

be prepared and "from time to time" revised for each refuge. Before plans are prepared the following shall be identified and described: the populations and habitats of the fish and wildlife resources of the refuge; the special values of the refuge, as well as any other archaeological, cultural, ecological, geological, historical, paleontological, scenic, or wilderness value of the refuge; areas of the refuge that are suitable for use as administrative sites or visitor facilities, or for visitor services; present and potential requirements for access; and significant problems which may adversely affect the populations and habitats of fish and wildlife. Plans shall: designate areas within the refuge according to their respective resources and values; specify programs for conserving fish and wildlife and maintaining the special values of the refuge; specify uses which may be compatible with the major purposes of the refuge; and identify opportunities to be provided for fish and wildlife-oriented recreation, ecological research, environmental education and interpretation of refuge resources and values, if they are compatible with the purposes of the refuge.

In preparing and revising plans consultation is required with appropriate State agencies and Native corporations and public hearing are to be held at "locations as may be appropriate to insure that residents of local villages and political subdivisions of the State which will be primarily affected by the administration of the refuge concerned have opportunity to present their views with respect to the plan or revisions." Before adopting a plan, public notice in the **Federal Register** and an opportunity for public views and comment was required.

The plans state that every three to five years the Service will review public comments, local and state government recommendations, staff recommendations, and research studies to determine if revisions to the plan are necessary. If major changes are proposed, public meetings may be held, or new environmental assessment/ environmental impact statements may be necessary. Full review and updating of the plans will occur every 15 to 20 years, more often if necessary.

In 1996 the Service began reviewing the numerous documents that comprise the comprehensive plan for the complex to determine if the "plan" should be revised. A number of discrepancies between the two plans were noted including: (1) Conflicting management direction (where one plan allows an activity in a management category and

the other plan does not); (2) topics are not addressed by both plans (one plan has management direction for a topic and the other plan does not mention the topic); and (3) format inconsistencies (in some cases the management direction is organized so differently that it is almost impossible to accurately compare). Much of the management direction in the plans is out of date due to changes in laws, regulations, and circumstances (e.g. federal management of subsistence hunting on Alaska refuges which began in 1991). Therefore, the Service decided to revise the plans and prepare one revised comprehensive conservation plan for the refuge complex.

This notice formally begins the revision of the comprehensive plan for the Alaska Peninsula/Becharof National Wildlife Refuge Complex. In addition to soliciting public comments through this notice, public comments on issues to be addressed in the revision will be solicited through a newsletter to be mailed to approximately 6,000 individuals and organizations on the mailing list. The comprehensive plan revision will be one agenda topic during a series of community meetings to be held in Chignik, Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lake, Egegik, Ivanof Bay, Naknek, Perryville, Pilot Point, Port Heiden, and South Naknek in March and April 1998. Once issues are identified, the Service will identify options to address the issues and prepare a draft comprehensive plan and draft environmental impact statement. This document is scheduled to be released for public review in the fall of 1999. After public review and comment on the draft plan and environmental impact statement, including public hearings, a final plan and environmental impact statement will be prepared and released.

Electronic Access

Interested persons may submit comments and data by electronic mail (E-mail) to: Bob__Stevens@fws.gov.

Submit electronic comments as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. WordPerfect file format up to Version 6.1 is also acceptable. Additional information may be obtained electronically by contacting Helen Clough at Helen__Clough@fws.gov.

Dated: February 17, 1998.

David B. Allen,

Regional Director, Anchorage, Alaska.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

Request for Public Comments on Proposed Information Collection To Be Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

The proposal for the collection of information described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). Copies of the proposed collection of information may be obtained by contacting the Bureau's clearance officer at the phone number listed below. Comments and suggestions on the proposal should be made within 60 days directly to the Bureau clearance officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 807 National Center, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia, 20192, telephone (703) 648-7313.

Specific public comments are requested as to:

1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions on the bureaus, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. The accuracy of the Bureau's estimate of the burden of the collection 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.

Title: User Survey for National Biological Information Infrastructure.

OMB Approval Number: New Collection.

Abstract: The U.S. Geological Survey is leading the cooperative development of the National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII). The NBII is a distributed electronic federation of biological data and information which is available publicly on the Internet/World Wide Web (<http://www.nbii.gov>). Internet users from government agencies, non-government organizations, universities, and from the general public use the NBII to locate and access data and information on biological resources and resource issues. In order to better understand the requirements of NBII users and to continue to make improvements to the NBII system, both in content and in functionality, a voluntary survey will be conducted whereby "visitors" to the

NBII World Wide Web site will have the opportunity (optional) to provide feedback on the utility and effectiveness of the NBII operation and contents in meeting their needs.

