DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement
Notice of Proposed Information Collection for 1029–0114

AGENCY: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) is announcing its intention to renew authority to collect information for a series of customer surveys to evaluate OSM’s performance in meeting the performance goals outlined in its annual plans developed pursuant to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA). The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) previously approved the collection and assigned it clearance number 1029–0114.

DATES: Comments on the proposed information collection must be received by January 4, 2011, to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to John Trelease, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 1951 Constitution Ave., NW., Room 202–SIB, Washington, DC 20240. Comments may also be submitted electronically to jtrelease@osmre.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To receive a copy of the information collection request contact John Trelease, at (202) 208–2783 or electronically at jtrelease@osmre.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: OMB regulations at 5 CFR 1320, which implementing provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13), require that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities [see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)]. This notice identifies the information collection that OSM will be submitting to OMB for approval. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this collection of information is 1029–0114 and is on the forms along with the expiration date. OSM will request a 3-year term of approval for this information collection activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) The need for the collection of information for the performance of the functions of the agency; (2) the accuracy of the agency’s burden estimates; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the information collection burden on respondents, such as use of automated means of collection of the information. A summary of the public comments will accompany OSM's submission of the information collection request to OMB. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

This notice provides the public with 60 days in which to comment on the following information collection activity:

Title: Technical Evaluations Series.

OMB Control Number: 1029–0114.

Summary: The series of surveys are needed to ensure that technical assistance activities, technology transfer activities and technical forums are useful for those who participate or receive the assistance. Specifically, representatives from State and Tribal regulatory and reclamation authorities, representatives of industry, environmental or citizen groups, or the public, are the recipients of the assistance or participants in these forums. These surveys will be the primary means through which OSM evaluates its performance in meeting the performance goals outlined in its annual plans developed pursuant to the Government Performance and Results Act.

Bureau Form Number: None.

Frequency of Collection: Once.

Description of Respondents: 26 State agencies.

Total Annual Responses: 500.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 39.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service
Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge, Becker County, and Tamarac Wetland Management District, Minnesota

AGENCY: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.


SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of the Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Environmental Assessment (EA) for Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) and Tamarac Wetland Management District (WMD). Goals and objectives in the CCP describe how the agency intends to manage the refuge over the next 15 years.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Final CCP and FONSI/EA may be viewed at the Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge Office or at public libraries near the refuge. You may also request a copy by any of the following methods.

1. Agency Web site: View or download a copy of the document at http://www.fws.gov/midwest/planning/Tamarac/. 2. E-mail: r3planning@fws.gov. Include “TamaracFinal CCP/EA” in the subject line of the message.

3. Mail: Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge, 35704 County Road 26, Rochert, Minnesota 56578.

A limited number of hardcopies will be available for distribution at the Refuge Headquarters.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barbara Boyle, 218–847–2641.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Introduction

With this notice, we complete the CCP process for Tamarac NWR and WMD, which we began by publishing a notice of intent on (72 FR 27587, May 16, 2007). For more information about the initial process, see that notice. We released the draft CCP and EA to the public, announcing and requesting comments in a notice of availability on (75 FR 39038, July 7, 2010).

The 42,738-acre Tamarac NWR was established in 1938. The Refuge includes 2,180 Federally-designated wilderness acres. The Tamarac WMD consists of 8,577 acres of wetland easements distributed throughout five counties.

The Draft CCP and EA were officially released for public review on July 7, 2010; the 31-day comment period ended on August 6, 2010. Planning information was sent to approximately 220 individuals and organizations for review and announced through local media outlets, resulting in six comment submissions. During the comment period the Refuge also hosted an open house to receive public comments and feedback on the CCP and EA documents. Thirteen individuals attended this event. Because few changes to the preferred alternative were recommended by Refuge audiences during the public comment period, only minor changes were made to the drafts in preparing the final CCP/EA documents.

Selected Alternative

Based on input and feedback during the planning process, Alternative A was selected as the preferred alternative. The preferred alternative for Tamarac NWR over the next 15 years directs management of habitats to focus on maintaining and using ecological processes that shaped these communities prior to European settlement and will allow for some emphasis of priority bird habitat. Wildlife-dependant recreation opportunities, biological surveys and monitoring activities, and native habitats would all increase under the preferred alternative.

Background

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 668dd–668ee et seq.), requires the Service to develop a CCP for each National Wildlife Refuge and Wetland Management District. The purpose in developing a CCP is to provide managers with a 15-year strategy for achieving refuge purposes and contributing toward the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife management, conservation, legal mandates, and Service policies. In addition to outlining broad management direction for wildlife and their habitats, the CCP identifies wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities available to the public, including opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, and environmental education and interpretation.

We will review and update the CCP at least every 15 years in accordance with the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321–4370d).


Charles M. Wooley,
Acting Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

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