B. Solicitation of Public Comment

This notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected parties concerning the collection of information described in Section A on the following:

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;

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 through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

HUD encourages interested parties to submit comment in response to these questions.

C. Authority


James Arthur Jemison II,
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Office of the Secretary

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Title IV of the Act instituted a permanent self-governance program at the Department. Under the self-governance program, certain programs, services, functions, and activities, or portions thereof, will be planned, conducted, consolidated, and administered by a self-governance Tribe.

Under section 412(c) of the Act, the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) is required to publish annually: (1) A list of non-BIA programs, services, functions, and activities, or portions thereof, that are eligible for inclusion in self-governance funding agreements negotiated under the self-governance program and (2) programmatic targets for non-BIA bureaus.

Two categories of non-BIA programs are eligible for self-governance funding agreements:

1. Under section 403(b)(2) of the Act, any non-BIA program, service, function, or activity that is administered by the Department that is “otherwise available to Indian tribes or Indians,” can be administered by a Tribe through a self-governance funding agreement.

The Department interprets this provision to authorize the inclusion of programs eligible for self-determination contracts under Title I of the Act. Section 403(b)(2) also specifies, “nothing in this subsection may be construed to provide any tribe with a preference with respect to the opportunity of the tribe to administer programs, services, functions, and activities, or portions thereof.

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thereof, unless such preference is otherwise provided for by law.”

(2) Under section 403(c) of the Act, the Secretary may include other programs, services, functions, and activities or portions thereof that are of “special geographic, historical, or cultural significance” to a self-governance Tribe.

Under section 403(k) of the Act, funding agreements cannot include programs, services, functions, or activities that are inherently Federal or where the statute establishing the existing program does not authorize the type of participation sought by the Tribe. However, an Indian Tribe (or Tribes) need not be identified in the authorizing statutes in order for a program or element of program to be included in a self-governance funding agreement. While general legal and policy guidance regarding what constitutes an inherently Federal function exists, the non-BIA bureaus will determine whether a specific function is inherently Federal on a case-by-case basis considering the totality of circumstances.

Subpart G of the self-governance regulations found at 25 CFR part 1000 provides the process and timelines for negotiating self-governance funding agreements with non-BIA bureaus. Response to Comments

No comments were received.

II. Funding Agreements Between Self-Governance Tribes and Non-BIA Bureaus of the Department of the Interior for Fiscal Year 2022

A. Bureau of Land Management (2)
   Council of Athabaskan Tribal Governments
   Duckwater Shoshone Tribe of the Duckwater Reservation

B. Bureau of Reclamation (4)
   Gila River Indian Community of the Gila River Indian Reservation
   Hoopa Valley Tribe
   Karuk Tribe
   Yurok Tribe of the Yurok Reservation

C. Office of Natural Resources Revenue (none)

D. National Park Service (4)
   Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
   River Raisin National Battlefield Park
   Valles Caldera National Preserve
   Yurok Tribe of the Yurok Reservation

E. Fish and Wildlife Service (1)
   Council of Athabaskan Tribal Governments

F. U.S. Geological Survey (none)

G. Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (1)
   Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation

H. Appraisal and Valuation Services
   Office (30)
   1. The Quapaw Tribe of Indians
   2. Morongo Band of Mission Indians
   3. Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
   4. Pueblo of Taos
   5. Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
   6. Association of Village Council Presidents
   8. Native Village of Tanana
   9. Tanana Chiefs Conference (includes Gwichyaa Gwich’in [aka Fort Yukon])
   10. Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes
   11. Cherokee Nation
   12. The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
   13. Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
   14. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation
   15. Wyandotte Nation
   16. Oneida Nation
   17. Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation
   18. Lummi Tribe of the Lummi Reservation
   19. Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribes
   20. Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon
   21. Hoopa Valley Tribe
   22. Redding Rancheria
   23. Chippewa Cree Indians of the Rocky Boy’s Reservation
   24. Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
   25. Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Oklahoma
   26. Kaw Nation, Oklahoma
   27. Sac and Fox Nation, Oklahoma
   28. Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community of the Salt River Reservation
   29. Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation Nevada
   30. Osage Nation

