

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Agricultural Marketing Service**

[Doc. No. AMS-LPS-14-0061]

Notice of Request for Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's intention to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget, for a Revision of the currently approved information collection used to compile and generate the Federally Inspected Estimated Daily Slaughter Report.

DATES: Comments must be received by October 17, 2014.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Comments should be submitted electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Comments may also be submitted to Kim Harmon, Assistant to the Director, Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News Division (LPGMN), Livestock, Poultry and Seed Program (LPS), Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), U.S. Department of Agriculture; STOP 0252; 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 2619-S; Washington, DC 20250-0252. All comments should reference this publication number AMS-LPS-14-0061 and note the date and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

Submitted comments will be available for public inspection at <http://www.regulations.gov> or at the above address during regular business hours. Comments submitted in response to this Notice will be included in the records and will be made available to the public. All comments received will be posted without change, including any personal information provided.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kim Harmon, Assistant to the Director, LPGMN, AMS, USDA, by telephone at (202) 720-6231, or via email at Kim.Harmon@ams.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Plan for Estimating Daily Livestock Slaughter Under Federal Inspection.

OMB Number: 0581-0050.

Expiration Date of Approval: 01-31-2015.

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

Abstract: The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621-1627), section 203(g) directs and authorizes the collection and dissemination of marketing information including adequate outlook information, on a market area basis, for the purpose of anticipating and meeting consumer requirements, aiding in the maintenance of farm income, and to bring about a balance between production and utilization.

Under this market news program, USDA issues a market news report estimating daily livestock slaughter under Federal inspection. This report is compiled by AMS on a voluntary basis in cooperation with the livestock and meat industry. Market news reporting must be timely, accurate, and continuous if it is to be useful to producers, processors, and the trade in general. The daily livestock slaughter estimates are provided at the request of industry and are used to make production and marketing decisions.

The Daily Estimated Livestock Slaughter Under Federal Inspection Report is used by a wide range of industry contacts, including packers, processors, producers, brokers and retailers of meat and meat products. The livestock and meat industry requested that USDA issue slaughter estimates (daily and weekly), by species, for cattle, calves, hogs and sheep in order to assist them in making immediate production and marketing decisions and as a guide to the volume of meat in the marketing channel. The information requested from respondents includes their estimation of the current day's slaughter at their plant(s) and the actual slaughter for the previous day. Also, the Government is a large purchaser of meat and related products and this report assists other Government agencies in providing timely information on the quantity of meat entering the processing channels.

The information must be collected, compiled, and disseminated by an impartial third-party, in a manner which protects the confidentiality of the reporting entity. AMS is in the best position to provide this service.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .0333 hours per response.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities, individuals or households, farms, and the Federal Government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 61.

Estimated Number of Responses: 15,860.00.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 260.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 528 hours.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: August 12, 2014.

Rex Barnes,

Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2014-19455 Filed 8-15-14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service****Dixie, Fishlake, and Manti-La Sal National Forests; Utah; Initiation of Forest Plan Assessment Process****AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of initiating the forest plan assessment process to determine whether a forest plan amendment is needed regarding livestock grazing for the Dixie, Fishlake, and Manti-La Sal National Forests.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Forest Service, is initiating a forest plan amendment process pursuant to 36 CFR 219 ("Planning Rule") for the Forest Land Management Plans (forest plans) for the Dixie, Fishlake, and Manti-La Sal National Forests, beginning with an assessment of current forest plan direction for managing livestock grazing as it relates to specific ecological conditions in riparian, aquatic, and sagebrush-grassland ecosystems. Interested parties are invited to contribute information to be used in the preliminary identification of the need for changing the forest plans. The appropriate National Environmental

Policy Act (NEPA) analysis processes will be initiated if the result of the assessment indicates that an amendment may be needed.

DATES: Comments or submissions for the assessment for the preliminary identification of a need for changing the forest plans of the Dixie, Fishlake, and Manti-La Sal National Forests will be most helpful if received by 45 days of publication of this notice. Based on the assessment, the three national forests will together or separately initiate the appropriate NEPA process, including proposing needs for change for forest plan amendments. The projected completion date for the assessment is early fall 2014.

ADDRESSES: To contribute information or comments to the process, electronic submissions should be addressed to: grazingassessment@fs.fed.us. Written comments should be addressed to Attn: John Zapell, Fishlake National Forest, 115 E 900 N., Richfield, UT 84701, or via fax: 435-896-9347.

