

Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is requesting the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to extend an existing approval to collect certain information from entities desiring a right-of-way across public lands under 43 CFR part 2800 and 43 CFR part 2880. BLM and several other agencies use Form 299, Application for Transportation and Utility System and Facility, to determine whether or not applicants qualify to hold right-of-way grants across public lands and several other purposes.

DATES: You must submit your comments to BLM at the address below on or before October 9, 2001. BLM will not necessarily consider any comments received after the above date.

ADDRESSES: You may mail comments to: Regulatory Affairs Group (630), Bureau of Land Management, Mailstop 401LS, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240.

You may send comments via Internet to: WOCComment@blm.gov. Please include "ATTN: 1004-0189" and your name and return address in your Internet message.

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

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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: You may contact Alzata L. Ransom, Realty Use Group, on (202) 452-7772 (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 Ms. Ransom.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 5 CFR 1320.12(a) requires that we provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning a collection of information to solicit comments on:

(a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper functioning of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(b) The accuracy of our estimates of the information collection burden, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions we use;

(c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and

(d) Ways to minimize the information collection burden 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.

Title XI of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of December 2, 1980, requires that the Departments of Agriculture, Interior, and Transportation use a consolidated form in connection with rights-of-way for transportation and utility. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, the Mineral Leasing Act, and the regulations under 43 CFR part 2800 and 43 CFR part 2880 authorizes BLM to use Form 299. BLM will use Form 299 to collect information to:

- (1) Determine if the applicant qualifies for a right-of-way grant;
- (2) Identify and communicate with the applicant on its right-of-way application;
- (3) Identify the project location;
- (4) Determine and compare existing and proposed land uses; and
- (5) Determine if alternate routes and modes are available to the applicant on the right-of-way application.

Without this information, BLM would not be able to properly administer its right-of-way program.

Based upon BLM experience and recent tabulations of activity, we process approximately 4,900 applications each year. The public reporting information collection burden takes about 2 hours to complete. The estimated number of responses per year is 4,900. The estimated total annual burden is 9,800 hours.

BLM will summarize all responses to this notice and include them in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: July 24, 2001.

Michael H. Schwartz,
BLM Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 01-20026 Filed 8-8-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WO-220-1050-EE-01-24 1A]

OMB Approval Number 1004-0182; Information Collection Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has submitted the proposed collection of information listed below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval under provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*). On December 18, 2000, the

BLM published a notice in the **Federal Register** (65 FR 79117) requesting comments on this proposed collection. The comment period ended on February 16, 2001. The BLM received no comments from the public in response to that notice. You may obtain copies of the proposed collection of information and related forms and explanatory material by contacting the BLM Information Clearance Officer at the telephone number listed below.

The OMB is required to respond to this request within 60 days but may respond after 30 days. For maximum consideration your comments and suggestions on the requirement should be made within 30 days directly to the Office of Management and Budget, Interior Department Desk Officer, (1004-0182), Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Washington, DC 20503. Please provide a copy of your comments to the Bureau Information Clearance Officer (WO-630), 1849 C St., NW., Mail Stop 401LS, Washington, DC 20240.

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 estimates of the information collection burden, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions we use;
3. Ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collected; and
4. Ways to minimize the information collection burden on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or forms of information technology.

Title: Grazing Lease or Permit Application; Reindeer Grazing Permit (43 CFR 4300).

OMB Approval Number: 1004-0182.

Bureau Form Number: Form AK 4201-1, Grazing Lease or Permit Application and Form AK 4132-2, Reindeer Grazing Permit.

Abstract: BLM collects this information from Alaska Native permittees under its Reindeer Grazing Program to assess the compatibility of grazing on the land with multiple-use objectives for the area.

Frequency: Once.

Description of Respondents: Alaska Natives, groups of Alaska Natives, or associations/corporations of Alaska Natives who want to graze reindeers on

public lands in Alaska that are vacant and unappropriated.

Estimated Completion Time: 1 hour and 15 minutes.

Annual Responses: 6.

Filing Fee Response: \$10.

Annual Burden Hours: 7.

Bureau Clearance Officer: Michael Schwartz, (202) 452-5033.

Dated: June 15, 2001.