III. Eligible Programs of the Department of the Interior Non-BIA Bureaus

Below is a listing by bureau of the types of non-BIA programs, or portions thereof, that may be eligible for self-governance funding agreements because they are either “otherwise available to Indians” under Title I of the Act and not precluded by any other law, or may have “special geographic, historical, or cultural significance” to a participating Tribe. The list represents the most current information on programs potentially available to Tribes under a self-governance funding agreement. The Department will also consider for inclusion in funding agreements other programs or activities not listed below, but which, upon request of a self-governance Tribe, the Department determines to be eligible under either sections 403(b)[2] or 403(c) of the Act. Tribes with an interest in such potential agreements are encouraged to begin discussions with the appropriate non-BIA bureau.

A. Eligible Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Programs

The BLM carries out some of its activities in the management of public lands through contracts and cooperative agreements. These and other activities, depending upon availability of funds, the need for specific services, and the self-governance Tribe’s demonstration of a special geographic, cultural, or historical connection, may also be available for inclusion in self-governance funding agreements. Once a Tribe has made initial contact with the BLM, more specific information will be provided by the respective BLM State Office.

Some elements of the following programs may be eligible for inclusion in a self-governance funding agreement. This listing is not all-inclusive, but is representative of the types of programs that may be eligible for Tribal participation through a funding agreement:

Tribal Services
1. Minerals Management Inspection, enforcement and production verification of Indian coal and sand and gravel operations are already available for contracts under Title I of the Act and, therefore, may be available for inclusion in a funding agreement. In addition, in a study conducted pursuant to Secretarial order 3377, the Office of the Solicitor determined that the following functions are available for inclusion in a funding agreement: Inspection and enforcement of Indian oil and gas operations, determining trust land locations; approving Applications for Permits to Drill; securing and enforcing bonds (for surface of spill estate), and providing mineral assessments and valuation.
2. Cadastral Survey. Tribal and allottee cadastral survey services are already available for contracts under Title I of the Act and, therefore, may be available for inclusion in a funding agreement.

Other Activities
1. Cultural heritage. Cultural heritage activities, such as research and inventory, may be available in specific States.
2. Natural Resources Management. Activities such as silvicultural treatments, timber management, cultural resource management, watershed restoration, environmental studies, tree
planting, thinning, and similar work, may be available in specific States.
3. Range Management. Activities, such as revegetation, noxious weed control, fencing, construction and management of range improvements, grazing management experiments, range monitoring, and similar activities, may be available in specific States.
4. Riparian Management. Activities, such as facilities construction, erosion control, rehabilitation, and other similar activities, may be available in specific States.
5. Recreation Management. Activities, such as facilities construction and maintenance, interpretive design and construction, and similar activities may be available in specific States.
6. Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management. Activities, such as construction and maintenance, implementation of statutory, regulatory and policy or administrative plan-based species protection, interpretive design and construction, and similar activities may be available in specific States.
7. Wild Horse Management. Activities, such as wild horse round-ups, adoption and disposition, including operation and maintenance of wild horse facilities, may be available in specific States.


B. Eligible Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) Programs

The mission of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public. To this end, most of Reclamation’s activities involve the construction, operation and maintenance, and management of water resources projects and associated facilities, as well as research and development related to its responsibilities. Reclamation water resources projects provide water for agricultural, municipal and industrial water supplies; hydroelectric power generation; flood control, enhancement of fish and wildlife habitats; and outdoor recreation.

Components of the following water resource projects listed below may be eligible for inclusion in a self-governance annual funding agreement. This list was developed with consideration of the proximity of identified self-governance Tribes to Reclamation projects.

1. Klamath Project, California and Oregon
2. Trinity River Fishery, California
3. Central Arizona Project, Arizona
4. Indian Water Rights Settlement Projects, as authorized by Congress

Upon the request of a self-governance Tribe, Reclamation will also consider for inclusion in funding agreements other programs or activities which Reclamation determines to be eligible under Section 403(b)(2) or 403(c) of the Act.

