

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request—Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice invites the general public and other public agencies to comment on this proposed information collection. This collection is an extension, without change, of a currently approved collection to collect qualitative customer and stakeholder feedback in an efficient and timely manner. The Food and Nutrition Service created this generic information collection in 2016 as part of a Federal Government-wide effort to streamline the process for seeking feedback from the public on service delivery.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before June 17, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the Agency's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the proposed information collection burden, 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 use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments may be sent to Kelly Stewart, Planning & Regulatory Affairs Office, Office of Policy Support, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302. Comments will also be accepted through the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, and follow the online instructions for submitting comments electronically.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of this information collection should be directed to Kelly Stewart, Planning & Regulatory Affairs Office, Office of Policy Support, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302; 703-305-2425.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery (Fast Track).

OMB Number: 0584-0611.

Expiration Date: September 30, 2019.

Type of Request: Extension, without change, of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The proposed information collection activity provides a means to garner qualitative customer and stakeholder feedback in an efficient and timely manner. By "qualitative feedback," we mean information that provides useful insights on perceptions and opinions, but are not statistical surveys yielding quantitative results that can be generalized to the population. This feedback will continue to, (1) provide insights into customer or stakeholder perceptions, experiences and expectations, (2) provide an early warning of issues with service and, (3) focus attention on areas where communication, training or changes in operations might improve delivery of products or services. This collection allows for ongoing, collaborative and actionable communications between the Agency and its customers and stakeholders. It also allows feedback to contribute directly to the improvement of program management.

The solicitation of feedback targets areas such as: Timeliness, appropriateness, accuracy of information, courtesy, efficiency of service delivery, and resolution of issues with service delivery. Responses

are assessed to plan and inform efforts to improve or maintain the quality of service offered to the public. If this information is not collected, vital feedback from customers and stakeholders on the Agency's services will be unavailable.

The Agency will continue to only submit a collection for approval under this generic clearance if it meets the following conditions:

- The collections are voluntary;
- The collections are low-burden for respondents (based on considerations of total burden hours, total number of respondents, or burden-hours per respondent) and are low-cost for both the respondents and the Federal Government;

- The collections are non-controversial and do not raise issues of concern to other Federal agencies;

- Any collection is targeted to the solicitation of opinions from respondents who have experience with the program or may have experience with the program in the near future;

- Personally identifiable information (PII) is collected only to the extent necessary and is not retained;

- Information gathered will be used only internally for general service improvement and program management purposes and is not intended for release outside of the agency;

- Information gathered will not be used for the purpose of substantially informing influential policy decisions; and

- Information gathered will yield qualitative information; the collections will not be designed or expected to yield statistically reliable results or used as though the results are generalizable to the population of study.

Feedback collected under this generic clearance provides useful information, but it does not yield data that can be generalized to the overall population. This type of generic clearance for qualitative information will not be used for quantitative information collections that are designed to yield reliably actionable results, such as monitoring trends over time or documenting program performance. Such data usage require more rigorous designs that address: The target population to which generalizations will be made, the sampling frame, the sample design (including stratification and clustering), the precision requirements or power

calculations that justify the proposed sample size, the expected response rate, methods for assessing potential non-response bias, the protocols for data collection, and any testing procedures that were or will be undertaken prior to fielding the study. Depending on the degree of influence the results are likely to have, such collections may still be

eligible for submission for other generic mechanisms that are designed to yield quantitative results. As a general matter, information collections do not result in any new system of records containing privacy information and does not ask questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious

beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private.

A variety of instruments and platforms are used to collect information from respondents. The annual burden hours requested (30,000) are based on the number of collections we expect to conduct over the requested period for this clearance.

ESTIMATED ANNUAL REPORTING BURDEN

Type of collection	Number of respondents	Annual frequency per response	Hours per response	Total hours
Customer Feedback Surveys	15,000	1	1	15,000
Comment Cards	7,500	1	1	7,500
Focus Groups	7,500	1	1	7,500
Total	30,000	1	1	30,000

Annual Reporting Burden Estimates

Affected Public: Individuals and Households, Businesses and Organizations, State, Local or Tribal Government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 30,000.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Annual responses: 30,000.

Estimated time per response: 60 minutes.

Burden hours: 30,000.

Dated: March 29, 2019.

Brandon Lipps,

Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.

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BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland; WY; Thunder Basin National Grassland Plan Amendment

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

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

SUMMARY: The Thunder Basin National Grassland (Grassland) will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the 2020 Thunder Basin National Grassland Plan Amendment. The Grassland proposes to amend prairie dog management direction in the Land and Resource Management Plan, including changes to management area boundaries and changes to grassland-wide, geographic area, and management area plan components that pertain to prairie dogs, short-stature prairie

habitat, and associated species management.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by May 20, 2019. The Draft EIS is expected in October 2019, and the Final EIS is expected May 2020.

ADDRESSES: Please submit comments via one of the following methods:

1. *Public participation portal (preferred):* <https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?Project=55479>.

2. *Mail:* Thunder Basin Plan Amendment Comments, Thunder Basin National Grassland Supervisor's Office, 2468 Jackson St., Laramie, WY 82070.

All comments, including names and addresses when provided, are placed in the record and are available for public inspection.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Monique Nelson at 307-275-0956 or email monique.nelson@usda.gov. 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: The Forest Service proposes to amend the Thunder Basin National Grassland Land and Resource Management Plan. Substantive requirements of the 2012 Planning Rule (36 CFR 219) that are likely to be directly related and therefore applicable to the amendment are 219.8(a) and (b), ecological and social and economic sustainability; 219.9, diversity of plant and animal communities; and 219.10(a), integrated resource management for ecosystem services and multiple use.

Purpose and Need for Action

The purpose of this project is to amend the Thunder Basin National Grassland Land and Resource Management Plan to better balance prairie dog colony conservation and control with other Grassland uses. Specifically, an amendment is needed to:

- Refocus management in Management Area 3.63, "Black-footed ferret reintroduction Habitat," to emphasize rangelands with short-stature vegetation that provide for multiple uses, including providing habitat for prairie dogs and associated species and providing livestock forage.

- Delineate more logical boundaries for Management Area 3.63, for example by strategically using natural topographic and hydrologic barriers and incorporating boundary management zones.

- Increase the availability of management options for prairie dog colony conservation and control, including allowing lethal prairie dog control within Management Area 3.63.

- More effectively manage prairie dog colony encroachment from the National Grassland onto private and state land. Encroachment concerns include public health, agricultural production, and land values.

- Align with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department "Wyoming Black-footed Ferret Management Plan" (2018).

- Ensure management direction identifies habitat requirements needed to support viable populations of prairie dogs and associated species, such as mountain plover, burrowing owl, and swift fox, and that management would not preclude future reintroduction of black-footed ferret.