

or revised management goals. In such cases, the Services will work with the licensee to the extent possible to develop measures necessary to adapt the existing fishway to meet the passage needs of the plan's target resources before prescribing new facilities, structures, devices, operations, or measures. For all of these and other similar circumstances, the Services will meet with the licensee and other interested parties to identify the need for and specific type of modification required. The fishway prescription process is initiated post-licensing (i.e., when new information is available or when there is a license amendment), by the Services' filing a motion with FERC, with copies to the licensee and interested entities. The motion may be made pursuant to a reservation of authority, standard reopener, or license amendment proceeding. In all other respects, the prescription process is the same during both the pre- and the post-licensing periods.

VII. Intervention in the FERC Process

FERC's regulations allow any participant with a demonstrable interest in a licensing, post-licensing, or amendment proceeding to file a motion to intervene, and to seek status as a party to the licensing proceeding. In order to preserve their ability to fully participate in the process and to appeal any adverse final licensing decision, the Services should file a timely intervention in all proceedings in which they have an interest, in accordance with FERC's regulations and applicable Departmental procedures. However, party status is not required for the Services to provide fish passage prescriptions.

VIII. Relationship to the Endangered Species Act

This policy is intended to guide the Services in the exercise of their authorities under section 18 of the FPA. The requirements for conserving threatened and endangered species are separately set forth in the ESA and implementing regulations at 50 CFR part 402. Where fish passage for both listed and nonlisted species is involved, Services' personnel will fully coordinate fish passage efforts with endangered species efforts to provide consistent and unified fishway prescriptions for the safe, timely, and effective passage of fish. Fishway prescription formulation should be fully integrated with the ESA section 7 consultation process in FERC's licensing or during the license term.

IX. National Environmental Policy Act Compliance

The Services provide preliminary prescriptions to FERC for inclusion in FERC's NEPA analysis of the proposed project. This allows the prescriptions to be analyzed in the context of the entire project. After FERC completes the NEPA analysis, the Services then modify the prescriptions if necessary, based on the NEPA analysis, and provide them to FERC for inclusion in the final NEPA document and in the license.

X. Scope of the Policy

This policy applies to all activities of the Services related to the prescription of fishways at non-Federal hydroelectric projects licensed by FERC pursuant to the FPA. It does not expand the authorities of the Departments or the Services beyond those that currently exist and does not place additional requirements on anyone outside the Departments beyond those that already exist in the FPA and FERC's regulations at 18 CFR, Chapter I. This policy provides guidance for Services' personnel, but allows variations appropriate to individual circumstances.

XI. Authority for This Policy

The authority for this policy is section 18 of the Federal Power Act, (16 U.S.C. 811).

Dated: November 20, 2000.

Jamie Rappaport Clark,

*Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
Department of the Interior.*

Dated: December 18, 2000.

Penelope Dalton,

*Assistant Administrator for Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 00-32723 Filed 12-21-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODES 3510-22-S; 4310-55-S

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Availability of Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Summary for Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge, Hartford, KS

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Refuge Improvement Act of 1997, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has published the Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Summary. This Plan describes how the

FWS intends to manage the Flint Hills NWR for the next 10-15 years.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the Plan or Summary may be obtained by writing to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Flint Hills NWR, P.O. Box 128, Hartford, KS 66854 or download from <http://www.r6.fws.gov/larp/>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jerre Gamble, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Flint Hills NWR, P.O. Box 128, Hartford, KS 66854; 316/392-5553.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge straddles the Neosho River in eastern Kansas. The area is dominated by complex resource management issues revolving around the flood control function of John Redmond Reservoir. Activities associated with agriculture, flood control, and public recreation have placed increasing demands on the landscape and identified the need for more responsible utilization of land and water resources that support the remaining native ecosystem components.

Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge will continue to conserve habitat for the diverse array of native plants and animals that rely upon the resources of the Refuge for survival. This Plan describes the conservation activities that the Fish and Wildlife Service intends to carry out on Flint Hills NWR.