For questions regarding self-governance, contact Mr. Kelly Titensor, Native American Affairs Advisor, Native American and International Affairs Office, Bureau of Reclamation (96–43000) (MS 7069–MIB); 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240, telephone: (202) 513–0558, fax: (202) 513–0311.

C. Eligible Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR) Programs

The Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR) collects, accounts for, and distributes mineral revenues from both Federal and Indian mineral leases. The ONRR also evaluates industry compliance with laws, regulations, and lease terms, and offers mineral-owning Tribes opportunities to become involved in its programs that address the intent of Tribal self-governance. These programs are available to self-governance Tribes and are a good preparation for assuming other technical functions. Generally, ONRR program functions are available to Tribes because of the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1983 (FOGRMA) at 30 U.S.C. 1701 et seq. The ONRR promotes Tribal self-governance and self-determination over trust lands and resources through the following program functions that may be available to self-governance Tribes:

1. Audit of Tribal Royalty Payments. Audit activities for Tribal leases, except for the issuance of orders, final valuation decisions, and other enforcement activities. (For Tribes already participating in ONRR cooperative audits, this program is offered as an option.)
2. Verification of Tribal Royalty Payments. Financial compliance verification, monitoring activities, and production verification.
3. Tribal Royalty Reporting, Accounting, and Data Management. Establishment and management of royalty reporting and accounting systems including document processing, production reporting, reference data (lease, payor, agreement) management, billing and general ledger.
5. Royalty Internship Program. An orientation and training program for auditors and accountants from mineral-producing Tribes to acquaint Tribal staff with royalty laws, procedures, and techniques. This program is recommended for Tribes that are considering a self-governance funding agreement, but have not yet acquired mineral revenue expertise via a 30 U.S.C. 1732 cooperative agreement (FOGRMA Pub. L. 97–451, Section 202), as this term is defined in FOGRMA and implementing regulations at 30 CFR 228.4.

For questions regarding self-governance, contact Heidi Badaracco, Program Manager, Indian Trust, Outreach & Coordination for the Office of Natural Resources Revenue, P.O. Box 25165, Building 85, Denver, Colorado 80225–0165, telephone: (303) 231–3434.

D. Eligible National Park Service (NPS) Programs

NPS administers the National Park System, which is made up of national parks, monuments, historic sites, battlefields, seashores, lake shores and recreation areas. NPS maintains the park units, protects the natural and cultural resources, and conducts a range of visitor services such as law enforcement, park maintenance, and interpretation of geology, history, and natural and cultural resources.

Some elements of the following programs may be eligible for inclusion in a self-governance funding agreement. This list below was developed considering the proximity of an identified self-governance Tribe to a national park, monument, preserve, or recreation area and the types of programs that have components that may be suitable for administering through a self-governance funding agreement. This list is not all-inclusive, but is representative of the types of programs which may be eligible for Tribal participation through funding agreements.

Elements of Programs That May Be Eligible for Inclusion in a Self-Governance Funding Agreement

1. Archaeological Surveys
2. Comprehensive Management Planning
3. Cultural Resource Management Projects
4. Ethnographic Studies
5. Erosion Control
6. Fire Protection
7. Gathering Baseline Subsistence Data—Alaska
8. Hazardous Fuel Reduction
9. Housing Construction and Rehabilitation
10. Interpretation
11. Janitorial Services
12. Maintenance
13. Natural Resource Management Projects
14. Operation of Campgrounds
15. Range Assessment—Alaska
16. Reindeer Grazing—Alaska
17. Road Repair
18. Solid Waste Collection and Disposal
19. Trail Rehabilitation
20. Watershed Restoration and Maintenance
21. Beringia Research
22. Elwha River Restoration
23. Recycling Programs