Bureau Form Number: None.

Frequency: One time per respondent.

Description of Respondents:

Individuals or households, Federal Government, State, Local, or Tribal Government, Business or other for-profit, Not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated completion time: 3 minutes per respondent (approximate).

Number of respondents: 320 per month (estimated based on an average of 1600 different visitors to the NBII World Wide Web site each month, and, of the total number of site visitors, an estimated survey response rate of 20 percent).

Burden hours: 192 hours. (Estimate of annual burden hours based on an estimated 20 percent survey response rate for an average of 1600 web site visitors per month, and an estimate of 3 minutes to complete each survey.)

Dated: February 13, 1998.

Dennis B. Fenn,

Chief Biologist.

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BILLING CODE 4310-Y7-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Operation and Maintenance Rate Adjustment: San Carlos Irrigation Project, Arizona

ACTION: Notice of Proposed Irrigation Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Rate Adjustment.

SUMMARY: On September 17, 1997, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Volume 62, Number 180, Page 48882 (62 FR 48882), by the Bureau of Indian Affairs proposing to change the assessment rates for operating and maintaining the San Carlos Irrigation Project for 1998 and 1999 and subsequent years. See 62 FR 48882 for additional information concerning the proposed rate change. The notice of proposed rate adjustment provided a 30-day period for public comment. At the written request of the San Carlos Irrigation and Drainage District, a second public comment period is being provided for the proposed change in the assessment date for 1999 and subsequent years.

DATES: Interested parties may submit comments on the proposed rate adjustment. Comments must be submitted on or before March 30, 1998.

ADDRESSES: All comments concerning the proposed rate change must be in writing and addressed to: Director, Office of Trust Responsibilities, Attn.: Irrigation and Power, MS-4513-MIB, Code 210, 1849 "C" Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240, Telephone (202) 208-5480.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The authority to issue this document is vested in the Secretary of the Interior by 5 U.S.C. 301 and the Act of August 14, 1914 (38 Stat. 583, 25 U.S.C. 385). The Secretary has delegated this authority to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs pursuant to part 209 Departmental Manual, Chapter 8.1A, and memorandum dated January 25, 1994, from the Chief of Staff, Department of the Interior, to the Assistant Secretaries and heads of bureaus and offices.

Dated: February 17, 1998.

Kevin Gover,

Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 98-4912 Filed 2-25-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-938-6330-01 24 1A]

Extension of Currently Approved Information Collection; OMB Approval Number: 1004-0173

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces its intention to request extension of approval to collect information from those contractors who are awarded contracts under the Jobs-in-the-Woods Program. This program was created through the President's Northwest Economic Adjustment Initiative to create jobs in the timber-impacted communities of Washington State, Oregon and northern California. BLM collects this information to gauge the effectiveness of the Jobs-in-the-Woods Program in achieving its intent of employing workers displaced by severe reductions in timber harvests in the northwestern United States in recent years.

DATES: Submit comments on the proposed information collection by April 27, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to: Bureau of Land Management, Oregon State Office (OR-910), 1515 SW Th

Ave., Portland, Oregon 97201, or by way of Internet to brheiner@or.blm.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Rheiner, Jr., (503) 952-6015.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with 5 CFR 1320.12(a), B.M. is required to provide 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning an approved collection of information to solicit comments on: (1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of collecting the information, including the validity of 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 collecting the 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. BLM will receive and analyze any comments sent in response to this notice and include them with its request for approval from the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

The Jobs-in-the-Woods Program is a result of the President's Northwest Initiative to provide funding for assisting workers displaced by reduced logging activities on public lands in the Pacific northwest. The funding is intended for jobs which would restore forest ecosystems in the region. The Jobs-in-the-Woods Employment Evaluation, which is the subject of this information collection, consists of four items of information to be requested in each Jobs-in-the-Woods contract issued. The BLM Contracting Officer supplies the contractors with these four items before each Jobs-in-the-Woods contract is signed. The four items are: (1) The number of workers employed on the contract, including managers, supervisors and support personnel; (2) the number of days these workers worked on the contract, the total being based on an 8-hour work day; (3) the total amount of wages and benefits paid to these workers; and (4) the number of workers, if any, considered to be displaced timber workers. Each contractor must submit responses to these items to BLM's Contracting Officer, along with the final invoice, before being paid the final contract amount.

BLM and other Federal land management agencies, as well as Administration officials and Congress,