

### Proposed Action

Proposed activities include approximately 12,000 acres of commercial thinning (thinning-from-below) and 24,000 acres of precommercial thinning. Approximately 11,000 of the 24,000 acres of precommercial thinning would occur within proposed commercial thinning areas. Other proposed activities are approximately 400 acres of pruning of dwarf mistletoe-infected trees, 50 acres of quaking aspen regeneration, 10,000 acres of prescribed burning or mowing of shrubs, seedlings, and small saplings, creation of 2,000 snags, evaluate access and travel opportunities, 50 miles of road closures, and 37 miles of road obliteration.

### Alternatives

The No Action alternative will serve as a baseline for comparison of alternatives and will be fully developed and analyzed. With the No Action alternative, there would be no activities implemented based on the Red Knight analysis. Previously approved activities, and routine protection and maintenance activities will continue. The proposed action, as described above, will be considered and other alternatives developed around the proposed action to address issues identified in the scoping and public involvement process.

### Issues

Preliminary issues identified are—Klamath Tribes culture and treaty resources (subsistence hunting, fishing, and gathering), mature and old-growth habitat, forest health, and wildfire risk.

### Public Involvement

Scoping determines issues to be addressed and identifies the significant issues related to a proposed action. The Forest Service will seek information and comments from Tribes, Federal, State, and local agencies and other individuals and organizations who may be interested in or affected by the proposed action. This input will be used in preparation of the draft EIS. Scoping will be achieved through mailings, newspaper notices, website postings ([www.fs.fed.us/r6/winema](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/winema)), and field trips. Field trips to the planning area are scheduled for August, September, and October of 1999.

Comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however,

those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Parts 215 or 217. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requester of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within a specified number of days.

### Estimated Dates for Draft and Final EIS

The draft EIS is expected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and to be available for public comment by April 2000. The comment period on the draft EIS 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, 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 reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 55 (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 45-day comment period so that the 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 EIS.

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 statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft EIS 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 at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points.

Comments on the draft EIS will be analyzed, considered, and responded to by the Forest Service in preparing the final EIS. The final EIS is scheduled to be completed in July 2000. The Forest Service is the lead agency. Forest Supervisor, Winema National Forest, is the responsible official. The responsible official will document the decision and rationale for the decision for the Red Knight Restoration Project in the Record of Decision. That decision will be subject to Forest Service Appeal Regulations (36 CFR Part 215).

Dated: July 29, 1999.

**Mary C. Erickson,**

*Acting Deputy Forest Supervisor, Winema National Forest.*

[FR Doc. 99-21110 Filed 8-13-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce (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:* National Institute of Science and Technology.

*Title:* Malcolm Baldrige Quality Award Application.

*Agency Form Number:* None.

*OMB Approval Number:* 0693-0006.

*Type of Request:* Reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection.

*Burden Hours:* 10,000.

*Number of Respondents:* 100.

*Average Hours Per Response:* 100.

*Needs and Uses:* The Malcolm Baldrige Quality Award is nationwide award to promote the awareness of performance excellence, recognize excellent performance achievements of U.S. organizations, and to share successful quality strategies and practices. The information provided is used to evaluate the applicant's eligibility to receive the Award.

**Affected Public:** U.S. organizations that choose to apply for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award.

**Frequency:** Annually.

**Respondent's Obligation:** Voluntary.

**OMB Desk Officer:** Virginia Huth, (202) 395-6929.

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 5033, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at [LEngelme@doc.gov](mailto:LEngelme@doc.gov)).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Virginia Huth, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10236, New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: August 10, 1999.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

*Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 99-21099 Filed 8-13-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-FP-P

## 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 of 1995, Public Law 104-13.

**Bureau:** International Trade Administration.

**Title:** Export Assistance Center Website Form.

**Agency Form Number:** N/A.

**OMB Number:** None.

**Type of Request:** Regular Submission.

**Burden:** 417 hours.

**Number of Respondents:** 5,000.

**Avg. Hours Per Response:** 5 minutes.

**Needs and Uses:** The New York

Export Assistant Center, which is a combined effort of the U.S. Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration (ITA), Export-Import Bank, and Small Business Administration provides a comprehensive array of export counseling and trade finance services to small and medium-sized U.S. exporting firms. In 1998, it launched an interactive website, [www.nyuseac.org](http://www.nyuseac.org) that is geared to the needs of New York and New Jersey metropolitan industry. One electronic form is proposed to be added to the website in order to improve the usefulness of the site. The

form will ask U.S. exporting firm respondents to provide general background information and identify which service(s) they are interested in. This generic form will also be available for use by all of ITA's Export Assistance Centers.

**Affected Public:** Businesses or other for profit.

**Frequency:** On occasion.

**Respondent's Obligation:** Required to obtain or retain a benefit, voluntary.

**OMB Desk Officer:** David Rostker, (202) 395-7340.

Copies of the above information collection can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, Department Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, Room 5033, 14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington D.C. 20230 (or via the internet at [LEngelme@doc.gov](mailto:LEngelme@doc.gov)).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, Washington D.C. 20503 within 30 days of the publication of this notice.

Dated: August 10, 1999.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

*Department Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

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BILLING CODE 3510-FP-P

## 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 of 1995, Public Law 104-13.

**Bureau:** International Trade Administration.

**Title:** BISNIS Publication Subscription Form.

**Agency Form Number:** N/A.

**OMB Number:** None.

**Type of Request:** Regular Submission.

**Burden:** 170 hours.

**Number of Respondents:** 2,040.

**Avg. Hours Per Response:** 5 minutes.

**Needs and Uses:** The International Trade Administration's (ITA) Business Information Service for the Newly Independent States (BISNIS) program offers business information and counseling to U.S. companies seeking to export or to invest in the countries of the former Soviet Union.

A critical component of the program is the dissemination of information

regarding market conditions and opportunities in various industries and countries of the former Soviet Union. These information products provided by BISNIS are in the form of emails, faxes, and paper mailers. The Publication Subscription form is a quick way for interested parties to tell BISNIS which products they want and what is their industry and country interests.

**Affected Public:** Businesses or other for profit, not-for-profit institutions.

**Frequency:** On occasion.

**Respondent's Obligation:** Required to obtain or retain a benefit, voluntary.

**OMB Desk Officer:** David Roster, (202) 395-7340.

Copies of the above information collection can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, Department Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230 (or via the internet at [LEngelme@doc.gov](mailto:LEngelme@doc.gov)).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent to David Roster, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503 within 30 days of the publication of this notice.

Dated: August 10, 1999.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

*Department Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer*

[FR Doc. 99-21101 Filed 8-13-99; 8:45 am]

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## 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:** U.S. Census Bureau.

**Title:** Census Employment Inquiry.

**Form Number(s):** BC-170.

**Agency Approval Number:** 0607-0139.

**Type of Request:** Revision of a currently approved collection.

**Burden:** 762,500 hours.

**Number of Respondents:** 3,050,000.

**Avg Hours Per Response:** 15 minutes.

**Needs and Uses:** The BC-170, Census Employment Inquiry, is used by the Census Bureau to collect information such as personal data and work experience from job applicants. The BC-170 is used throughout the census and intercensal years in situations which require the establishment of a temporary