remote electronic or telephonic bidding, and access to hotlines for both technical and auction assistance, should help facilitate participation while minimizing the need to rely on assistance from outside professionals and consultants.

139. Steps Taken to Minimize the Significant Economic Impact on Small Entities, and Significant Alternatives Considered. The RFA requires an agency to describe any significant, specifically small business, alternatives that it has considered in reaching its proposed approach, which may include the following four alternatives (among others): (1) The establishment of differing compliance or reporting requirements or timetables that take into account the resources available to small entities; (2) the clarification, consolidation, or simplification of compliance and reporting requirements under the rule for such small entities; (3) the use of performance rather than design standards; and (4) an exemption from coverage of the rule, or any part thereof, for such small entities. See 5 U.S.C. 603(c)(1)–(4).

140. We believe that the steps described below to facilitate participation in Auction 104 will result in both operational and administrative cost savings for small entities and other auction participants. In light of the numerous resources that will be available from the Commission at no cost, the processes and procedures adopted for Auction 104 should result in minimal economic impact on small entities. For example, prior to the auction, the Commission will hold a mock auction to allow eligible bidders the opportunity to familiarize themselves with both the processes and systems that will be utilized in Auction 104. During the auction, participants will be able to access and participate in the auction via the internet using a web-based system, or telephonically, providing two cost effective methods of participation avoiding the cost of travel for in-person participation. Further, small entities as well as other auction participants will be able to avail themselves of an auctions hotline for assistance with auction processes and procedures as well as a technical support hotline to assist with issues such as access to or navigation within the electronic FCC Form 175 and use of the FCC’s auction system. In addition, small business entities as well as other auction participants, will have access to various other sources of information and database through the Commission that will aid in both their understanding and participation in the process.

141. Another step implemented in the Auction 104 Procedures Public Notice that can minimize the economic impact for small entities is the inclusion of the New Entrant Bidding Credit adopted in the 1998 Broadcast Competitive Bidding Order to implement the statutory provisions of section 309(j) regarding opportunities for small, minority- and women-owned businesses. Applicants that qualify for the New Entrant Bidding Credit are eligible to discount the amount of a winning bidder’s total bids. The size of a New Entrant Bidding Credit will depend on the number of ownership interests in other media of mass communications that are attributable to the bidder entity and its attributable interest holders. See 47 CFR 73.5007, 73.5008. An applicant can qualify for a 35% New Entrant Bidding Credit if it can certify that neither it nor any of its attributable interest holders have any attributable interests in any other media of mass communications or a 25% New Entrant Bidding Credit if it can certify that neither it nor any of its attributable interest holders have any attributable interests in more than three media of mass communications, and must identify and describe such media of mass communications. Because eligibility for a New Entrant Bidding Credit is not based on the size of the individual or entity requesting the bidding credit, some applicants for Auction 104 that claim eligibility for a New Entrant Bidding Credit may meet the definition of small entity or small business, as defined above.

142. The above mechanisms are made available to facilitate participation in Auction 104 by all qualified bidders and may result in significant cost savings for small business entities that use these mechanisms. These steps, coupled with the advance description of the bidding procedures in Auction 104, should ensure that the auction will be administered predictably, efficiently and fairly, thus providing certainty for small entities as well as other auction participants.


Federal Communications Commission.
William Huber,
Associate Chief, Auctions Division, Office of Economics and Analytics.
[FR Doc. 2019–15811 Filed 7–30–19; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 74
[MB Docket No. 18–119; FCC 19–40]

FM Translator Interference

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Final rule; announcement of effective date.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) announces that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved, for a period of three years, information collection requirements adopted in the Commission’s Amendment of Part 74 of the Commission’s Rules Regarding FM Translator Interference, MB Dkt. No. 16–119, FCC 19–40, (FM Translator Interference Report and Order). This document is consistent with the FM Translator Interference Report and Order, which stated that the Commission would publish a document in the Federal Register announcing OMB approval and the effective date of the rules.