Michael H. Schwartz,

BLM Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 01-20025 Filed 8-8-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-059-1610-DO-018E]

Public Lands in the Dillon Field Office, Beaverhead and Madison Counties, MT

AGENCY: Dillon Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, Dillon, Montana, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a Resource Management Plan (RMP) and associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for public lands in the Dillon Field Office, Beaverhead and Madison Counties, Montana.

SUMMARY: This document provides notice that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) intends to prepare a RMP and associated EIS under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The plan will provide a framework to guide subsequent management decisions on approximately 902,528 acres of public land and 1,305,504 acres of subsurface mineral estate administered by the BLM in Madison and Beaverhead Counties. However, 59,287 acres of public land located immediately south of the Big Hole River in Beaverhead County will not be included in this planning effort. This land is administered by the BLM Butte Field Office and will be considered in future planning efforts for that area.

The RMP will establish desired conditions for the public lands covered by the plan and identify appropriate public land uses for a number of resource values and programs. A wide range of alternatives will be considered in developing the plan, which will take into account local, regional, and national needs and concerns. This notice also initiates the public scoping process to examine issues and develop planning criteria to guide the planning process. Nominations for Areas of

Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) may also be submitted during the comment period.

DATES: The scoping comment period will commence with the publication of this notice. Formal scoping will end October 9, 2001. Comments on issues, planning criteria, and special area nominations should be received on or before the end of the scoping period.

ADDRESSES: For further information and/or to have your name added to the mailing list, contact Renee Johnson, RMP Project Leader, Bureau of Land Management, Dillon Field Office, 1005 Selway Drive, Dillon, Montana; Telephone 406-683-8016; Fax 406-683-2970. Comments should be sent to the above address or may be sent by electronic mail (e-mail) to MT_Dillon_RMP@blm.gov. Comments submitted during this planning process, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Dillon Field Office during regular business hours 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or address from public review or disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The RMP to be prepared for the public lands administered by the Dillon Field Office will identify goals, objectives, standards and guidelines for management of a variety of resources and values. The plan will specify actions, constraints, and general management practices necessary to achieve desired conditions. The plan will also identify any areas requiring special management such as ACECs. The scope of the RMP will be comprehensive. Certain existing standards and guidelines and other BLM plans will be incorporated into the RMP such as Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing as set out by the Western Montana Resource Advisory Council (RAC), policies and strategies outlined in the Montana Weed Management Plan, the Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review, the Centennial Travel Management Plan which covers BLM land in the southern portion of the

Centennial Valley in Beaverhead County, and the Montana/Dakotas Statewide Fire Management Plan and associated Dillon Fire Management Plan update, once completed. The planning process will also analyze and incorporate information previously compiled on oil and gas leasing.

This notice provides the public an opportunity to suggest issues, concerns, needs, and resource use, development and protection opportunities for consideration in preparation of the plan. A number of decisions related to various resource values and programs will be made as a result of this planning effort. The major issues identified to date include (1) Management of vegetation, especially sagebrush-steppe habitats; (2) watershed management especially regarding water quality, fishery values and riparian areas; (3) management of areas with special values; (4) conservation and recovery of special status species; (5) travel management and access to public lands; (6) availability and management of public lands for commercial uses; and (7) land tenure adjustments. In addition to the major issues, a number of management questions and concerns will be addressed in the plan. Issues and management concerns may be identified by interested parties during the scoping phase. After gathering public comments on what issues the plan should address, the suggested issues will be placed in one of three categories: (1) Issues to be resolved in the plan; (2) issues resolved through policy or administrative action; and (3) issues beyond the scope of the plan. BLM will provide feedback to the public on the final issues to be addressed in the plan. An interdisciplinary approach will be used to develop the plan in order to consider the variety of resource issues and concerns identified. Disciplines involved in the planning process will include specialists with expertise in rangeland management, minerals and geology, forestry, outdoor recreation, archaeology, paleontology, wildlife and fisheries, lands and realty, hydrology, soils, sociology and economics.

The following planning criteria have been proposed to guide development of the plan, to avoid unnecessary data collection and analyses, and to ensure the plan is tailored to the issues. Other criteria may be identified during the public scoping process. After gathering comments on planning criteria, BLM will finalize the criteria and provide feedback to the public on the criteria to be used throughout the planning process.

- The RMP will comply with applicable Federal laws and regulations.