All comments, including names and addresses when provided, are placed in the project record, which will be maintained at the Fishlake National Forest Supervisor's Office. All comments will be available for public inspection.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Shirley Frank, Interdisciplinary Team Leader, TEAMS, Forest Service at 559-920-6358 or sfrank@fs.fed.us; or contact John Zapell, Public Affairs Officer, Fishlake National Forest at 435-896-1070 or jzapell@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: Pursuant to the National Forest Management Act of 1976, the Dixie, Fishlake, and Manti-La Sal National Forests are managed under the direction included in their respective land and resource management plans ("forest plans"). Under the Planning Rule, plan amendments should be used to keep forest plans current and help units adapt to new information or changing conditions. Plan amendments are to be based on a preliminary identification of the needs to change the plan. The preliminary identification of the need to change the plan may be based on a new assessment; a monitoring report; or other documentation of new information, changed conditions, or changed circumstances.

Because of numerous issues and conflicting views surrounding livestock

grazing the forests conducted an initial review to identify what if any changes in resource conditions have occurred since the forest plans were established in 1986. The team was asked to identify resource concerns, determining whether they might be related to livestock management and what, if anything, in the forest plans' direction could be related to those resource concerns. The initial review indicates that ecological conditions in riparian, aquatic, and sagebrush-grassland ecosystems are not progressing toward sustaining the multiple use of these ecosystem's renewable resources in perpetuity while maintaining the long-term health and productivity of the land. Specific resource concerns were identified for riparian vegetation, lakes, ponds, springs, and wetlands, physical stream channel habitat and sagebrush grasslands. The review was based on monitoring information, observed changed conditions, and new scientific information.

Concerns were also identified that existing forest plans do not have clear measurable desired conditions and descriptions for riparian, aquatic, and sagebrush grassland areas, especially in relation to use for domestic livestock grazing. Where desired conditions are described, they may not be effective at sustaining the natural resources, may conflict with other direction, or may not be supported by current scientific information. For further information, the initial review document is available by request and is posted on the Fishlake National Forest Web site at <http://go.usa.gov/NnHQ>.

Because the initial review also indicated that the management direction in the forest plans may be a contributing factor, we, the Forest Supervisor of the Dixie National Forest and the Forest Supervisor of the Fishlake and Manti-LaSal National Forests, have determined that an assessment is needed for the preliminary identification of the need for changing the forest plans to address the above concerns. Because livestock grazing management was identified as a contributing factor to the ecological conditions, this assessment will also focus on the relationship of livestock grazing management to riparian vegetation, groundwater-dependent ecosystems, physical stream channel habitat, and sagebrush grassland ecosystems. Due to the commonality of concerns across the three forests, this assessment is being undertaken for all three forest plans.

The purpose of the assessment is to evaluate rapidly the existing information on the ecological conditions of riparian vegetation, groundwater-

dependent ecosystems, physical stream channel habitat, and sagebrush grassland areas; the use of these areas for domestic livestock grazing; and the relationship of the ecological conditions of these areas to forest plan direction. The assessments will facilitate building common understanding of that information to identify preliminary needs for changing the forest plans.

With this notice, the agency invites other governments, nongovernmental parties, and the public to contribute to the assessment development. The intent of public engagement during development of the assessment is to identify as much relevant information as possible to inform the preliminary identification of the need to change the forest plans and, if needed, the subsequent plan amendment development process. Contributors are encouraged to share material about existing conditions and trends of the ecological conditions of concern, as well as about social, economic, and ecological values relevant to the specified ecological conditions and the use of these ecosystems for livestock grazing management.

For efficiency and effectiveness, the assessment is being conducted for all three national forests because of similarities in their resources. We encourage contribution of information relating to the three-forest scale, individual forest-scale, as well as beyond the forest if related to the management of livestock grazing on the forest. Each plan is unique to the needs of the people and communities being served. The result of the assessment may be the preliminary identification of needs for change applicable to one, two, or all three forest plans.

To contribute to the process, see the **ADDRESS** section above. Or contact John Zapell, Public Affairs Officer, Fishlake National Forest at 435-896-1070 or jzapell@fs.fed.us. Or contact Shirley Frank, Interdisciplinary Team Leader and Environmental Coordinator, TEAMS, Forest Service at 559-920-6358 or sfrank@fs.fed.us.

Dated: August 7, 2014.

Allen Rowley,

Fishlake Forest Supervisor and Acting Manti-La Sal Supervisor.

Dated: August 7, 2014.

Angelita S. Bullets,

Dixie Forest Supervisor.

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