

Type of Review: Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Contract and Grant schools; Bureau-operated schools.

Number of Respondents: 48,000 per year, on average.

Total Number of Responses: 48,000 per year, on average.

Frequency of Response: Once per year.

Estimated Time per Response: 15 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 12,000 total burden hours.

Dated: March 26, 2012.

Alvin Foster,

Assistant Director for Information Resources.

[FR Doc. 2012-7683 Filed 3-29-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-6W-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Renewal of Agency Information Collection for Reindeer in Alaska

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of submission to OMB.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is submitting to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request for renewal for the collection of information for Reindeer in Alaska. The information collection is currently authorized by OMB Control Number 1076-0047, which expires March 30, 2012.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before *April 30, 2012*.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on the information collection to the Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior at the Office of Management and Budget, by facsimile to (202) 395-5806 or you may send an email to: *OIRA_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov*. Please send a copy of your comments to Keith Kahklen, Natural Resources Manager, Bureau of Indian Affairs, P.O. Box 25520 [3rd Floor Federal Building], Juneau, Alaska 99802-5520; email: *Keith.Kahklen@bia.gov*; facsimile (907) 586-7120.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Keith Kahklen, (907) 586-7618. You may review the ICR online at *http://www.reginfo.gov*. Follow the instructions to review Department of the Interior collections under review by OMB.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is seeking renewal of the approval for the information collection conducted under 25 CFR part 243, Reindeer in Alaska, which is used to monitor and regulate the possession and use of Alaskan reindeer by non-Natives in Alaska. The information to be provided includes an applicant's name and address, and where an applicant will keep reindeer. The applicant must fill out an application for a permit to get a reindeer for any purpose, and is required to report on the status of reindeer annually or when a change occurs, including changes prior to the date of the annual report. Comments were received in response to the **Federal Register** notice (76 FR 71600) which did not address the information collection; therefore, we have not changed the collection. This renewal does include changes to the burden hours, reducing the number of respondents from 21 to 18. In addition, we have changed the number of forms associated with this collection from two to four to accurately reflect the forms being used to collect this information.

II. Request for Comments

The BIA requests that you send your comments on this collection to the location listed in the **ADDRESSES** section. Your comments should address: (a) The necessity of the information collection for the proper performance of the agencies, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of our estimate of the burden (hours and cost) of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways we could enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways we could minimize the burden of the collection of the information on the respondents, such as through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that an agency may not sponsor or conduct, and an individual need not respond to, a collection of information unless it has a valid OMB Control Number. Approval for this collection expires March 30, 2012. Response to the information collection is required to obtain a benefit.

It is our policy to make all comments available to the public for review at the location listed in the **ADDRESSES** section during the hours of 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday except for legal holidays. Before including your address, phone number, email address or other personally identifiable information, be advised that

your entire comment—including your personally identifiable information—may be made public at any time. While you may request that we withhold your personally identifiable information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 1076-0047.

Title: Reindeer in Alaska, 25 CFR part 243.

Brief Description of Collection: There are four forms associated with this information collection, Sale Permit for Alaska Reindeer, Sale Report for Alaska Reindeer, Special Use Permit for Alaska Reindeer, and Special Use Reindeer Report, which require information to be provided to obtain or retain a benefit, namely, a permit to obtain a reindeer.

Type of Review: Extension.

Respondents: Non-Natives who wish to possess Alaskan reindeer.

Total Number of Respondents: 18 per year, on average (8 respondents for the Sale Permit for Alaska Reindeer, 8 respondents for the Sale Report Form for Alaska Reindeer, 1 respondent for the Special Use Permit for Alaska Reindeer, and 1 respondent for the Special Use Reindeer Report).

Frequency of Collection: Once a year.

Estimated Time per Response: 5 minutes for the Sale Permit and Report forms and 10 minutes for the Special Use Permit and Report forms, on average.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 2 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Non-hour Burden: \$10.00.

Dated: March 26, 2012.

Alvin Foster,

Assistant Director for Information Resources.

[FR Doc. 2012-7680 Filed 3-29-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-4J-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Final Determination Against Federal Acknowledgment of the Central Band of Cherokee

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of final determination.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Department of the Interior (Department) declines to acknowledge that the petitioner known as the "Central Band of Cherokee" (formerly known as the "Cherokees of Lawrence County, Tennessee"), Petitioner #227, is an Indian tribe within the meaning of

Federal law. This notice is based on a determination that the petitioner does not meet one of the seven mandatory criteria for a government-to-government relationship with the United States. The Office of Federal Acknowledgment (OFA) produced a Summary under the Criterion as the basis for this final determination (FD).

DATES: This determination is final and will become effective on June 28, 2012, unless a request for reconsideration is filed with the Interior Board of Indian Appeals.

