

10. University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Dr. James Cook, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, 9201 University City Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28223, (704) 547-4758. Grant: \$400,000.

Midwest

11. Wright State University, Dr. Jack Dustin, Wright State University, Center for Public and Urban Affairs, 177 Millett Hall, 3640 Col. Glenn Highway, Dayton, OH 45435, (937) 775-2285. Grant: \$399,963.

12. University of Minnesota, Dr. Fred Smith, University of Minnesota, 330 Humphrey Center, Minneapolis, MN 55455, (612) 625-0508. Grant: \$399,157.

13. Illinois Institute of Technology, Dr. Leroy Kennedy, Illinois Institute of Technology, 10 W. 33rd Street, Suite 223, Chicago, IL 60616, (312) 567-8851. Grant: \$394,618.

14. University of Illinois at Springfield, Professor Larry Golden, University of Illinois at Springfield, P.O. Box 19243, Springfield, IL 62794, (217) 206-6646. Grant: \$399,880.

Great Plains

15. Iowa State University, Dr. Riad Mahayni, Iowa State University, Community and Regional Planning Department, 126 College of Design, Ames, IA 50011, (515) 294-8958. Grant: \$399,889.

Southwest

16. University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Ms. Joni Lee, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 2801 South University Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72204, (501) 569-3186. Grant: \$396,348.

Rocky Mountains

17. University of Colorado at Denver, Dr. Frank Ford, University of Colorado at Denver, 535 16th Street, Suite 320, Denver, CO 80202, (303) 620-4668. Grant: 399,718.

Northwest/Alaska

18. University of Alaska Anchorage, Ms. Heather Flynn, University of Alaska Anchorage, 3401 Minnesota Drive, Anchorage, AK 99503, (907) 276-6007. Grant: \$359,045.

Dated: October 9, 1998.

Xavier de Souza Briggs,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Research, Evaluation, and Monitoring.

[FR Doc. 98-28127 Filed 10-19-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-62-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WO-220-1020-24-1A]

Extension of Approved Information Collection, OMB Number 1004-0005

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paper Reduction Act of 1995, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is announcing its intention to request approval to collect certain information from individuals applying for an annual authorization for grazing or to amend grazing use authorized under a previously approved grazing permits or leases. It provides grazing applicants an opportunity to request changes for the coming grazing season, changes during the grazing year, and to apply for temporary non-renewable grazing where excess forage exists. The information contained on the form provides essential information for the authorized officer to consider prior to approving or rejecting the grazing application. Upon approval, the grazing fee is computed and the grazing fee bill is transmitted. The bill also provides the grazing use authorization, effective upon payment of fees due, including grazing use schedules for rangeland areas, numbers of livestock, kind of or class of livestock, periods of use, animal unit months of forage and applicable terms and conditions for grazing use on each grazing allotment.

DATES: Comments on the proposed information collection must be received by December 21, 1998 to be considered.

ADDRESSES: If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments by one of several methods. You may mail to Bureau of Land Management, Administrative Record, Room 401LS, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240. You may also comment via the Internet to WOComment@wo.blm.gov. Please submit comments as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Please also include "Attn: 1004-0005" and your name and return address in your Internet message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the system that we have received your Internet message, contact us directly on (202) 452-5030.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at this address during regular business hours

(7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.), Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Finally, you may hand-deliver comments to BLM at 1620 L Street, NW., Room 401, Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George Ramey, Bureau of Land Management, Mail Stop 401LS, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240; telephone (202) 452-7747 (Commercial or FTS).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with 5 CFR 1320.12(a), the BLM is required to provide 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning a proposed collection of information to solicit comments on:

1. Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the BLM, including whether the information will have practical utility;

2. The accuracy of BLM's estimate of the burden of collecting the information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

3. The quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

4. How to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, 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 under 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.* from the Office of Management and Budget.

The Taylor Grazing Act (TGA) of 1934 (43 U.S.C. 315, 315 *et seq.*) and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*) provide the authority for the Bureau of Land Management to administer the livestock grazing program consistent with land-use plans, multiple-use objectives, sustained yield, environmental values, economic considerations, and other factors. Authorizing livestock use on the public lands is an important and integral part of program administration. Regulations in 43 CFR 4130.1 and 4130.4 provide for the timely filing of applications for grazing permits or leases, free-use grazing permits, and other grazing authorizations with the appropriate BLM office.

The information provided by the permittees and lessees is used by the BLM to authorize livestock grazing use on the public lands, and to amend annual authorizations levels. The information requested includes the name and number of the grazing

allotment to verify the authorized location, the number of livestock and records of use for billing purposes, recorded brands to verify ownership, and reasons for any nonuse. The information on the form is used by the BLM authorized officer to determine if the applied for use is within the permittees' or lessees' preference (permitted level of use), to determine if the applied for use would be consistent with multiple-use objectives, and develops appropriate terms and conditions and makes the authorization according to 43 CFR 4130.3-1 and 4130.3-2. The authorized officer may deny the requested grazing use or a change in the annual grazing schedules by issuing a decision which includes a right of protest and administrative appeal. The grazing authorization remains in effect during the "grazing fee year". Without this information, the BLM would not be able to assure proper administration of the use of the public lands as required by law and would result in unauthorized use, improper billings, and nonpayment of fees due the Federal Government.

