication of this notice in the *Federal Register*. The draft environmental impact statement is expected in July 2007 and the final

environmental impact statement is expected in October 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to Gemmill Thin Comments, South Fork Management Unit, P.O. Box 159, Hayfork, CA 96041. Electronic comments can be sent via e-mail to: [comments-pacificsouthwest-shasta-trinity-yollabolla-hayfork@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-pacificsouthwest-shasta-trinity-yollabolla-hayfork@fs.fed.us).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Jeff Paulo, Gemmill Thin IDT Lead, South Fork Management Unit, 2555 State Highway 36, Platina, CA 96076, Phone (530) 352-4211 or via E-mail at [jpaulo@fs.fed.us](mailto:jpaulo@fs.fed.us), or visit the Shasta-Trinity National Forest Web site at [www.fs.fed.us/r5/shastatrinity/projects](http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/shastatrinity/projects).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Purpose and Need for Action**

Over the past 100 years the practice of excluding fire and the lack of thinning treatments in the Chancelulla Late-Successional Reserve (LSR) have resulted in a forest ecosystem that is densely stocked and slow-growing. Overcrowded conditions in mature stands (80 to 100 years old) are causing a delay in the establishment of healthy functioning old-growth habitat. Overcrowded conditions in old-growth stands (100 to 150 years old) do not promote long-term health and maintenance because the largest and oldest trees and their replacements are at risk of mortality due to the proximity and number of competing trees. In both cases, tree vigor is reduced because smaller trees are competing with larger trees for limited amounts of water, nutrients and sunlight. This leaves the ecosystem more prone to disease and less resilient to fire. Without treatment, overstocked stands are not likely to remain healthy or meet the need for more old-growth habitat in the LSR. Most of the existing plantations scattered throughout the LSR have never been thinned so they are also overcrowded and hindered in their development of future old-growth habitat characteristics.

There is a need to thin overstocked mature stands that are 80-100 years old. Fewer and healthier trees per acre would serve two purposes: (1) Increase the rate of development of old-growth habitat characteristics and (2) reduce the loss of existing and developing old-growth habitat in the event of wildfire and outbreaks of disease. There is a need to thin below in old-growth stands over 100 years old. A thinning that leaves the oldest and largest trees would serve two purposes: (1) Decrease the risk of losing existing old-growth trees and (2) decrease the risk of losing future replacement old-growth trees.

There is a need to thin plantations to increase their growing space and reduce density to levels where flames are not likely to reach the canopy of the adjacent overstory trees during a wildfire.

There is also a need to spatially protect late-successional and old-growth habitat from the threat of fire that could start inside or outside the perimeter of the LSR. Current threats of fire include tree mortality from insect and disease in overcrowded stands, and natural or human-caused wildfire. The majority of private land closest to the Gemmill Thin project was harvested in the late 1960s to 1970s and more private harvesting is planned. Two public roads and a transmission line are within or directly adjacent to the project area. These linear features and past harvesting on private lands are associated with higher risk for fire starts that could affect the project area.

**Proposed Action**

The proposed action would include the following treatments:

1. Thinning treatments on approximately 750 acres of stands 80 to 100 year old. Implement a thinning from below in 14 stands of mature mixed conifer and hardwood forest. These are stands that do not yet exhibit old-growth characteristics, but have the potential to attain them. In these treatment units, the largest and healthiest trees would be retained. A sufficient number of trees would be removed to a level that maintains or increases growth rates of mature trees and removes fuel ladders. The post treatment stand would average 50% to 60% tree canopy cover.

2. Thinning treatments on approximately 530 acres of stands 100-150 years old. Implement a thinning from below in 10 stands of old-growth mixed conifer and hardwood forest over 100 years old. The largest and oldest trees within each stand would be retained. A sufficient number of smaller trees would be removed to reduce the number of trees per acre to a level that provides an improved competitive advantage for the larger, older trees and removes fuel ladders that may threaten the remaining trees. The post treatment stands would average 60% or more tree canopy cover.

3. Thinning treatments in approximately 45 acres of 20 year old plantations. Thinning and release treatments would be accomplished through mastication (grinding up excess trees) in three plantations. Sufficient numbers of trees would be removed to maintain an average of 150 trees per acre, a level that maintains stand growth