Locations of National Park Service Units With Close Proximity to Self-Governance Tribes
1. Aniakchak National Monument & Preserve—Alaska
2. Bering Land Bridge National Preserve—Alaska
3. Cape Krusenstern National Monument—Alaska
4. Denali National Park & Preserve—Alaska
5. Gates of the Arctic National Park & Preserve—Alaska
6. Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve—Alaska
7. Katmai National Park and Preserve—Alaska
8. Kenai Fjords National Park—Alaska
10. Kobuk Valley National Park—Alaska
11. Lake Clark National Park and Preserve—Alaska
12. Noatak National Preserve—Alaska
13. Sitka National Historical Park—Alaska
15. Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve—Alaska
17. Hohokam Pima National Monument—Arizona
18. Montezuma Castle National Monument—Arizona
19. Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument—Arizona
20. Saguaro National Park—Arizona
21. Tonto National Monument—Arizona
22. Tumacacori National Historical Park—Arizona
23. Tucson National Monument—Arizona
25. Death Valley National Park—California
26. Devils Postpile National Monument—California
27. Joshua Tree National Park—California
28. Lassen Volcanic National Park—California
29. Point Reyes National Seashore—California
30. Redwood National Park—California
31. Whiskeytown National Recreation Area—California
32. Yosemite National Park—California
33. Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument—Idaho
34. Effigy Mounds National Monument—Iowa
35. Fort Scott National Historic Site—Kansas
36. Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve—Kansas
37. Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area—Massachusetts
38. Cape Cod National Seashore—Massachusetts
39. New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park—Massachusetts
40. Isle Royale National Park—Michigan
41. Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore—Michigan
42. Grand Portage National Monument—Minnesota
43. Voyageurs National Park—Minnesota
44. Bear Paw Battlefield, Nez Perce National Historical Park—Montana
45. Glacier National Park—Montana
46. Great Basin National Park—Nevada
47. Aztec Ruins National Monument—New Mexico
48. Bandelier National Monument—New Mexico
49. Carlsbad Caverns National Park—New Mexico
50. Chaco Culture National Historic Park—New Mexico
51. Pecos National Historic Park—New Mexico
52. White Sands National Monument—New Mexico
53. Fort Stanton National Monument—New Mexico
54. Great Smoky Mountains National Park—North Carolina/Tennessee
55. Cuyahoga Valley National Park—Ohio
56. Hopewell Culture National Historical Park—Ohio
57. Chickasaw National Recreation Area—Oklahoma
58. Crater Lake National Park—Oregon
59. John Day Fossil Beds National Monument—Oregon
60. Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument—Texas
61. Guadalupe Mountains National Park—Texas
62. Lake Meredith National Recreation Area—Texas
63. Ebey’s Landing National Recreation Area—Washington
64. Fort Vancouver National Historic Site—Washington
65. Mount Rainier National Park—Washington
66. Olympic National Park—Washington
67. San Juan Islands National Historic Park—Washington
68. Whitman Mission National Historic Site—Washington

For questions regarding self-governance, contact Dorothy FireCloud, Manager, American Indian Liaison Office, National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, Room 7351, Washington, DC 20240, telephone: (202) 354–2090, or email: Dorothy_FireCloud@nps.gov.

E. Eligible Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) Programs

The mission of the Service is to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. Primary responsibilities are for migratory birds, endangered species, freshwater and anadromous fisheries, and certain marine mammals. The Service also has a continuing cooperative relationship with a number of Indian Tribes throughout the National Wildlife Refuge System and the Service’s fish hatcheries. Any self-governance Tribe may contact a National Wildlife Refuge or National Fish Hatchery directly concerning participation in Service programs under the Tribal Self-Governance Act. This list is not all-inclusive, but is representative of the types of Service programs that may be eligible for Tribal participation through an annual funding agreement.

1. Subsistence Programs within the Title VII terms are met, as well as certain marine mammals. The Service also has a continuing benefit of Tribal consultation to ensure ANILCA. Title VII terms are being met, as well as activities fulfilling the terms of Title VIII of ANILCA.

2. Technical Assistance, Restoration

3. Endangered Species Programs. Conduct activities associated with the conservation and recovery of threatened or endangered species protected under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) or candidate species under the ESA. These activities may include, but are not limited to, cooperative conservation programs, development of recovery plans and implementation of recovery actions for threatened and endangered species, and implementation of status
surveys for high priority candidate species.

