DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

November 18, 2013.

The Department of Agriculture will submit the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 on or after the date of publication of this notice. 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), New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC; New Executive Office Building, 725—17th Street NW., Washington, DC, 20503. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: 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 by December 23, 2013. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720–8681. An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information 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.

Agricultural Marketing Service

Title: National Organic Program. OMB Control Number: 0581–0191.

Summary of Collection: The Organic Foods Production Act (OFPA) of 1990, Title XXI of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 (Farm Bill), U.S.C. Title 7 Section 6503(a) mandates that the Secretary of Agriculture develop a national organic program. The purposes of the regulation mandated by OFPA are: (1) To establish national standards governing the marketing of certain agricultural products as organically produced products; (2) to assure consumers that organically produced products meet a consistent standard; and (3) to facilitate interstate commerce in fresh and processed food that is organically produced. The National Organic Program (NOP) regulation fulfills the requirements of the OFPA. It includes comprehensive production and handling standards, labeling provisions, requirements for the certification of producers and handlers, accreditation of certifying agents by USDA and an administrative subpart for fees, State Programs, National List, appeals, compliance and pesticide residue testing. Agricultural Marketing Service will approve programs for State governments wishing to establish State Organic Programs.

Need and Use of the Information: The information collected is used to evaluate compliance with OFPA and NOP for administering the program, for management decisions and planning, for establishing the cost of the program and to support administrative and regulatory actions in response to non-compliance with OFPA. Certifying agents will have to submit an application to USDA to become accredited to certify organic production and handling operations. Auditors will review the application, perform site evaluation and submit reports to USDA, who will make a decision to grant or deny accreditation. Producers, handlers and certifying agents whose operations are not approved have the right to mediation and appeal the decision. Reporting and recordkeeping are essential to the integrity of the organic certification system.

Description of Respondents: Farms; Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 31,825. Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Annually; Recordkeeping, Total Burden Hours: 3,923,227.

Charlene Parker, Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

BILING CODE 3410–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, California, Land Management Plan Revision

AGENCY: Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of objection filing period.

SUMMARY: Randy Moore, the Regional Forester for the Pacific Southwest Region of the Forest Service (Region 5) has made the Final Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Record of Decision for the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) Land Management Plan Revision available for the 60-day pre-decisional objection filing period. A written notice of objection, including attachments, must be submitted (regular mail, fax, email, hand-delivery, express delivery, or messenger service) within 60 days after the date of publication of the legal notice in the Sacramento Bee, Sacramento, CA (36 CFR 219.56). The publication date of the legal notice in the newspaper of record (Sacramento Bee) is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an objection (36 CFR 219.56(b)). An electronic scan of the notice with the publication date will also be posted to the Web site below. Those wishing to object should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.
DATES: Those wishing to object, must submit a written notice of objection, including attachments (regular mail, fax ((703) 235–0138), email, hand-delivery, express delivery, or messenger service) within 60 days after the date of publication of the legal notice in the Sacramento Bee, Sacramento, CA (36 CFR 219.56).

ADDRESSES: Submit written notice of objection to the Chief of the Forest Service, Tom Tidwell at the following addresses:

Hand Delivery

Postal Delivery

Express Delivery

Submit electronic objections and other data to objections-chief@fs.fed.us. See SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for file formats and other information about electronic filing.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Theresa Corless, Regional Appeals Coordinator—Pacific Southwest Region, at (707) 562–8768.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Randy Moore, the Regional Forester for the Pacific Southwest Region of the Forest Service (Region 5) has made the Final Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Record of Decision for the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) Land Management Plan Revision available at the LTBMU Forest Supervisor’s Office (South Lake Tahoe, CA). The Draft Record of Decision selects Alternative E. In Alternative E, the Forest Plan contains plan components to continue to restore forest composition and structure and reduce fuels in the wildland urban interface, to improve wildlife habitat, to restore stream channels and aquatic habitats in priority watersheds, and to provide a range of recreation opportunities with appropriate access across the landscape. The plan revision is available on a compact disk, in hardcopy, or on the forest’s Web site (http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/ltbmu/ForestPlanRevision).

Objection Opportunities
This plan revision is subject to objection under 36 CFR 219 Subpart B. A written notice of objection, including attachments, must be submitted (regular mail, fax (703) 235–0138, email, hand-delivery, express delivery, or messenger service) within 60 days after the date of publication of the legal notice in the Sacramento Bee, Sacramento, CA (36 CFR 219.56). The written notice of objection must be submitted to the Chief of the Forest Service, Tom Tidwell, who is the Objection Reviewing Officer at the addresses listed above.

How To File an Objection
The business hours for those submitting hand-delivered objections are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Eastern Time), Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. We will also accept electronically filed objections. Please send such objections to “objections-chief@fs.fed.us” (dashes, not underscores). Electronically mailed objections must be submitted in an email message, plain text (.txt), Word (.doc or .docx), Portable Document Format (.pdf), or Rich Text Format (.rtf) file format. For electronically mailed objections, the sender should normally receive an automated electronic acknowledgment from the agency as confirmation of receipt. If the sender does not receive an automated acknowledgment of the receipt of the objection, it is the sender’s responsibility to ensure timely receipt by other means. The regulations prohibit extending the length of the objection filing period.

The publication date of the legal notice in the newspaper of record (Sacramento Bee) is theexclusive means for calculating the time to file an objection (36 CFR 219.56(b)). An electronic scan of the notice with the publication date will also be posted to the Web site above. Those wishing to object should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

The objection process provides an opportunity for members of the public who have participated in opportunities for public participation provided throughout the planning process to have any unresolved concerns receive an independent review by the Forest Service prior to a final decision being made by the responsible official. Under 36 CFR 219.53(a), only those individuals or organizations who participated in the planning process through the submission of substantive formal comments specific to the proposed plan revision during any opportunity for public participation provided during the planning process may file an objection. A signature or other verification of authorship is required (a scanned signature when filing electronically is acceptable). In cases where no identifiable name is attached to an objection, a verification of identity will be requested to confirm objection eligibility. If the objection is supported by documents, with the exceptions listed in 36 CFR 219.54(b), all documents must be provided with the objection; a bibliography is not sufficient. Objections must meet content requirements of 36 CFR 219.54.

At a minimum, an objection must include the following (36 CFR 219.54(c)):

(1) The objector’s name and address (36 CFR 219.62), along with a telephone number or email address if available;
(2) Signature or other verification of authorship upon request (a scanned signature for electronic mail may be filed with the objection);
(3) Identification of the lead objector, when multiple names are listed on an objection (36 CFR 219.62). Verification of the identity of the lead objector if requested;
(4) The name of the plan, plan amendment, or plan revision being objected to, and the name and title of the responsible official;
(5) A statement of the issues and/or the parts of the plan, plan amendment, or plan revision to which the objection applies;
(6) A concise statement explaining the objection and suggesting how the proposed plan decision may be improved. If applicable, the objector should identify how the objector believes that the plan, plan amendment, or plan revision is inconsistent with law, regulation, or policy; and
(7) A statement that demonstrates the link between prior substantive formal comments attributed to the objector and the content of the objection, unless the objection concerns an issue that arose after the opportunities for formal comment (36 CFR 219.53(a)).

All objections are open to public inspection and will be posted to the Forest Service Web site (http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/ltbmu/ForestPlanRevision).

Dated: November 15, 2013.

Randy Moore,
Regional Forester, Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region.

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