This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request


The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Comments regarding (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), OIRA, Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395–8066 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250–7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification.

Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720–8958.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Farm Service Agency

Title: Customer Data Worksheet Request for SCIMS Record Change.

OMB Control Number: 0560–NEW.

Summary of Collection: Critical Customer Data is required in order to identify USDA program participants and ensure that benefits are directed to the correct customer and respective Tax Identification Numbers. There is no public law regarding the use or collection of Critical Customer Data. The option to document and track Critical Customer Data changes is necessary to ensure the integrity of the database and to provide the Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resources and Conservation Service and Rural Development a method of verifying the validity of the information, and provide a necessary basis for pursuing legal remedies when needed.

Need and Use of the Information: Critical Customer Data is necessary to input customer information for identity purposes and to provide a point of contact for the respective customer and a valid Tax Identification Number to direct program benefits to. The AD–2047 will be used to document Critical Customer Data changes and also to provide a spot check documentation form. Failure to collect and timely maintain the data collected will result in erroneous/outdated point of contact information, which could result in program information and benefits being directed to incorrect recipients.

Description of Respondents: Individuals or households.

Number of Respondents: 51,750.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Other (when necessary).

Total Burden Hours: 24,323.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E8–10255 Filed 5–7–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–05–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

In-Handling Charges for Commodities Pledged as Collateral for Marketing Assistance Loan

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) will discontinue reimbursing producers or warehouse operators for in-handling charges. This begins with the 2008-crop for all commodities except cotton. Producers must pay or provide for all in-handling charges on warehouse-stored commodities before CCC will accept commodities as collateral for a warehouse-stored marketing assistance loan. Also, producers must pay or provide for the payment of in-handling charges for farm-stored commodities that are delivered to a warehouse in settlement of a farm-stored marketing assistance loan.

DATES: Effective Date: May 8, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Helen Linden, Assistant to the Director, Warehouse and Inventory Division, Farm Service Agency, USDA, STOP 0553, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250–0553; telephone: (202) 690–4321; e-mail: helen.linden@wdc.usda.gov. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA Target Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice and TDD).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107–171) (2002 Farm Bill) authorizes the marketing assistance loan program for all commodities. In the past, CCC paid warehouse operators or reimbursed producers for in-handling charges on forfeited commodities that were pledged as collateral for warehouse-stored marketing assistance loans or delivered to CCC in satisfaction of a farm-stored marketing assistance loan.

Starting with the 2008-crop year, CCC will no longer pay warehouse operators or reimburse producers for in-handling charges that are applicable to either warehouse-stored commodities that are pledged as collateral for marketing assistance loans or farm-stored
commodities that are forfeited to CCC in satisfaction of a farm-stored marketing assistance loan.

Beginning with 2008-crop marketing assistance loans, producers must pay or provide for the payment of in-handling charges on warehouse-stored commodities before CCC will accept the commodity as collateral for a warehouse-stored marketing assistance loan.

Beginning with the 2008-crop of wheat, feed grains, soybeans, rice, pulses, minor oilseeds, peanuts, honey, wool, and mohair, producers must provide documentation that all in-handling charges have been paid or provided for before a warehouse-stored marketing assistance loan will be disbursed for the commodity. Acceptable documentation will include specific information recorded directly on the warehouse receipt pledged as collateral for a marketing assistance loan. If the information is not recorded directly on the warehouse receipt that is pledged as collateral, separate documentation that is signed by the warehouse operator that includes the following language will be accepted as evidence that in-handling charges have been paid or provided for if the document is presented in conjunction with a warehouse receipt that is pledged as collateral for a warehouse-stored marketing assistance loan:

Arrangements for the payment of in-handling charges have been made by the depositor of the commodity covered by receipt number (Insert Receipt Number). No lien will be asserted by the warehouse operator against the Commodity Credit Corporation or any subsequent holder of the warehouse receipt for in-handling charges.

