

will consider various levels and locations of harvest, regeneration, and related road development/improvement in response to the purpose and need, issues, and other resource objectives.

Step 6 will describe the physical attributes of the area to be affected by this proposal, with special attention to the environmental factors that could be adversely affected.

Step 7 will analyze the environmental effects of each alternative. This analysis will be consistent with management direction outlined in the Forest Plan. The direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of each alternative will be analyzed and documented. In addition, the site specific mitigation measures for each alternative will be identified and the effectiveness of these mitigation measures will be disclosed.

The approximate boundary of the area covered for this analysis will be from the southern Forest boundary along White Mountain north along Skyline Drive to the Ferron and Sixmile drainages.

The proposed management activities would be administered by the Sanpete and Ferron/Price Ranger Districts of the Manti-La Sal National Forest in Sanpete and Sevier Counties, Utah.

Agency representatives and other interested people are invited to visit with Forest Service officials at any time during the EIS process. Two specific time periods are identified for the receipt of formal comments on the analysis. The two comment periods are, (1) during the scoping process, the next 30 days following publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, and (2) during the formal review period of the Draft EIS.

The Draft EIS is estimated to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and available for public review in May, 1998. At this time the EPA will publish an availability notice of the Draft EIS in the **Federal Register**.

The comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

The Forest Service believes it is important to give reviewers notice at this early stage of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of draft environmental impact statements must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewers' position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. versus NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978).

Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft environmental impact statement stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angoon versus Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1022 (9th Circuit, 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. versus 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 45-day 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 environmental impact statement should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft environmental impact statement or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. (Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act, 40 CFR 1503.3, in addressing these points.)

The final EIS is expected to be released August 1998.

The Forest Supervisor for the Manti-La Sal National Forest, who is the responsible official for the EIS, will then make a decision regarding this proposal, after considering the comments, responses, and environmental consequences discussed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement, and applicable laws, regulations, and policies. The reasons for the decision will be documented in a Record of Decision.

Dated: February 6, 1998.

Janette S. Kaiser,

Forest Supervisor, Manti-La Sal National Forest.

[FR Doc. 98-3817 Filed 2-13-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

PBA-12a Barataria Bay Waterway West Bank Protection Project, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; the Council on Environmental Quality Guidelines (40 CFR Part 1500); and the Natural Resources Conservation Service Guidelines (7 CFR Part 650); the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, gives notice that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared for the Barataria Bay Waterway West Bank Protection Project, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donald W. Gohmert, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 3737 Government Street, Alexandria, Louisiana 71302; telephone (318) 473-7751.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The environmental assessment of the federally assisted action indicates that the project will not cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. As a result of these findings, Donald W. Gohmert, State Conservationist, has determined that preparation and review of an environmental impact statement is not needed for this project.

The project will evaluate potential impacts attributed to bank protection measures along the west bank of Barataria Bay Waterway. The project area encompasses approximately 2,200 acres of brackish marsh and open water habitat. Project features include the construction of approximately 9,400 linear feet of rock bankline protection and the installation of a set of two water control structures.

The Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been forwarded to the Environmental Protection Agency and to various federal, state, and local agencies and interested parties. A limited number of copies of the FONSI are available to fill single copy requests at the above address. Basic data collected during the environmental assessment are on file and may be reviewed by contacting Donald W. Gohmert.

No administrative action on implementation of the proposal will be

taken until 30 days after the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

Donald W. Gohmert,
State Conservationist.

[FR Doc. 98-3819 Filed 2-13-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Notice of Proposed Change to Section IV of the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) of the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Alabama

AGENCY: Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) in Alabama, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed changes in Section IV of the FOTG of the NRCS in Alabama for review and comment.

SUMMARY: It is the intention of NRCS in Alabama to issue conservation practice standards, Dry Hydrant (Code 712) and Manure Transfer (Code 634).

DATES: Comment will be received for a 30-day period commencing February 17, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Inquire in writing to Ronnie D. Murphy, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), 665 Opelika Rd., P.O. Box 311, Auburn, AL 36830. Copies of the practice standards will be made available upon written request.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 343 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 states that revisions made after enactment of the law to NRCS State technical guides used to carry out highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the law shall be made available for public review and comment. For the next 30 days the NRCS in Alabama will receive comments relative to the proposed changes. Following that period a determination will be made by the NRCS in Alabama regarding disposition of those comments and a final determination of change will be made.

Robert N. Jones,
Deputy State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Auburn, Alabama.

[FR Doc. 98-3539 Filed 2-13-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

DOC has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

Agency: Bureau of the Census.

Title: 1997 Survey of Minority-owned Business Enterprises (SMOBE) and 1997 Survey of Women-owned Business Enterprises (SWOBE).

Form Number(s): MB-1, MB-2.

Agency Approval Number: None.

Type of Request: New collection.

Burden: 416,666 hours.

Number of Respondents: 2,500,000.

Avg Hours Per Response: 10 minutes.

Needs and Uses: The Census Bureau requests clearance for the 1997 Survey of Minority-Owned Business Enterprises (SMOBE) and the 1997 Survey of Women-Owned Business Enterprises (SWOBE). These surveys are the only comprehensive, regularly collected sources of information on businesses owned by minorities and women. They are conducted as part of the economic census program which is taken every 5 years.

A sample of U.S. Businesses will be asked questions about the gender, race, and ethnicity of the person(s) owning majority interest in the business. The data are needed to evaluate the extent and growth of business ownership by minorities and women in order to provide a framework for assessing and directing Federal, state and local government programs designed to promote the activities of disadvantaged groups.

The SMOBE/SWOBE surveys have been expanded to include all corporations in their sampling frame. In 1992, only subchapter S corporations in addition to partnerships and sole proprietorships were included for SMOBE. A small sample of "C" corporations was included in SWOBE to provide estimates at the industry division level only. A subchapter S corporation is a special IRS designation for a legally incorporated business with 35 or fewer shareholders who elect to be taxed as individual shareholders rather than as a corporation. Approximately 2.5 million "C" corporations, accounting for 75 percent of all U.S. business receipts, were not included in 1992. A "C" corporation is a legally incorporated business under state laws which, unlike a subchapter S corporation, has no restrictions on the number of shareholders required to

qualify. While adding these corporations to the 1997 program will increase overall respondent burden, their inclusion will provide more complete coverage of women- and minority-owned businesses.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: Every 5 years.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 13 U.S.C., Sections 131, 193, and 224.

OMB Desk Officer: Nancy Kirkendall, (202) 395-7313.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, room 5312, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Nancy Kirkendall, OMB Desk Officer, room 10201, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: February 10, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 98-3775 Filed 2-13-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

[Docket No. 980209032-8032-01]

Annual Surveys in Manufacturing Area

AGENCY: Bureau of the Census, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of determination.

SUMMARY: In conformity with Title 13, United States Code (Sections 61, 131, 182, 224, and 225), I have determined that annual data to be derived from the surveys listed below are needed to aid the efficient performance of essential governmental functions and have significant application to the needs of the public and industry. The data derived from these surveys, most of which have been conducted for many years, are not publicly available from nongovernmental or other governmental sources.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Judy M. Dodds, Manufacturing and Construction Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233, telephone (301) 457-4587.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Census Bureau is authorized to take