ADDRESSES: Requests for a copy of the FD should be addressed to the Office of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Attention: Office of Federal Acknowledgment, 1951 Constitution Avenue NW., MS: 34B–SIB, Washington, DC 20240. The FD and **Federal Register** notice are also available at the OFA section of the Indian Affairs Web site at www.bia.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Alycon T. Pierce, Acting Director, Office of Federal Acknowledgment, (202) 513–7650.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department declines to acknowledge “Central Band of Cherokee” (CBC), Petitioner #227, c/o Mr. Johnny L. Corbin, P.O. Box 331, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 38464, as an Indian tribe within the meaning of Federal law. This notice is based on a determination that the petitioner does not meet one of the seven mandatory criteria set forth in 25 CFR 83.7, specifically criterion 83.7(e).

The Department issued a proposed finding (PF) on August 6, 2010, proposing to deny acknowledgment of the petitioner under one criterion as permitted by § 83.10(e)(1). The PF found the CBC petitioner was not an Indian tribe within the meaning of Federal law because the petitioner did not meet criterion 83.7(e). This criterion requires that the petitioner’s membership consists of individuals who descend from a historical Indian tribe or from historical Indian tribes that combined and functioned as a single autonomous political entity. The review of the evidence for the PF clearly established that the petitioner did not meet criterion 83.7(e) because none of the 407 members demonstrated descent from a historical Indian tribe.

The Department published a notice of the PF in the **Federal Register** on August 18, 2010 (75 FR 51105). Publishing the notice initiated a 180-day comment period during which time the petitioner, interested and informed parties, and the general public could submit arguments and evidence to support or rebut the PF. In response to

the PF, the petitioner or third parties needed to provide evidence for the FD that the petitioner meets the criterion in question under the reasonable likelihood standard in § 83.6(d). The CBC’s comment period ended on February 14, 2011. The Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs (AS–IA) found good cause to reopen the comment period and extend it for an additional 180 days to August 15, 2011. The period for the petitioner to respond to third party comments ended on January 7, 2012.

On January 4, 2012, the petitioner requested to withdraw from the acknowledgment process. The regulations provide that once active consideration of the documented petition has begun, the AS–IA shall continue the review and publish proposed findings and a final determination, notwithstanding any request to cease consideration (§ 83.10(g)). The CBC petitioner went on active consideration on August 6, 2010, when the AS–IA issued the PF. Therefore, the OFA notified Petitioner #227 and interested and informed parties that the Department would begin work on a FD on January 23, 2012.

In order to meet criterion 83.7(e), a petitioner must demonstrate that its current members descend from a historical Indian tribe or historical Indian tribes that combined and functioned as an autonomous political entity. Thus, the petitioner must: (1) Identify its current members; (2) document the historical Indian tribe and the individuals in that historical Indian tribe from whom the petitioner’s current members descend; and (3) document, generation-to-generation, the members’ descent from the historical Indian tribe.

The membership list used for the FD is the November 20, 2007, list that was separately certified by the group’s governing body and used for the PF. It identified 407 members of the group by full name, birth date, and residential address. Having no other certified membership list, the Department continued to use the 2007 list for the FD.

The petitioner claims its members are descendants of Cherokee Indians who allegedly remained in Tennessee after 1806 when the historical Indian tribe ceded its lands by treaty, or from Indians who returned to “their traditional lands” in the area of Lawrence County, Tennessee, after evading or escaping from the Cherokee removal in the late 1830s. There is no primary or reliable secondary evidence to validate these claims.

The Department identified the Cherokee Indian rolls taken in the 1800s

and early 1900s that would most likely include the petitioner’s ancestors if they were members of the historical Cherokee tribe at that time. However, the Department’s researchers did not find, and the CBC petitioner and third party commenters did not provide evidence, that any of the petitioner’s members or ancestors were on any of these historical rolls.

The petitioner’s comments on the PF included a request that OFA review its members’ genealogies, but did not provide any new evidence for the FD that addresses criterion 83.7(e).

The majority of the third party comments were submitted by the group’s former leader, Joe H. White. His submissions verified some facts about his own family. However, none of his submissions demonstrated his ancestors were Cherokee Indians or members of a historical Indian tribe. He and the other third party commenter submitted undocumented descent reports on family lines that were not named in the records for the PF. There is no evidence that any of the individuals newly identified in these reports are members of the CBC, or that the historical figures named in the reports are ancestors of CBC members.

Genealogical charts or descent reports for about 53 percent (219 of 407) of the CBC members illustrate their claimed descent from historical individuals but their descent is not documented. This submission does not satisfy the requirements of criterion 83.7(e) for two reasons: (1) The petitioner has not demonstrated the generation-to-generation links between these members and their claimed ancestors; and (2) the claimed ancestors have not been demonstrated to be members or descendants of a historical Indian tribe. Even if these 219 individuals had documented their claimed descent from a historical Indian tribe, such a low percent of descent (53 percent) would not satisfy the requirements of criterion 83.7(e). No petitioner for Federal acknowledgment has satisfied the requirements of the criterion with less than 80 percent of its members demonstrating descent from the historical Indian tribe.

