

on the merits of a request using various methods of determination, such as compatibility, funding and other resource availability to ensure adequate protection of refuge resources and the visiting public, etc., before issuing a Special Use Permit. (3) Again, the refuge manager may determine that, in some cases, farming activities are a management tool that may answer the criteria outlined in answer (2) and are compatible with the purpose for which their particular refuge was established.

Comment: We received two comments from ham radio operators that disagreed with the decision by the refuge manager to deny issuance of a permit for the purpose of receiving and broadcasting transmissions. The requestors felt this request was not incompatible with the purposes for which the refuge was established.

Response: The purpose of this notice was to solicit comments on information collection requirements for Special Use Permit applications in the National Wildlife Refuge System. These comments relate not to the purpose of the notice itself, but rather to the compatibility decisionmaking process whereby a refuge manager decides whether or not to allow a public use on a national wildlife refuge. Because these comments are not substantive to the purpose of this notice and this is not the appropriate venue for the commenters to resolve their concerns, we will not address those concerns in this forum.

Comment: We received a comment that suggested that the Special Use Permit application be made available online for potential permittees to download themselves and fill out to cut down on "hard paper" and facilitate electronic issuance of the permits.

Response: We have considered electronic access to and processing of Special Use Permits. However, for the purposes of proper management oversight, control, and enforcement of permit condition violations (e.g., original signature on permit application), and ensuring local conditions are considered as part of each request, we elect at this time to continue with the existing local paper system. However, during this renewal period, we will be studying the feasibility of separating the application from the permit and making the application available online for electronic submission.

The National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 that amends the National Wildlife Refuge Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd–668ee) requires that we authorize economic privileges on any national wildlife refuge by permit only

when the activity will be compatible with and contribute to refuge purposes (50 CFR 29.21). We will provide the permit applications as requested by interested citizens. We will use information provided on the required written forms and verbal explanatory information to ensure that the applicant is eligible for the permit. We make provision in our general refuge regulations for public entry for specialized purposes, including economic activities such as the operation of guiding and other visitor services on refuges by concessionaires or cooperators under the appropriate legal instrument or special use permits (50 CFR 25.41, 25.61, 26.36, 27.71, 27.91, 27.97, 29.1, 29.2, 30.11, 31.2, 31.13, 31.14, 31.16, and 43 CFR 5). These regulations provide the authorities and procedures for allowing permits on refuges outside of Alaska.

We will use this permit to authorize such items as farming operations (haying and grazing, 50 CFR 29.2), beneficial management tools that we use to provide the best habitat possible on some refuges (50 CFR 30.11, 31.14, 31.16), recreational visitor service operations (50 CFR 25.41 and 25.61), commercial filming (50 CFR 27.71), other commercial activities (50 CFR 29.1), research, and other noncommercial activities (50 CFR 26.36). We will issue permits for a specific period as determined by the type and location of the use or visitor service provided.

Title: Special Use Permit Applications on National Wildlife Refuges Outside Alaska.

OMB Control Number: 1018–0102.

Form Number: 3–1383.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion.

Description of Respondents:

Individuals and households; business and other for-profit organizations; nonprofit institutions; farms; and State, local or tribal governments.

Total Annual Responses: 14,150. We have 529 national wildlife refuges and 37 wetland management districts outside the State of Alaska. We anticipate that each unit will authorize approximately 25 permits each year.

Total Annual Burden: 14,150 hours.

Your comments are invited on: (1) Whether or not this collection of information is necessary for us to properly perform our functions, including whether or not this information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of our estimates of burden, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions we use; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information we are proposing to collect; 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, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home addresses from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this clearly at the beginning of your comment. We will not consider anonymous comments. We generally make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

Dated: November 5, 2004.

Hope Grey,

*Information Collection Clearance Officer,
Fish and Wildlife Service.*

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WO–310–1310–PB–24 1A]

OMB Control Number 1004–0196; Information Collection Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has submitted an extension of a currently approved collection to collect the information listed below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*). On February 10, 2003, the BLM published a notice in the **Federal Register** (68 FR 6757) requesting comment on this information collection. The comment period ended on April 11, 2003. The BLM received no comments. You may obtain copies of the collection of information and related forms and explanatory material by contacting the BLM Information Collection Clearance Officer at the telephone number listed below.

