

# Notices

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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

### Forest Service

#### McKelvie Geographic Area Rangeland Allotment Management Plans on National Forest System Lands on the Samuel R. McKelvie National Forest, Bessey Ranger District in Nebraska

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Second revised notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** This project would revise Rangeland Allotment Management Plans (RAMP) for all allotments within the McKelvie Geographic Area on the McKelvie National Forest and analyze continuation of grazing within the constraints of the Revised Nebraska Land and Resource Management Plan (NLRMP). A Notice of Intent (NOI) for this project was published May 15, 2006 (71 No. 93 FR 27986). More than six months have elapsed since the projected draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) date in that original NOI. This revised NOI is being issued to update the project schedule.

**DATES:** Comments will be accepted concerning the scope of the analysis and must be received within 30 days after publication of this NOI in the **Federal Register**. The Notice of Availability of the DEIS is expected to be published in the **Federal Register** approximately March 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to: Michael E. Croxen, Interdisciplinary Team Leader, USDA Forest Service, P.O. Box 39, Halsey, Nebraska 69142.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael E. Croxen, Interdisciplinary Team Leader, USDA Forest Service, P.O. Box 39, Halsey, Nebraska 69142. Phone (308) 533-2257.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Purpose and Need for Action:* The purpose of the environmental impact statement is to determine current

conditions, analyze environmental consequences of actions to those conditions, and assist the decision maker in selecting management/monitoring strategies consistent with meeting desired conditions in the NLRMP. The need for the action is to ensure that authorized uses and associated management activities move towards or maintaining desired NLRMP conditions.

*Proposed Action:* The Bessey Ranger District proposes to implement best management practices and activities with adaptive management and monitoring strategies to ensure compliance between current conditions and NLRMP desired conditions on the McKelvie Geographic Area.

*Other Possible Alternatives:* Other possible alternatives that would be considered for analysis include a No-Action Alternative (to not change current permitted uses) and a No-Grazing Alternative (to eliminate any grazing on the project area).

*Issues:* What grazing strategies will maintain or move desired conditions toward NLRMP goals and objectives, and how will these grazing strategies impact permitted livestock grazers (permittees)?

*Responsible Official:* Patricia D. Barney, District Ranger, Bessey Ranger District, P.O. Box 39, Halsey, Nebraska 69142.

*Nature of Decision To Be Made:* The decision to be made is whether or not to continue permitted uses within the McKelvie Geographic Area. If uses are permitted, then adaptive management strategies and monitoring will be identified to ensure compliance with desired NLRMP conditions.

*Public Scoping Process:* Comments and input regarding this proposal were requested from the public, other groups and agencies via direct mailing on May 19, 2006. Additional comments were solicited during a public open house June 6, 2006 held in Valentine, Nebraska. With this revised NOI, comments will be accepted again 30 days from the publication date of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

*Early Notice of Importance of Public Participation in Subsequent Environmental Review:* The DEIS is expected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the EPA will publish a notice of availability for the DEIS in the **Federal**

**Register**. The DEIS is scheduled to be available for public review and comment by approximately March 2009. The comment period on the DEIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA publishes the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**. The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, the reviewers of the draft EIS must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft EIS stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final EIS may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the comment period so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final environmental impact statement.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the draft EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft EIS. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 regarding the specificity of comments.

Comments received, including the names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposal and will be available for public inspection.

(Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7 and 1508.22; Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, Section 21)

Dated: September 30, 2008.

**Patti Barney,**

*District Ranger, Bessey Ranger District,  
Nebraska National Forest.*

[FR Doc. E8-24408 Filed 10-14-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### U.S. Census Bureau

#### **Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) Wave 3 of the 2008 Panel**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Census Bureau.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, written comments must be submitted on or before December 15, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at [dHynek@doc.gov](mailto:dHynek@doc.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Patrick J. Benton, Census Bureau, Room HQ-6H045, Washington, DC 20233-8400, (301) 763-4618.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Abstract**

The Census Bureau conducts the SIPP, which is a household-based survey designed as a continuous series of national panels. New panels are introduced every few years with each panel usually having durations of one to four years. Respondents are interviewed at 4-month intervals or "waves" over the life of the panel. The survey is molded around a central "core" of labor force and income questions that remain fixed throughout the life of the panel. The core is supplemented with questions designed to address specific needs, such as obtaining information on household members' participation in

government programs as well as prior labor force patterns of household members. These supplemental questions are included with the core and are referred to as "topical modules."

The SIPP represents a source of information for a wide variety of topics and allows information for separate topics to be integrated to form a single, unified database so that the interaction between tax, transfer, and other government and private policies can be examined. Government domestic-policy formulators depend heavily upon the SIPP information concerning the distribution of income received directly as money or indirectly as in-kind benefits and the effect of tax and transfer programs on this distribution. They also need improved and expanded data on the income and general economic and financial situation of the U.S. population. The SIPP has provided this data on a continuing basis since 1983 permitting levels of economic well-being and changes in these levels to be measured over time.

The 2008 panel is currently scheduled for 4 years and will include 13 waves of interviewing beginning September 2008. Approximately 65,300 households were selected for the 2008 panel, of which, 45,000 households are expected to be interviewed. We estimate that each household contains 2.1 people, yielding 94,500 person-level interviews in Wave 1 and subsequent waves. The interviews take 30 minutes on average. Three waves will occur in the 2008 SIPP Panel during FY 2009. The total annual burden for 2008 Panel SIPP interviews would be 141,750 hours in FY 2009.

The topical modules for the 2008 Panel Wave 3 collect information about:

- Welfare Reform
- Retirement and Pension Plan Coverage

Wave 3 interviews will be conducted from May 2009 through August 2009.

A 10-minute reinterview of 3,100 people is conducted at each wave to ensure accuracy of responses. The reinterviews would require an additional 1,553 burden hours in FY 2009.

##### **II. Method of Collection**

The SIPP is designed as a continuing series of national panels of interviewed households that are introduced every few years with each panel having durations of 1 to 4 years. All household members 15 years old or over are interviewed using regular proxy-respondent rules. During the 2008 panel, respondents are interviewed a total of 13 times (13 waves) at 4-month

intervals making the SIPP a longitudinal survey. Sample people (all household members present at the time of the first interview) who move within the country and reasonably close to a SIPP primary sampling unit will be followed and interviewed at their new address. Individuals 15 years old or over who enter the household after Wave 1 will be interviewed; however, if these individuals move, they are not followed unless they happen to move along with a Wave 1 sample individual.

##### **III. Data**

*OMB Control Number:* 0607-0944.

*Form Number:* SIPP/CAPI Automated Instrument.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 94,500 people per wave.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 30 minutes per person.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 143,303.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost:* \$0.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

*Legal Authority:* Title 13, United States Code, Section 182.

##### **IV. Request for Comments**

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (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 respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: October 8, 2008.

**Gwellnar Banks,**

*Management Analyst, Office of the Chief  
Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. E8-24351 Filed 10-14-08; 8:45 am]

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