

Jane Duffield, Chief, State Administration Branch, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 818, Alexandria, VA 22302. Comments may also be submitted via fax to the attention of Ms. Duffield at 703-605-0795 or via e-mail to [PADMAILBOX@fns.usda.gov](mailto:PADMINMAILBOX@fns.usda.gov). Comments will also be accepted through the federal eRulemaking Portal. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and follow the online instructions for submitting comments electronically.

All written comments will be open for public inspection at the office of the Food and Nutrition Service during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday) at 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 818, Alexandria, Virginia 22302.

All comments will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Requests for additional information or copies of this information collection should be directed to Jane Duffield at (703) 605-4385.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Operating Guidelines, Forms and Waivers.

*OMB Number:* 0584-0083.

*Expiration Date:* October 31, 2010.

*Type of Request:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* In accordance with section 11(d) of the Food & Nutrition Act of 2008 (the Act), 7 U.S.C. 2020(B), State agencies are required to submit a Plan of Operation specifying the manner in which SNAP will be conducted. The State Plan of Operations, in accordance with current rules at 7 CFR 272.2, consists of a Federal/State Agreement,

annual budget and activity statements, and specific attachments relating to the State Plan of Operation. State Plans of Operation are a one-time effort with updates that are provided as necessary.

Under section 16 of the Act, 7 U.S.C. 2025, the Secretary is authorized to pay each State agency an amount equal to 50 percent of all administrative costs involved in each State agency's operation of the SNAP. Under corresponding SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 272.2, the State agencies must submit annually to FNS for approval, a Budget Projection Statement (Form FNS-366A), which projects the total costs for major areas of SNAP operations, and a Program Activity Statement (Form FNS-366B), which provides a summary of SNAP operations during the preceding fiscal year. The reports are required to substantiate the costs the State agency expects to incur during the next fiscal year. Form FNS-366A is submitted annually by August 15, for the upcoming fiscal year and Form FNS-366B must be submitted no later than 45 days after the end of each State agency's fiscal year.

In fiscal year (FY) 2009, 91 percent of State agencies submitted the FNS-366A electronically and 9 percent submitted a paper report. For FY 2009, a total of 82 percent of State agencies submitted the FNS-366B electronically with the remaining 18 percent submitting paper reports.

Finally, State agencies are required to submit certain other documents to FNS for review relating to certain specific activities that the State agency may choose to do. These other submissions include but are not limited to Advance Planning Documents (APD) if the State agency wishes to acquire proposed automated data processing (ADP) services, systems or equipment;

outreach plans if the State elects to do program information activities; and updates related to options exercised under the Act, as amended.

*Respondents:* State agencies that administer SNAP.

*Number of Respondents:* 53.

*Estimated Number of Responses Per Respondent:*

Plan of Operation Updates: 53 State agencies once a year.

Form FNS-366A: 53 State agencies once a year.

Form FNS-366B: 53 State agencies once a year.

Other APD, Plan, or Update Submissions: Up to 53 State agencies may submit one or more APD, plan or update submission averaging 4.75 submissions per respondent per year or 252 total responses.

*Estimate of Burden:*

Plan of Operation Updates: The State agencies submit Plan updates at an estimate of 10 hours per respondent, or 530 total hours.

Form FNS-366A: The State agencies submit Form FNS-366A at an estimate of 13 hours per respondent, or 689 total hours.

Form FNS-366B: The total burden for the collection of information for Form FNS-366B is 18 hours per respondent, or 954 hours.

Other APD, Plan, or Update Submissions: We estimate that up to 53 States may submit one or more APD, plan, or update for a total of 251.75 annual responses at an average estimate of 2.681 hours per respondent, or 675.5 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* The total annual reporting and recordkeeping burden for OMB No. 0584-0083 is estimated to be 2,848.5 hours, which is the same as the currently approved burden.

Affected public	Forms	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Total annual responses	Time per response (hrs)	Annual burden hours
State Agencies .....	FNS-366A .....	53	1	53	13	689
	FNS-366B .....	53	1	53	18	954
	Plan of Operation .....	53	1	53	10	530
	Other APD Plan or Update.	53	4.75	251.75	2.681	675.5
Total Burden Estimates.	.....	53	.....	.....	.....	2848.5

Dated: February 4, 2010.

**Julia Paradis,**

*Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.*

[FR Doc. 2010-3448 Filed 2-22-10; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-30-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Forest Service**

**Monitor-Hot Creek Rangeland Project**

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

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

**SUMMARY:** The Austin/Tonopah Ranger Districts, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) on a proposal to authorize continued livestock grazing

within the Monitor-Hot Creek Rangeland Project area. The analysis will determine if a change in management direction for livestock grazing is needed to move existing resource conditions within the Monitor-Hot Creek Rangeland Project area towards desired conditions. The project area comprises approximately 952,234 acres and is located on the Monitor and Hot Creek Mountain Ranges in Eureka, Nye and Lander Counties, Nevada.