The petitioner’s other comments on the PF were a letter and two exhibits that it characterized as “recognition” by the Federal government and the State of Tennessee. The first exhibit was a 2009 Federal District Court ruling that granted the CBC corporation use of a trademark “for purposes at its museum, only in the state of Tennessee.” The second exhibit was a June 2010 certificate of recognition from the Tennessee Commission of Indian

Affairs, which the PF had found did not provide evidence of Indian descent. These two exhibits did not provide evidence applicable to criterion 83.7(e).

Both of the third parties submitted articles on general Cherokee Indian history, DNA as evidence, and other non-responsive issues. These submissions were either the same as or similar to the documents analyzed for the PF and did not provide evidence for criterion 83.7(e).

In summary, Petitioner #227 has not provided evidence to demonstrate that its ancestors who were named in the PF, or others identified in records submitted for the FD, were members of a band of Cherokee Indians in Lawrence County. The records do not demonstrate that the petitioner's ancestors were members or descendants of an Indian tribe in any of the localities where those individuals originated prior to settling in Tennessee. The evidence for the FD, whether submitted by the petitioner or third parties, or gathered by the OFA in its verification process, does not document the current members' generation-to-generation descent from their claimed ancestors. The evidence shows that the group known as the "Central Band of Cherokee" is a recently formed group of individuals who claim to have Indian ancestry from a historical Indian tribe, but who have not documented those claims. None of the 407 members of the group has demonstrated descent from a historical Indian tribe or historical Indian tribes that combined and functioned as an autonomous political entity.

The Department declines to acknowledge the group known as the "Central Band of Cherokee," Petitioner #227, as an Indian tribe because the evidence in the record does not demonstrate that the petitioner's members descend from a historical Indian tribe as required by mandatory criterion 83.7(e). The Department bases this FD on an evaluation of materials the petitioner and third parties submitted in response to the PF, and materials already in the record for the PF. This FD also incorporates evidence the Department researchers developed during the verification process. Therefore, this FD should be read and considered in conjunction with the PF.

A copy of the FD that includes the summary evaluation under the criteria and provides the evidence, reasoning, and analyses for the FD will be provided to the petitioner and interested parties, and is available to other parties upon written request. It will be posted on the Bureau of Indian Affairs Web site at: <http://www.bia.gov/WhoWeAre/AS-IA/OFA/RecentCases/index.htm>. Requests

for a copy of the FD should be addressed to the office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

After the publication of this notice of the FD in the **Federal Register**, the petitioner or any interested party may file a request for reconsideration with the Interior Board of Indian Appeals (IBIA) under the procedures in § 83.11 of the regulations. The IBIA must receive this request no later than 90 days after the publication of the FD in the **Federal Register**. The FD will become final and effective 90 days from the **Federal Register** publication, unless a request for reconsideration is received within that time.

Dated: March 23, 2012.

Larry Echo Hawk,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2012-7646 Filed 3-29-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-G1-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLNVS01000 L58530000 EU0000; 11-08807; MO# 4500022239; TAS: 14X5232]

Notice of Availability of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision for the Upper Las Vegas Wash Conservation Transfer Area, Las Vegas, NV

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Upper Las Vegas Wash Conservation Transfer Area, Las Vegas, Nevada, and by this notice is announcing their availability.

DATES: The final decision on the Upper Las Vegas Wash Conservation Transfer Area will not become effective for a minimum of 30 days after the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: Printed copies or a compact disc of the Final Supplemental EIS are available on request from the BLM Las Vegas Field Office, 4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89130, phone 702-515-5000, or email to: NV_SNDO_Planning@blm.gov. Interested persons may also review the

Final Supplemental EIS at the following Web site: <http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo.html>.

Copies of the Final Supplemental EIS and ROD are available for public inspection at the following locations in Nevada:

- BLM Nevada State Office, 1340 Financial Blvd., Reno
- BLM Southern Nevada District Office, 4701 North Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Ross, telephone 702-515-5199; address Las Vegas Field Office, 4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89130; or email Bob_Ross@blm.gov. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Final Supplemental EIS describes and analyzes boundary adjustments to the Upper Las Vegas Wash Conservation Transfer Area (CTA). The CTA study area is located in the northern portion of the Las Vegas Valley. In 1998, the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) authorized the BLM to dispose of Federal land in Clark County, Nevada. In 2002, the Clark County Conservation of Public Land and Natural Resources Act amended the SNPLMA to expand the disposal boundary area and added approximately 22,000 acres of land available for disposal. The BLM analyzed the impacts of all lands eligible for disposal in the Las Vegas Valley in the 2004 Las Vegas Disposal Boundary Final EIS and ROD. The Las Vegas Disposal Boundary Final EIS identified a 5,000 acre general area as the CTA and stipulated additional study be conducted to determine a final CTA boundary. Subsequently, due to extensive public input, an additional 8,000 acres were added to the 5,000-acre CTA study area. This Final Supplemental EIS is the culmination of the boundary study. The BLM prepared a Supplemental EIS because of the significance of paleontological, botanical, hydrological, and cultural resources present within the CTA study area and the need for additional public input. The Final Supplemental EIS/ROD selects the Preferred Alternative B as the final boundary for the CTA, which will ensure protection of sensitive resources, including fossils, cultural resources, the