Failure to present the required documentation that in-handling charges have been paid or provided for will result in the commodity represented by the warehouse receipt being determined ineligible as collateral for the marketing assistance loan until the documentation is submitted to the applicable Farm Service Agency county office.

For commodities pledged as collateral for farm-stored marketing assistance loans that are forfeited to CCC in satisfaction of an outstanding loan, the producer or warehouse operator that is accepting delivery of the forfeited commodity must provide documentation that in-handling charges have been paid or provided for before the loan settlement will be recorded. If the evidence is not provided as part of the delivery documentation, CCC will reduce the producer’s settlement value for the forfeited commodity to reflect the amount of unpaid in-handling charges, at the rate provided in the warehouse’s public tariff rates. In the event that a deduction from settlement proceeds is made, CCC will forward the withheld amount to the storing warehouse operator on behalf of the producer and will report the amount paid to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Signed at Washington, DC, on May 1, 2008.

Glen L. Keppy, Executive Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. E8–10179 Filed 5–7–08; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410–05–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service
San Juan National Forest; Columbine Ranger District; Colorado; Hermosa Land Exchange Analysis

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: The San Juan National Forest is studying a proposal for a land exchange whereby Tamarron Properties Associates would offer 330 acres of non-Federal lands to the U.S. Forest Service in exchange for 265 acres of National Forest System lands and an easement for a new road. Any exchange would require by law that the appraised value of the properties be equal. The non-Federal properties include two inholdings adjacent to the Hermosa Roadless area; Mitchell Lakes and Hermosa Creek. The third inholding is a mining claim located in the Weminuche Wilderness area along the Whitehead Gulch Trail southeast of Silverton. Mitchell Lakes parcel is specifically located in T. 37 N., R. 9 W., Section 23; Hermosa Park T. 39 N., R. 10 W., Section 24, La Plata County. The Iron Clad Mining Claim is located in Section 11, T. 40 N., R. 7 W., N.M.P.M., Columbine Ranger District, San Juan National Forest, Colorado.

DATES: Formal scoping on the proposed land exchange began on June 11, 2007 and ended on September 10, 2007. Two public open houses were held June 21 and 25, 2007. Public field trips to the parcels were held June 28 and 29, 2007. The draft environmental impact statement is expected in September 2008 and the final environmental impact statement is expected in December 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information contact Cindy Hockelberg, Columbine Public Lands, POB 439, 367 South Pearl Street, Bayfield, CO 81122; e-mail chockelberg@fs.fed.us, telephone 970–884–1418.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose and Need for Action

The purpose of and need for action is for (1) more consolidated Federal and private ownership that reduces cost of Federal management and increases management efficiency; and (2) acquisition of significant non-Federal inholdings within the San Juan National Forest in visible and frequented locations so they are not available for development; and (3) additional Federal jurisdiction within Congressionally designated wilderness or other parcels such as wetlands, floodplains, and riparian areas that provide habitat for threatened or endangered species.

The Forest Service is directed to achieve the optimum landownership pattern to provide for the protection and management of resource uses to meet the needs of the nation now and in the future.

Further, the Forest Service is to complete land-for-land exchanges to consolidate National Forest System and private, State, or local government land patterns, to permit needed urban or industrial expansion; or to make other adjustments in landownership in the public interest.

Proposed Action

The proposed action is to complete a land exchange whereby the Forest Service would acquire three non-Federal parcels located within the boundaries of the San Juan National Forest and convey a Federal parcel and road easement for a new road to private ownership.

Possible Alternatives

The following alternatives have been preliminarily identified:

Alternative 1: This alternative is the No Action Alternative. The proposed project as described above would not occur.

Alternative 2: This alternative is the proposed action and the project would occur as described above. This alternative was presented in the public scoping that occurred during the summer of 2007.

Alternative 3: This alternative is responsive to trail use and moves the northern boundary of the Federal parcel south of the proponent’s proposed location. The northern boundary for Alternative 3 would keep the trails immediately south and adjacent to the Chris Park wetland in Federal ownership. This alternative would include a road easement and limit use. Restrictions on road use for this