DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request
January 21, 2011.

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) 395–5806 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 and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Farm Service Agency
Title: Emergency Conservation Program.
OMB Control Number: 0560–0082.

Summary of Collection: The Farm Service Agency (FSA), in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Forest Service, and other agencies and organizations, provides eligible producers and landowners cost-share incentives and technical assistance through several conservation and environmental programs to help farmers, ranchers, and other eligible landowners and operators conserve soil, improve water quality, develop forests, and rehabilitate farmland severely damaged by natural disasters. The authorities to collect information for this collection are found under the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2201–2205), which provides emergency funds for sharing with agricultural producers the cost of rehabilitating farmland damaged by natural disaster, and for carrying out emergency water conservation measures during periods of severe drought.

Need and Use of the Information: FSA will collect information using several forms. The collected information will be used to determine if the person, land, and practices are eligible for participation in the respective program and to receive cost-share assistance. Without the information, FSA will not be able to make eligibility determinations and compute payments in a timely manner.


Ruth Brown, Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Availability of an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for a Biological Control Agent for Asian Citrus Psyllid
[FR Doc. 2010–0028]
SUMMARY: We are advising the public that the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has prepared an environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact relative to the control of Asian citrus psyllid (Diaphorina citri Kuwayama). The environmental assessment considers the effects of, and alternatives to, the release of an insect, Tamarixia radiata, into the continental United States for use as a biological control agent to reduce the severity of Asian citrus psyllid infestations. Based on our finding of no significant impact, we have determined that an environmental impact statement need not be prepared.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Shirley A. Wager-Page, Chief, Pest Permitting Branch, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737–1237; (301) 734–8453.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Background
The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is proposing to issue permits for the release of an
insect, Tamarixia radiata, into the continental United States for use as a biological control agent to reduce the severity of Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) infestations.

On May 20, 2010, we published in the Federal Register (75 FR 28233–28234, Docket No. APHIS–2010–0028) a notice in which we announced the availability, for public review and comment, of an environmental assessment (EA) relative to the control of ACP.

The EA, titled “Proposed Release of a Parasitoid (Tamarixia radiata Waterston) for the Biological Control of Asian Citrus Psyllid (Diaphorina citri Kuwayama) in the Continental United States” (November 2009), considered the effects of, and alternatives to, the release of Tamarixia radiata into the continental United States for use as a biological control agent to reduce the severity of ACP infestations.

We solicited comments on the EA for 30 days ending on June 21, 2010. We received four comments by that date. All of the commenters were supportive of the proposed action.

Based on the information contained in the EA, we have determined that the environmental release of the insect Tamarixia radiata is not expected to result in a significant impact to the human environment, and an environmental impact statement does not need to be prepared.

The EA and finding of no significant impact have been prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), (2) regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1b), and (4) APHIS’ NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

Done in Washington, DC, this 21st day of January 2011.

Kevin Shea,
Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 2011–1780 Filed 1–26–11; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Ochoco National Forest, Lookout Mountain Ranger District; Oregon; Marks Creek Allotment Management Plans EIS

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: The Ochoco National Forest is preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) to analyze the effects of changing grazing management in three grazing allotments on the Lookout Mountain Ranger District. These three allotments are Marks Creek, Ortman and Wildcat. The proposed action will reauthorize term grazing permits, make rangeland improvements, reduce livestock stocking rates, manage livestock use and distribution to facilitate the improvement of riparian conditions, including streambank stability, riparian vegetation, and water temperature, and will conduct riparian restoration activities on some streams in the project area. These actions are needed to achieve and maintain consistency with the Ochoco National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, as amended.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by February 28, 2011. The draft environmental impact statement is expected to be completed and available for public comment in June 2011. The final environmental impact statement is expected to be completed and available in September 2011.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Slater Turner, District Ranger, Lookout Mountain District, Ochoco National Forest, 3160 NE Third Street, Prineville, Oregon 97754. Alternately, electronic comments may be sent to comments-pacificnorthwest-ochoco@fs.fed.us. Electronic comments must be submitted as part of the actual e-mail message, or as an attachment in plain text (.txt), Microsoft Word (.doc), rich text format (.rtf), or portable document format (.pdf).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tory Kurtz, Project Leader, at 3160 NE Third Street, Prineville, Oregon 97754, or at (541) 416–6500, or by e-mail at tjkurtz@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose and Need for Action

The purpose of this proposal is to reauthorize livestock grazing consistent with Forest Plan standards and guidelines. Based on surveys conditions on some streams in the project area are moving away from desired condition; there is a need to make range improvements and change livestock management to move towards desired conditions for stream shade, bank stability and width-to-depth ratio. Livestock grazing is one of the factors that contribute to altered riparian function. Active riparian restoration activities will facilitate the achievement of the desired condition.

Proposed Action

The proposed action includes a variety of management strategies and activities, including reduction of livestock stocking rates, active management of livestock, relocation or reconstruction of existing water developments, planting of riparian hardwoods, placing logs and rocks in and along stream channels, and protection of riparian vegetation and streambanks.

Marks Creek Allotment

The allotment would consist of 10,546 acres divided between six pastures—Garden, Grant Meadows, Little Hay Creek, Nature, Pothole, and Spears Meadow. The current stocking rate (1482 AUMs) would be reduced to 939 AUMs; 232 cow/calf pairs from July 1 to September 30 would be authorized. Stocking reduction would take place over 4 years with total AUMs being reduced by about 135 per year. Existing structural improvements would be reauthorized including 13 troughs and about 28 miles of fence. The grazing system would be a six pasture rotation. The permittee or the permittee’s representative would be present on the allotment and would move livestock, when needed, to achieve desired distribution to prevent excessive forage utilization or streambank alteration. Livestock would be checked a minimum of 2 days per week up until July 1 and then a minimum of every other day after July 1.

Garden pasture:

Reconstruct 1 water development.

Grant Meadows pasture:

Riparian restoration activities would take place on 1.5 miles of Deadman Creek, 2 miles of Rush Creek, and 1 mile of Long Hollow Creek; activities would include in-stream placement of wood and/or rock structures, planting hardwoods, and creating physical barriers (such as wood, rock or fences) to protect hardwoods and improve bank stability. Wood and physical barrier material may come from on-site.

Planting hardwoods, and creating physical barriers (such as wood, rock or