This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

March 17, 2017.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Public Law 104–13. Comments are requested regarding (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; 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.

Comments regarding this information collection received by April 21, 2017 will be considered. Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725—17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20502. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395–5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250–7602. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720–8958.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Risk Management Agency

Title: Area Risk Protection Insurance. OMB Control Number: 0563–0083.

Summary of Collection: The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) is a wholly-owned Government corporation created February 16, 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1501). The program was amended previously, but Public Law 96–365, dated September 26, 1980, provided for nationwide expansion of a comprehensive crop insurance program. The Federal Crop Insurance Act, as amended in later years further expanded this role of the crop insurance program to be the principal tool for risk management by producers of agricultural commodities. Barley, corn, cotton, forage production, grain sorghum, soybeans, oysters, popcorn, rice and wheat are crops insured under the Area Risk Protection Insurance (ARPI) policy.

Need and Use of the Information: ARPI includes three separate plans of insurance: (1) Area Revenue Protection which protects against price declines and automatically includes Upside Harvest Price Protection (UHPP) which protects against price increases; (2) ARP with the Harvest Price Exclusion, which excludes UHPP and protects against price declines but not against price increases; and (3) Area Yield Protection which only protects against loss of yield.

Using a wide range of data elements producers are required to report specific data when they apply for ARPI such as acreage and yields. Insurance companies accept applications; issue policies; establish and provide insurance coverage; compute liability, premium, subsidies, and losses; indemnify producers; and report specific data to FCIC as required in Appendix III/M13 Handbook.

If producers and insurance companies did not submit the required data at the specified time, accurate liabilities, premium, and subsidies may not be determined, errors may not be resolved timely, producers may not receive accurate indemnities, payments may be late, crop insurance may not be actuarially sound as mandated by the Act.


Risk Management Agency

Title: Subpart U-Ineligibility for Programs under the Federal Crop Insurance Act. OMB Control Number: 0563–0085.

Summary of Collection: The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) is a wholly-owned Government corporation created February 16, 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1501). The program was amended previously, but Public Law 96–365, dated September 26, 1980, provided for nationwide expansion of a comprehensive crop insurance program. The Federal Crop Insurance Act, as amended in later years further expanded this role of the crop insurance program to be the principal tool for risk management by producers of agricultural commodities.

Need and Use of the Information: The purpose of collecting the information is to ensure persons that are ineligible for benefits under the Federal crop insurance program are accurately identified as such and do not obtain benefits to which they are not eligible. Person can become ineligible for benefits for three reasons: (1) Debt on unpaid premium or overpaid indemnity (information provided by AIP); (2) Debt on unpaid CAT fee (information provided by AIP); and (3) Debarment/disqualification/suspension, including but not limited to judgement, civil fines, etc. The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation and AIPs use the information collected to determine whether person seeking to obtain Federal crop insurance coverage are ineligible for such coverage according to the statutory/regulatory mandates identified.

Description of Respondents: Business, or other for profit. Number of Respondents: 18. Frequency of Responses: Monthly, quarterly, on occasion.
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Information Collection; Interagency Generic Clearance for Federal Land Management Agencies Collaborative Visitor Feedback Surveys on Recreation and Transportation Related Programs and Systems

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Forest Service is seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on the renewal of an information collection, Federal Land Management Agencies (FLMAs) and/or FLMA Research Station units need to acquire direct visitor and authorized user feedback about site- or area-specific services, facilities, road and/or travel systems, needs, programs, demographics, management of FLMA lands, and/or other quantitative information on FLMA lands in cross-jurisdictional landscapes. FLMAs include, but are not limited to: USDA-Forest Service; National Park Service; Bureau of Land Management; US Fish & Wildlife Service; US Geological Survey; US Army Corp of Engineers; Presidio Trust and Bureau of Reclamation. This direct feedback is vital to establish and/or revise goals and objectives for FLMA recreation-related transportation system programs to and within FLMA recreation sites/opportunities, to inform land management plans, and to facilitate interagency coordination across multifunctional landscapes, which will better meet the needs of the public and the resources under FLMA management.

The benefits of an FLMA interagency generic Information Collection (IC) would include significant public and agency time and cost savings. If multiple FLMAs in an area or landscape work jointly on one quantitative visitor feedback information collection under a generic clearance from OMB, there would be significant savings in government time and costs related to survey development and OMB survey approval, as well as savings in the costs of survey administration and data processing. In particular, the public burden would be diminished as the public would only need to respond to one jointly-sponsored survey, instead of to multiple similar surveys at multiple units in an area.

Under the following authorities, the participating FLMAs are obligated to actively solicit public input to improve public lands management to better serve the public:

1. Forest Service Administration
3. Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources and Planning Act of 1974 [Pub. L. 93–378 § 3(2,3)] as amended;
6. Executive Order 12862 of September 11, 1993;
7. Executive Order 13571 of April 27, 2010;
8. Executive Act 12996 of March 25, 1996;
10. National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act;
12. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976;
13. General Survey Act of 1824; and

Survey respondents would include visitors and potential visitors to FLMA units or subunits, and residents of communities in or near FLMA units. Since many of the FLMA surveys are similar in terms of the populations being surveyed, the types of questions being asked, the research methodologies being used, and the database structures and data being utilized, the FLMAs propose a generic Interagency Information Collections clearance from OMB to obtain quantitative and/or qualitative visitor/user feedback utilizing collection mechanisms such as surveys, focus groups, and/or interviews.

Information collection could occur at one location, several locations, across FLMA units, across regions, across the nation, and could be multifunctional at any of these levels. Information collection activities could occur once, could occur as iterative collections over a limited period of time, or could occur over long periods of time at some periodic, planned time interval. Direct visitor feedback could be collected through facilitated focus groups or through surveys or individual interviews (qualitative or quantitative), with either electronically-recorded or hand-written responses, via mail-back, or via internet, apps, or social media electronic surveys (e.g., Quick Response (QR) codes on Smartphones). Survey or interview information could be collected at pertinent site(s) or access point(s) as visitors arrive or complete their visit(s) or are in the midst of their activities; and could be collected pre- or post-visit.

In general, questions will relate to visitor experience at one or more