The OMB must respond to this request within 60 days but may respond after 30 days. For maximum consideration your comments and suggestions on the requirements should be directed within 30 days to the Office

of Management and Budget, Interior Department Desk Officer (1004-0196), at OMB-OIRA via facsimile to (202) 396-6566 or e-mail to OIRA_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov. Please provide a copy of your comments to the Bureau Information Collection Clearance Officer (WO-630), Bureau of Land Management, Eastern States Office, 7450 Boston Blvd., Springfield, Virginia 22153.

Nature of Comments: We specifically request your comments on the following:

1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper

functioning of the BLM, including whether the information will have practical utility;

2. The accuracy of our estimate of the burden of collecting the information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

3. The quality, utility and clarity of the information we collect; and

4. How to minimize the burden of collecting the information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Title: Oil and Gas Leasing: National Petroleum Reserve, Alaska (NPR) (43

CFR 3130, 3133, 3135, 3137, 3138, 3160).

OMB Control Number: 1004-0196.

Bureau Form Number: Nonform.

Abstract: The BLM uses the information from oil and gas operators and operating rights owners to maintain records or provide information to apply for suspensions of royalty; apply for suspensions of operations; form and maintain unit agreements; and to enter into subsurface storage agreements.

Frequency: Occasional

Description of Respondents: Oil and gas operators and operating rights owners.

ESTIMATED COMPLETION TIME

Information collection (43 CFR)	Requirement	Hours per response	Number of respondents	Total burden hours
3133.4	Royalty reduction	16	1	16
3135.3	Suspension of operations	4	1	4
3135.6	Notification of operations .....	.25	1	.25
3137.23	Unit designation	80	3	240
3137.25	Notification of unit approval	1	3	3
3137.52	Certification for modification	4	1	4
3137.60	Acceptable Bonding .....	.5	3	1.5
3137.61	Change of unit operator .....	.75	2	1.5
3137.70	Certification of unit obligation	2	3	6
3137.71	Certification of continuing development	2	3	6
3137.84	Productivity for a PA	12	2	24
3137.87	Unleased tracts	3	1	3
3137.88	Notification of productivity .....	.5	1	.5
3137.91	Notification of productivity for non-unit well ...	.5	1	.5
3137.92	Production information	1	1	1
3137.112	Lease extension	3	1	3
3137.113	Inability to conduct operations activities	2	2	2
3137.130	Unit termination	1	2	2
3137.135	Impact mitigation	4	3	12
3138.11	Storage agreement	80	1	80
Totals	35	410.25

Annual Responses: 35.

Application Fee Per Response: \$0.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WO-220-1020-PB-24 1A]

Extension of Approved Information Collection OMB Control Number 1004-0041

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will be requesting the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to extend an existing

approval to collect certain information from permittees and lessees on the actual grazing use by their livestock. BLM requires permittees or lessees to submit the required information on Forms 4130-1, 4130-1a, 4130-1b, 43130-3a, 4130-4, and 4130-5 under the regulations at 43 CFR subparts 4110 and 4130.

DATES: You must submit your comments to BLM at the address below on or before January 24, 2005. BLM will not necessarily consider any comments received after the above date.

ADDRESSES: You may mail comments to: Bureau of Land Management, (WO-630), Eastern States Office, 7450 Boston Blvd., Springfield, Virginia 22153.

You may send comments via Internet to: WOCComment@blm.gov. Please include "ATTN 1004-0041" and your name and return address in your Internet message.

You may deliver comments to the Bureau of Land Management, Administrative Record, Room 401, 1620L Street, NW., Washington, DC.

All comments will be available for public review at the L Street address during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.), Monday through Friday except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ken Visser, on (775) 861-6492 (Commercial or FTS). Persons who use a telecommunication device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) on 1-800-877-8330, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to contact Mr. Visser.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Authorizing Grazing Use (43 CFR 4110 and 4130).

OMB Control Number: 1004-0041.

Abstract: This request for OMB approval is intended to cover all