4. Education Programs. Provide services in interpretation, outdoor classroom instruction, visitor center operations, and volunteer coordination both on and off national Wildlife Refuge lands in a variety of communities, and assist with environmental education and outreach efforts in local villages.

5. Environmental Contaminants Program. Conduct activities associated with identifying and removing toxic chemicals, to help prevent harm to fish, wildlife and their habitats. The activities required for environmental contaminant management may include, but are not limited to, analysis of pollution data, removal of underground storage tanks, specific cleanup activities, and field data gathering efforts.

6. Wetland and Habitat Conservation Restoration. Provide services for construction, planning, and habitat monitoring and activities associated with conservation and restoration of wetland habitat.

7. Fish Hatchery Operations. Conduct activities to recover aquatic species listed under the Endangered Species Act, restore native aquatic populations, and provide fish to benefit National Wildlife Refuges and Tribes. Such activities may include, but are not limited to: Tagging, rearing and feeding of fish, disease treatment, and clerical or facility maintenance at a fish hatchery.

8. National Wildlife Refuge Operations and Maintenance. Conduct activities to assist the National Wildlife Refuge System, a national network of lands and waters for conservation, management and restoration of fish, wildlife and plant resources and their habitats within the United States. Activities that may be eligible for a self-governance funding agreement may include, but are not limited to: Construction, farming, concessions, maintenance, biological program efforts, habitat management, fire management, and implementation of comprehensive conservation planning.

Locations of Refuges and Hatcheries With Close Proximity to Self-Governance Tribes

The Service developed the list below based on the proximity of identified self-governance Tribes to Service facilities that have components that may be suitable for administering through a self-governance funding agreement.

1. Alaska National Wildlife Refuges—Alaska
2. Alchesay National Fish Hatchery—Arizona
3. Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge—California
4. Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge—Idaho
5. Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge—Minnesota
6. Mille Lacs National Wildlife Refuge—Minnesota
7. Rice Lake National Wildlife Refuge—Minnesota
8. National Bison Range—Montana
10. Pablo National Wildlife Refuge—Montana
11. Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge—Oklahoma
12. Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge—Oklahoma
15. Makah National Fish Hatchery—Washington
17. Quinault National Fish Hatchery—Washington
18. San Juan Islands National Wildlife Refuge—Washington
19. Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge—Wisconsin

For questions regarding self-governance, contact Scott Aikin, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Native American Programs Coordinator, 1211 SE Cardinal Court, Suite 100, Vancouver, Washington 98683, telephone (360) 604–2531 or fax (360) 604–2505.

F. Eligible U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Programs

The mission of the USGS is to collect, analyze, and provide information on biology, geology, hydrology, and geography that contributes to the wise management of the Nation’s natural resources and to the health, safety, and well-being of the American people. This information is usually publicly available and includes maps, data bases, and descriptions and analyses of the water, plants, animals, energy, and mineral resources, land surface, underlying geologic structure, and dynamic processes of the earth. The USGS does not manage lands or resources. Self-governance Tribes may potentially assist the USGS in the data acquisition and analysis components of its activities.


G. Eligible Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (OST) Programs

The Department has responsibility for what may be the largest land trust in the world, approximately 56 million acres. At the beginning of fiscal year 2021, the Bureau of Trust Funds Administration (BTFA) assumed the fiduciary functions previously managed by OST. Established by the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994, OST worked to improve accountability and management of Indian assets through oversight, reform, and coordination of Federal Policy. OST oversees the management of Indian trust assets, including income generated from leasing and other commercial activities on Indian trust lands, by maintaining, investing and disbursing Indian trust financial assets, and reporting on these transactions. The mission of the OST is to serve Indian communities by fulfilling Indian fiduciary trust responsibilities. This is to be accomplished through the implementation of a Comprehensive Trust Management Plan (CTM) that is designed to improve trust beneficiary services, ownership information, management of trust fund assets, and self-governance activities.

