

- Alternative 3—First Alternative to the Proposed Action
- Alternative 4—Second Alternative to the Proposed Action

Responsible Official

Ian Reid, District Ranger, North Fork John Day Ranger District will be the responsible official for making the decision and providing direction for the analysis.

Nature of Decision To Be Made

The responsible official will decide whether or not to authorize the proposal.

Preliminary Issues

The Forest Service has identified seven issues from previous scoping:

- Issue 1: Large scale landscape burning may have a negative impact on air quality.
- Issue 2: The prescribed fire treatment proposed in Moist and Cold upland forests (UF) is not appropriate for these Potential Vegetation Groups (PVGs) and associated biophysical environments. These PVGs historically burned at mixed (primarily Moist UF) and high (primarily Cold UF and some Moist UF) severity at the hottest and driest time of the year. Impacts of prescribed burning in the late summer and fall to Moist and Cold UF stands would not be characteristic of these PVGs; as a result, impacts to nutrient cycling, dead wood recruitment, vegetative succession, wildlife species, etc., would also be uncharacteristic.
- Issue 3: Prescribed fire treatments in the Wilderness may have a negative impact on Wilderness characteristics.
- Issue 4: Mechanical treatments need to be prescribed in a manner which maximizes economic benefits.
- Issue 5: Some proposed treatments may be a threat to forest investments such as white pine plantations and Subalpine fir stands.
- Issue 6: Treatment under the Proposed Action would impact the quality of forested stands that provide connectivity between late and old structure and Forest Plan designated old growth habitat at the analysis area and larger landscape scale; treated (mechanical and prescribed fire) connectivity habitat would not meet Forest Plan standards following implementation. The treatment activities would affect the ability of wildlife to move freely between late and old structure and designated old growth stands, and may ultimately impact population levels and the viability of species dependent on old forest habitat.

ADDRESSES: Andrew Stinchfield, Project Manager, P.O. Box 158, Ukiah, OR 97880.

Dated: February 22, 2016.

Ian Reid,

District Ranger.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; Comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Business-Cooperative Service's intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the program for 7 CFR part 4284, subpart F. More specifically, 310B (e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932).

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by May 9, 2016 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Deputy Administrator, Cooperative Programs, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., STOP 3250, Washington, DC 20250, Telephone: 202-720-7558.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Socially Disadvantaged Groups Grant.

OMB Number: 0570-0052.

Expiration Date of Approval: August 31, 2016.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The purpose of this information collection is to obtain information necessary to evaluate grant applications to determine the eligibility of the applicant and the project for the program and to qualitatively assess the project to determine which projects should be funded.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.4 hours per response.

Respondents: Provide technical assistance to socially-disadvantaged groups through eligible cooperatives and cooperative development centers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 60.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 6.6.

Estimated Number of Responses: 400.
Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 575 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Jeanne Jacobs, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Support Services Division at (202) 692-0040.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Rural Business-Cooperative Service's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including 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.

Comments may be sent to Jeanne Jacobs, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Support Services Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, STOP 0742, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0742.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: February 25, 2016.

William C. Smith,

Acting Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

[FR Doc. 2016-05057 Filed 3-7-16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

ACTION: Proposed collection; Comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Business-Cooperative Service's (RBS) intention to