DATES: The rule amendments to 47 CFR 74.1203(a)(3) and 47 CFR 74.1204(f), published at 84 FR 27734 on June 14, 2019 (corrected at 84 FR 29806 (June 25, 2019)), are effective on August 13, 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cathy Williams by email at Cathy.Williams@fcc.gov and telephone at (202) 418–2918.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document announces that OMB approved the new or modified information collection requirements contained in 47 CFR 74.1203(a)(3) and 47 CFR 74.1204(f), as adopted in the FM Translator Interference Report and Order, FCC 19–40, published at 84 FR 27734 (date correction published at 84 FR 29806 (June 25, 2019)). OMB approved OMB Control Number 3060–1263 on July 16, 2019, and OMB Control Number 3060–0405 on July 17, 2019. The Commission publishes this notice as an announcement of the effective date of those information collection requirements.

Synopsis

As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507), the FCC is notifying the public that it received OMB approval on July 16, 2019, and on July 17, 2019, for the new or modified information collection requirements contained in 47 CFR 74.1203(a)(3) and 47 CFR 74.1204(f), as
amended, in the FM Translator Interference Report and Order, MB Dkt. No. 18–119 FCC 19–40 (rel. May 9, 2019). Under 5 CFR part 1320, an agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a current, valid OMB Control Number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act that does not display a current, valid OMB Control Number. The OMB Control Numbers are 3060–1263 and 3060–0405. The foregoing notice is required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13, October 1, 1995, and 44 U.S.C. 3507.

The total annual reporting burdens and costs for the respondents are as follows:

OMB Control Number: 3060–1263.
OMB Approval Date: July 16, 2019.
OMB Expiration Date: July 31, 2022.
Title: Sections 74.1203(a)(3).
Interference, and 74.1204(f). Protection of FM broadcast, FM Translator and LP100 stations.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities; Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents and Responses: 270 respondents; 270 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: 3–5 hours.

Frequency of Response: Third party disclosure requirement and on occasion reporting requirement.
Total Annual Burden: 1,080 hours. Total Annual Cost: $924,100.

Obligation to Respond: Required to obtain or retain benefits. The statutory authority for this collection of information is contained in Sections 1, 4(i), 4(j), 301, 303, 307, 308, 309, 316, and 319 of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. 151, 154(i), 154(j), 301, 303, 307, 308, 309, 316, and 319.

Nature and Extent of Confidentiality: There is no need for confidentiality with this collection of information.

Privacy Act Impact Assessment: No impact(s).

Needs and Uses: On May 9, 2019, the Commission adopted a Report and Order, Amendment of Part 74 of the Commission’s Rules Regarding FM Translator Interference, FCC 19–40, MB Docket No. 18–119 (FM Translator Interference Report and Order), adopting proposals to streamline the rules relating to interference caused by FM translators and to expedite the translator interference complaint resolution process. These measures are designed to limit or avoid protracted and contentious interference disputes, provide translator licensees additional investment certainty and flexibility to remediate interference, and provide affected stations earlier and expedited resolution of interference complaints. Under this new information collection, the following information collection requirements require OMB approval.

Specifically, the FM Translator Interference Report and Order pertains to new Information Collection as it codifies the translator interference listener complaint requirements under section 74.1201(k) and sections 74.1203(a)(3) (actual interference) and 74.1204(f) (predicted interference) of the rules. The Commission defines the requirements for a listener complaint submitted with a translator interference claim in section 74.1201(k) as a complaint that is signed and dated by the listener and contains the following information: (1) The complainant’s full name, address, and phone number; (2) a clear, concise, and accurate description of the location where the interference is alleged to occur; (3) a statement that the complainant listens to the desired station using an over-the-air signal at least twice a month, to demonstrate the complainant is a regular listener; and (4) a statement that the complainant has no legal, employment, financial, or familial affiliation or relationship with the desired station, to demonstrate the complainant is disinterested. Electronic signatures are acceptable for this purpose.

The FM Translator Interference Report and Order establishes a minimum number of listener complaints ranging from 6 to 25 depending on the population served within the protected contour of the complaining station. The Commission explains that a proportionate approach, which was supported by multiple commenters, would be fairer and more effective than a single minimum number for all complaining stations. In addition to the required minimum number of valid listener statements, a station submitting a translator interference claim package pursuant to either section 74.1203(a)(3) or 74.1204(f) must include: (1) A map plotting the specific locations of the alleged interference in relation to the 45 dBu contour of the complaining station; (2) a statement that the complaining station is operating within its licensed parameters; (3) a statement that the complaining station licensee has used commercially reasonable efforts to inform the relevant translator licensee of the claimed interference and attempted private resolution; and (4) U/D data demonstrating that at each listener location the ratio of undesired to desired signal strength exceeds –20 dB for co-channel situations, –6 dB for first-adjacent channel situations or 40 dB for second- or third-adjacent channel situations, calculated using the Commission’s standard contour prediction methodology set out in Section 73.313.