After the authorization is approved, the billing is then computer generated with the applicant's name, address, stated qualifications, and mailed to the grazing permittee or lessee.

The information required by law is only available from the applicants and uses information already available for the purpose identified. Since grazing on the unreserved public lands is administered only by the BLM, there is no duplication of information collections.

The BLM Form 4130.1 was designed to request only basic information required to administer the grazing authorization process. The majority of the information is contained in the applicant's ownership documents, previously approved grazing permit, or lease and displayed on Form 4130-3a. The data contained in columns 7, 8, 9 and 10 of Form 4130-1 are computer generated; therefore, the burden is minimized for all respondents.

The information requested by the form is subject to change from 1 grazing year to another and is necessary for annual collection of grazing fees. For example, a permittee may choose to graze less livestock than scheduled during the year and amend the authorized use to take nonuse. There is no opportunity to conduct the collection less frequently and collect user fees as required by law.

This information collection is consistent with guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.6 without which the BLM would not be able to administer the Public

Land Laws. There are no assurances of confidentiality but the Privacy Act Notice is provided to inform the applicants of the uses to be made.

The annual cost to the Government is estimated to be \$120,000 based on \$10,000 for forms and processing and \$110,000 to review returned applications at \$20 per hour. Annual costs to the respondents is estimated at \$40,000 based on \$20 per hour to prepare the forms.

The respondents spend an average of 20 minutes (0.333 hours) to review, check records, make changes and sign, resulting in 2,000 burden hours based on approximately 6,000 forms that are submitted for BLM's consideration annually. Response time has been estimated from those respondents who have completed the form in the presence of BLM employees.

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

Dated: October 8, 1998.

Shirlean Beshir,

*Acting Bureau of Land Management
Information Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-27997 Filed 10-19-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-84-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-015-98-1610-00: GP9-004]

Emergency Closure of Public Lands to Firewood Gathering and Cutting

AGENCY: Lakeview District, Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Emergency closure of public lands to firewood gathering and cutting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that effective immediately all public lands in the Lost Forest/Sand Dunes Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), Lake County, Oregon, as legally described below are closed to all firewood gathering and cutting:

T. 25 S., R. 19 E., W. M., Oregon
Sec. 25: (South of BLM Road 6141-1-00);
Sec. 26, SE $\frac{1}{4}$; Sec. 34: All, Except the
N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$; Sec. 35: All, Except SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$
E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$; Sec. 36: NE $\frac{1}{4}$, and the NE $\frac{1}{4}$
SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

T. 25 S., R. 20 E., W. M., Oregon
Sec. 20: S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$; Sec. 21:
S $\frac{1}{2}$; Sec. 22: S $\frac{1}{2}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$; Sec.
23: All; Sec. 24: (South and West of BLM
Road 6121-0-00); Secs. 25, 26, 27, 28,
29, 30: All; Sec. 31: All, Except Lot 4;
Secs. 32, 33, 34, 35, 36: All.

T. 25 S., R. 21 E., W. M., Oregon

Sec. 19, 30, and 31: (South and West of
BLM Road 6121-0-00).

T. 26 S., R. 19 E., W. M., Oregon
Sec. 1: All, Except Lots 4 and 5; Sec. 2: All;
Sec. 3: Lots 1, 2, and 3, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$
SW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$; Sec. 7: S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$
SE $\frac{1}{4}$; Sec. 8: All, Except the N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$;
Sec. 9: All, Except the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$
NW $\frac{1}{4}$; Secs. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and
17: All; Sec. 18: E1/3; Secs. 21, 22, 23,
and 24: All.

T. 26 S., R. 20 E., W. M., Oregon
Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5: All; Sec. 6: All,
Except Lots 4 and 5; Secs. 7, 8, 9, 16, 17
and 18: All; Sec. 19: All, Except E $\frac{1}{2}$
SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

T. 26 S., R. 21 E., W. M., Oregon
Sec. 6: (West of BLM Road 6121-0-00).

The purpose of this closure is to protect a designated ACEC. The authority for this closure is 43 CFR 1610.7-2 and 8364.1

DATES: This closure will take effect immediately and remain in effect until a Supplemental Rule has been implemented by the Lakeview Resource Area.

PENALTIES: Violation of this closure is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$100,000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months. Authority for this penalty is found in 43 CFR 8360.0-7

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Scott R. Florence, Manager, Lakeview Resource Area, PO Box 151, Lakeview, OR 97639, or telephone (541) 947-2177.

Dated: October 7, 1998.

Scott R. Florence,

Area Manager, Lakeview Resource Area.

[FR Doc. 98-27999 Filed 10-19-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-33-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-015-98-1610-00: GP9-005]

Pronghorn ACEC Subcommittee of the Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council

AGENCY: Lakeview District, Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Meeting Notice, Pronghorn ACEC Subcommittee of the Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council.

SUMMARY: The Pronghorn ACEC Subcommittee of the Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council is scheduled to meet to discuss and tour the proposed Pronghorn ACEC area. The meeting will start at the Lakeview District BLM Office on October 28th at 8 am. The field tour will occur on the afternoon of October 28th and most of the 29th.

DATES: October 28-29, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sonya Hickman, BLM, Lakeview