

- 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.

[FR Doc. 2016-04303 Filed 3-7-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

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]

BILLING CODE 3410-XY-P

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

request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the program for Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

David Lewis, Business and Industry Loan Servicing Branch, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Rural Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 3224, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-3224, telephone (202) 690-0797, or by email to david.lewis@wdc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title:* Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan Servicing.

OMB Number: 0570-0016.

Expiration Date of Approval: February 29, 2016.

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

Abstract: The purpose of the Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan Program is to improve, develop, or finance business, industry, and employment and to improve the economic and environmental climate in rural communities. This purpose is achieved by bolstering the existing private credit structure through the guarantee of quality loans which will provide lasting community benefits. The information requested is necessary and vital in order for the Agency to make prudent credit and financial decisions.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .85 hours per response.

Respondents: 4,126.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 4,126.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Number of Responses: 25,807.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 22,246.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Kimble Brown, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, at (202) 692-0043.

Comments: Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of RBS, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of RBS's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information 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. Comments may be sent to Kimble Brown, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Rural Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 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 22, 2016.

William C. Smith,

Acting Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

[FR Doc. 2016-05056 Filed 3-7-16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501, as amended), this notice announces the Rural Housing Service's intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the Single Family Housing Direct Loans and Grants programs. The collection involves the use of Form RD 410-8 "Applicant Reference Letter." The form will be used to obtain information about an applicant's credit history that might not appear on a credit report and to provide clarification on the promptness of applicant's payments on debts which enables Rural Housing Service to make better creditworthiness decisions.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Antonio Burkett, Loan Specialist, Single Family Housing, Rural Housing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Mail STOP 0783, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250-0783. Phone number: 202-205-3656; fax number: (1) 844-496-7797. Email: antonio.burkett@wdc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Form RD 410-8, "Applicant Reference Letter".

OMB Number: 0575-0091.

Expiration Date of Approval: August 31, 2016.

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

Abstract: The Rural housing Service (RHS) must, by law, make available to the applicant, upon request, the source of information used to make an adverse decision. Individual references may be solicited with the clear understanding that if the information is used to deny credit the information will be made available to the applicant upon request. Without this information, the Agency is unable to determine if a customer would qualify for services.

The burden this form will be accounted for within the individual RD program collection packages using the form. Therefore RD is requesting approval for one respondent and a one hour place holder in order for OMB to issue a control number for this form.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response.

Respondents: Individuals and businesses already extending credit/financing to Section 502 and 504 applicants.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Number of Responses: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 1.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Kimble Brown, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, at (202) 692-0043.

Comments

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