**DATES:** Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by March 25, 2010. The draft environmental impact statement is expected November, 2010 and the final environmental impact statement is expected April, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to District Ranger, Austin/Tonopah Ranger Districts, P.O. Box 130, Austin, NV 89310. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to [comments-intermtn-humboldt-toiyabe-austin-tonopah@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-intermtn-humboldt-toiyabe-austin-tonopah@fs.fed.us), or via facsimile to (775) 964-1451.

It is important that reviewers provide their comments at such times and in such a way that they are useful to the Agency's preparation of the EIS. Therefore, comments should be provided prior to the close of the comment period and should clearly articulate the reviewer's concerns and contentions.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be part of the public record for this proposed action. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered, however.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information, mail correspondence to or contact Vernon Keller, Project Coordinator, at 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks, Nevada 89431. The telephone number is 775-355-5356. E-mail address is [vkeller@fs.fed.us](mailto:vkeller@fs.fed.us).

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### **Purpose and Need for Action**

The purpose and need for the proposed Federal action is to provide livestock grazing opportunities to permittees in a way that sustains the health of the land and protects essential ecosystem functions and values.

#### **Proposed Action**

The Austin/Tonopah Ranger Districts propose to authorize continued domestic livestock grazing on approximately 816,433 acres within the Monitor-Hot Creek Rangeland Project area under a specific management regimen designed to sustain and improve the overall ecological condition of the project area. Under this proposal, we would incorporate updated direction in new grazing permits and allotment management plans to guide grazing management within the project area during the coming decade, or until amendments are warranted, based on changed condition or monitoring.

The Kelly Creek/North Monitor, White Rock, South Monitor, Table Mountain and Monitor Valley East allotments are currently vacant. Livestock grazing would be authorized in these allotments and they would be used to reduce conflicts on allotments that are currently grazed or as forage reserve allotments. These allotments comprise approximately 259,232 acres.

Monitor Winter, Horse Heaven, North Monitor Winter, Hicks Station, Wagon Johnnie, Little Fish Lake, Monitor Complex, Saulsbury and Stone Cabin allotments have active term grazing permits and would continue to have authorized grazing. These allotments comprise approximately 557,201 acres.

Morey, Hot Creek and McKinney allotments are currently vacant and would be closed. These allotments comprise approximately 135,801 acres.

#### **Possible Alternatives**

In addition to the proposed action, we have tentatively identified two additional alternatives that will be analyzed in the EIS.

(1) *Current Management Alternative:* This alternative would be a continuation of the current grazing management.

(2) *No Livestock Grazing (No Action) Alternative:* This alternative would eliminate grazing on all allotments in the project area. All livestock would be removed from the project area and existing permits would be cancelled.

#### **Responsible Official**

Steven Williams, District Ranger, Austin/Tonopah Ranger Districts, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, P.O. Box 130, Austin, NV 89310.

#### **Nature of Decision to be Made**

Based on the environmental analysis on the EIS, the Austin/Tonopah District Ranger will decide whether or not to authorize grazing on the allotments within the Monitor-Hot Creek Project area in accordance with the standards in

the proposed action or as modified by additional mitigation measures and monitoring requirements.

#### **Preliminary Issues**

The following are some potential issues identified through internal Forest Service scoping based on our experience with similar projects. The list is not considered all inclusive, but should be viewed as a starting point. We are asking you to help us further refine the issues and identify other issues or concerns relevant to the proposed project.

- Continued livestock grazing has to potential to affect soil quality within the project area.
- Continued livestock grazing has the potential to adversely affect water quality within the project area.
- Continued livestock grazing has the potential to affect fisheries habitat within the project area.
- Continued livestock grazing has the potential to affect vegetation, which may result in a decline in the long-term productivity of the land base.
- Continued livestock grazing has the potential to affect wildlife habitat, particularly for elk and sage grouse, within the project area.
- Continued livestock grazing has the potential to affect heritage resources within the project area.

#### **Scoping Process**

This notice of intent initiates the scoping process, which guide the development of the environmental impact statement. The Forest Service will use a mailing of information to interested parties. Public involvement will be ongoing throughout the analysis process and at certain times public input will be specifically requested. There are currently no scoping meetings planned.

It is important that reviewers provide their comments at such times and in such manner that they are useful to the agency's preparation of the environmental impact statement. Therefore, comments should be provided prior to the close of the comment period and should clearly articulate the reviewer's concerns and contentions.

**Authority:** 40 CFR 1501.7 and 1508.22; Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, Section 21.

Dated: February 5, 2010.

**Steven Williams,**  
*District Ranger.*

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