In the FM Translator Interference Report and Order, the Commission outlines two paths for resolving interference if the translator decides to continue operation on its original channel. First, a translator operator may resolve each listener complaint by working with a willing listener to resolve reception issues. The translator operator must then document and certify that the desired station can now be heard on the listener’s receiver, i.e., that the adjustment to or replacement of the listener’s receiving equipment actually resolved the interference. Second, the translator operator may work with the complaining station to resolve station signal interference issues using rule-compliant suitable technical techniques. (The Commission provides flexibility to the parties to determine the testing parameters for demonstrating that the interference has been resolved, for example, the use of on-off testing or field strength measurements.) Once agreement is reached, the translator operator submits the agreed-upon remediation showing to the Commission.

OMB Control Number: 3060–0405.
OMB Approval Date: July 17, 2019.
OMB Expiration Date: July 31, 2022.
Title: Form 2100, Schedule 349—FM Translator or FM Booster Station Construction Permit Application.
Form Number: FCC Form 2100, Schedule 349.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities; State, Local or Tribal Government; Not-for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents and Responses: 1,350 respondents; 2,775 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: 1–1.5 hours.

Frequency of Response: On occasion reporting requirement; Third party disclosure requirement.

Obligation to Respond: Required to obtain or retain benefits. The statutory authority for this information collection is contained in Sections 154(i), 303 and 308 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

Total Annual Burden: 3,775 hours. Total Annual Cost: $3,950,725.
Privacy Act Impact Assessment: No impact(s).

Nature and Extent of Confidentiality: There is no need for confidentiality with this information collection.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 17


RIN 1018–BD86

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reinstatement of ESA Listing for the Grizzly Bear in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem in Compliance With Court Order

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), are issuing this final rule to comply with a court order that had the effect of reinstating the regulatory protections under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA), for the grizzly bear (Ursus arctos horribilis) in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE). This, final rule is required to reflect the change effected by that order to the GYE grizzly bear population’s status on the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife.

DATES: This action is effective July 31, 2019. However, the court order had legal effect immediately upon being filed on September 24, 2018.

ADDRESSES: This final rule is available:


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On June 30, 2017, we published a final rule establishing a distinct population segment (DPS) of the grizzly bear (Ursus arctos horribilis) for the GYE and removing this DPS from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife in title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations at 50 CFR 17.11(h) (82 FR 30502, June 30, 2017; “2017 delisting rule”). In the 2017 delisting rule, we determined that the GYE grizzly bear population was no longer an endangered or threatened population pursuant to the ESA, based on the best scientific and commercial data available. Additional background information on the grizzly bear in the GYE and on this decision, including previous Federal actions, is found in our 2017 delisting rule.

Subsequently, six lawsuits challenging our 2017 delisting rule were filed in Federal district courts in Missoula, Montana, and Chicago, Illinois. The Chicago lawsuit was transferred to Missoula, Montana, and all six lawsuits were consolidated as Crow Indian Tribe, et al. v. United States, et al., case no. CV 17–9–M–DLC (D. Mont. 2018). Plaintiffs’ allegations focused primarily on violations of the ESA and the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 500, et seq.).

On September 24, 2018, the Montana District Court issued an order in Crow Indian Tribe, et al. v. United States, et al., 343 F.Supp.3d 999 (D. Mont. 2018), that vacated the 2017 delisting rule and remanded it back to the Service. Thus, this final rule is required to reflect the change in the GYE grizzly bear population’s status effected by that order.

Rule Effective Upon Publication

This rulemaking is necessary to comply with the September 24, 2018, court order. Therefore, under these circumstances, the Director has determined, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b), that prior notice and opportunity for public comment are impracticable and unnecessary. The Director has further determined, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(d), that the agency has good cause to make this rule effective upon publication.

Effects of the Rule

Per the September 24, 2018, court order, any and all grizzly bears in the GYE are once again listed as a threatened species under the ESA. Because the Court vacated the entire 2017 delisting rule, all grizzly bears in the lower 48 States are again listed as threatened. Accordingly, we are revising the entry for grizzly bear in the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife at 50 CFR 17.11(b). An existing rule under section 4(d) of the ESA governing the regulation of grizzly bears in the lower...