A Tribe operating under self-governance may include the following programs, services, functions, and activities or portions thereof in a funding agreement:

1. Beneficiary Processes Program (Individual Indian Money Accounting Technical Functions)

The MOU between the Tribe/Consortium and OST outlines the roles and responsibilities for the performance of the OST program by the Tribe/Consortium. If those roles and responsibilities are already fully specified in the existing funding agreement with the OSG, an MOU is not necessary. To the extent that the parties desire specific program standards, an MOU will be negotiated between the Tribe/Consortium and OST, which will be binding on both parties and attached and incorporated into the OSG funding agreement.

If a Tribe/Consortium decides to assume the operation of an OST program, the new funding for performing that program will come from OST program dollars. A Tribe’s newly-assumed operation of the OST program(s) will be reflected in the Tribe’s OSG funding agreement.

For questions regarding self-governance, contact Lee Frazier, Program Analyst, Office of External Affairs, Office of the Special Trustee for

H. Eligible Appraisal and Valuation Services Office Programs

The Appraisal and Valuation Services Office (AVSO), established on March 19, 2018 by Secretarial Order No. 3363, provides appraisal, valuation, mineral evaluation, and real property consulting expertise to Indian beneficiaries, federal clients and other stakeholders in accordance with the highest professional and ethical standards. AVSO is responsible for all real property appraisal and valuation services within the Department of the Interior as well as conducting mineral economic evaluations to the following bureau clients: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Indian Education, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (now known as the Bureau of Trust Funds Administration), US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service. Within AVSO are four land valuation divisions; Indian Trust Property Valuation Division, Land Buy-Back Program Valuation Division, Division of Minerals Evaluation and Federal Land Division.

The MOU between the Tribe/Consortium and AVSO outlines the roles and responsibilities for the performance of the AVSO program by the Tribe/Consortium. An MOU will be negotiated between the Tribe/Consortium and AVSO, which will be binding on both parties and incorporated into the OSG funding agreement.

If a Tribe/Consortium decides to assume the operation of an AVSO program, the new funding for performing that program will come from AVSO program dollars. A Tribe’s newly-assumed operation of an AVSO program will be reflected in the Tribe’s OSG funding agreement.

For questions regarding the assumption of an AVSO program under self-governance, contact Eldred F. Lesansee, Associate Deputy Director, Appraisal and Valuation Services Office, 4400 Masthead Street NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109, (505) 816—1318, fax (505) 816—3129.

IV. Programmatic Targets

The programmatic target for Fiscal Year 2022 provides that, upon request of a self-governance Tribe, each non-BIA bureau will negotiate funding agreements for its eligible programs beyond those already negotiated.


Deb Haaland,
Secretary.

BILLING CODE 4337–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[NPS–WASO–NRSS–SSB–NPS0033118; PPWONRANDE2, PMP00E105.YP0000; OMB Control Number 1024–0224]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Programmatic Clearance for NPS-Sponsored Public Surveys

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we, the National Park Service (NPS) are proposing to renew an information collection with revisions.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before April 11, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and suggestions on the information collection requirements should be submitted by the date specified above in DATES to http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. Please provide a copy of your comments to the NPS Information Collection Clearance Officer (ADIR–ICCO), 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, (MS–242) Rston, VA 20191 (mail); or phadrea_ponds@nps.gov (email). Please include “1024–0224” in the subject line of your comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request additional information about this ICR by mail, contact Bret Meldrum, Chief, Social Science Program National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80525; or by email at bret_meldrum@nps.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 1024–0224 in the subject line of your comments.

Individuals who are hearing or speech impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 1–800–877–8339 for TTY assistance.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, (PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.) and 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), all information collections require approval under the PRA. We may not conduct, or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

As part of our continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burdens, we invite the public and other Federal agencies to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public’s reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following:

1. Whether or not the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether or not the information will have practical utility.

2. The accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this 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.

4. How might the agency 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, e.g., permitting electronic submission of response.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Abstract: The NPS is authorized by the National Park Service Protection, Interpretation, and Research in System (54 U.S.C. 100701) statutes to collect information used to enhance the management and planning of parks and their resources. The NPS Social Science Program (SSP) relies heavily on this generic approval to submit survey requests to OMB in an expedited manner. This process significantly streamlines the information collection process a manner that allows the NPS to submit at least 25 requests per year,