Dated: December 18, 2000.

Ralph O. Morgenweck,

Regional Director, Denver, Colorado.

[FR Doc. 00-32759 Filed 12-21-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WO-09310-091310-09PB-0901-0924 1A]

Extension of Approved Information Collection, OMB Approval Number 1004-090160

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) announces its intention to request extension of an existing approval to collect certain information from lessees who submit a Geothermal Leasing Report. BLM uses the information to determine if a lessee qualifies for a lease extension. The implementing regulations are found at (43 CFR 3208).

DATES: You must submit your comments to BLM at the appropriate address below on or before February 20, 2001. BLM will not necessarily consider any comments received after the above date.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to: Regulatory Affairs Group (630), Bureau of Land Management, 1849 C Street NW., Room 401LS, Washington, DC 20240.

Comments may be sent via Internet to: WOCComment@blm.gov. Please include "ATTN: 1004-0160" and your name and return address in your Internet message.

Comments may be hand-delivered 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 Barbara Gamble on (202) 452-0338 (Commercial or FTS). Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8330, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to contact Ms. Gamble.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 5 CFR 1320.12(a) requires BLM to provide 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning a collection of information contained in regulations in 43 CFR 3208 to solicit comments on (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) 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. BLM will receive and analyze any comments sent in response to this notice and include them with its request for approval from the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

The Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1001-1025) authorized the Secretary of the Interior to issue leases for geothermal development. The Geothermal Steam Act Amendments of 1988 (Pub. L. 100-443) supplemented and amended the Geothermal Steam Act

of 1970. BLM requires geothermal lessees to submit additional information under this law. The legislation allows for lease extensions when the Secretary of the Interior determines a lessee made a substantial investment to develop the geothermal resources. It will also allow leases to continue beyond the primary terms if there are wells capable of producing geothermal resources. The regulations at 43 CFR 3208 specifically address extended lease terms.

Lessees may request a lease extension beyond the primary term by: drilling, diligent efforts, production of byproducts, and unit commitment. Lessees provide the required information in a report to BLM. BLM uses the information to determine if a lessee qualifies to extend their lease.

Based on BLM's experience administering the activities described above, we estimate the public reporting burden for the information collected to average two (2) hours per response. The respondents include individuals, small businesses, and large corporations. The frequency of response is annual. The estimated number of responses per year is 75. The estimated total annual burden is 150 hours. BLM specifically requests your comments on its estimate of the amount of time that it takes to prepare a response.

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

Dated: December 18, 2000.

Michael Schwartz,

BLM Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-32655 Filed 12-21-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-84-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WO-310-1310-PB-01-241A]

Extension of Approved Information Collection, OMB Approval Number 1004-0034

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) announces its intention to request extension of an existing approval to collect certain information from those persons who wish to transfer interest in oil and gas or geothermal leases by

assignment of record title or transfer operating rights (sublease) in oil and gas or geothermal leases under the terms of the mineral leasing laws. The implementing regulations are found at (43 CFR 3106, 3135, and 3216).

DATES: You must submit your comments to BLM at the appropriate address below on or before February 20, 2001. BLM will not necessarily consider any comments received after the above date.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to: Regulatory Affairs Group (630), Bureau of Land Management, 1849 C Street NW., Room 401LS, Washington, DC 20240.

Comments may be sent via Internet to: WOCComments@blm.gov. Please include "ATTN: 1004-0034" and your name and return address in your Internet message.

Comments may be hand-delivered 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), Monday through Friday.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: You may contact Barbara Gamble on (202) 452-0338 (Commercial or FTS). Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8330, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to contact Ms. Gamble.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 5 CFR 1320.12(a) requires BLM to provide 60-day notice in the **FEDERAL REGISTER** concerning a collection of information contained in regulations in 43 CFR 3106, 3135, and 3216 to solicit comments on (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) 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. BLM will receive and analyze any comments sent in response to this notice and include them with its request for approval from the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3510 *et seq.*