

pertinent literature, and information available in Service files. After our review, we find the petition does not present substantial information to indicate that the petitioned action may be warranted. We base this finding on a lack of evidence to support a separation of the greater sage grouse into eastern and western subspecies, and also on our determination that the western population of sage grouse does not constitute a DPS on the basis of the following: (a) insufficient information to determine whether the western population of sage grouse is geographically separated from other sage grouse throughout the range of the taxon; and (b) insufficient information to demonstrate that genetic, morphological, and behavioral aspects of the western population of sage grouse are unique.

#### References Cited

A complete list of all references cited herein is available upon request from the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Office (see **ADDRESSES** section).

#### Author

The primary author of this notice is Jeff Dillon, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Oregon Fish and Wildlife Office (see **ADDRESSES** section).

**Authority:** The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: January 27, 2003.

**Steve Williams,**

*Director, Fish and Wildlife Service.*

[FR Doc. 03-3020 Filed 2-6-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

#### Submission of Collection of Water Delivery and Electric Service Data for the Operation of Irrigation and Power Projects and Systems to Office of Management and Budget

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is submitting two information collection requests for extension to the Office of Management and Budget. The two collections are: Electrical Service Application, 1076-0021, and Water Request, 1076-0141.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before March 10, 2003, to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be sent to: Attn: Desk Officer for Department of the Interior, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503. Send a copy to Bureau of Indian Affairs, Branch of Irrigation, Power, and Safety of Dams, Mail Stop 3061-MIB, Washington, DC 20240.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Interested persons may obtain copies of the information collection requests without charge by contacting Ross Mooney at 202-208-5480, or facsimile number: 202-219-0006, or E-mail: [Ross\\_Mooney@IOS.DOI.GOV](mailto:Ross_Mooney@IOS.DOI.GOV).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A request for comments regarding the two information collection requests was published in the **Federal Register** on October 1, 2002 (67 FR 61760). No comments were received during the comment period. We reviewed these two forms internally during the comment period and revised our burden hours for the two collections.

#### Request for Comments

The Bureau of Indian Affairs solicits comments in order to:

- (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the bureau, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- (2) Evaluate the bureau's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond.

OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove the information collection but may respond after 30 days; therefore, comments submitted within 30 days are more assured of receiving maximum consideration. Please note that comments, names and addresses of commentators are available for public review during normal business hours. If you wish us to withhold any information you submit, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will honor your request to the extent allowable by law.

**Title:** Water Request 25 CFR 171.

**OMB Control #:** 1076-0141.

**Frequency of Collection:** On occasion.

**Description of Respondents:** BIA Irrigation Project Water Users.

**Total Respondents:** 25,000.

**Total Annual Responses:** 51,500.

**Total Annual Burden Hours:** 4292.

**Title:** Electric Service Application—25 CFR 175.

**OMB Control #:** 1076-0021.

**Frequency of Collection:** On Occasion.

**Description of Respondents:** BIA

Electric Power Consumers.

**Total Respondents:** 4,750.

**Total Annual Responses:** 4750.

**Total Annual Burden Hours:** 1188.

Dated: January 2, 2003.

**Aurene M. Martin,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 03-2991 Filed 2-6-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-W7-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

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

#### Extension of Approved Information Collection, OMB Control Number 1004-0019

**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) is requesting the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to extend an existing approval to collect information from individuals, households, farms, or businesses interested in cooperating with the BLM in constructing or maintaining rangeland improvement projects to aid handling and caring for domestic livestock that BLM authorizes to graze on public land. BLM uses Form 4120-7, Application and Approval for Range Improvement Permit, to collect this information. This information allows the BLM to review the application and to make a decision on the proposed rangeland improvement project.

**DATES:** You must submit your comments to BLM at the address below on or before April 8, 2003. BLM will not necessarily consider any comments received after the above date.

**ADDRESSES:** You may mail comments to: Bureau of Land Management, (WO-630), Eastern States Office, 7450 Boston Blvd., Springfield, Virginia 22153.

You may send comments via Internet to: [WOComment@blm.gov](mailto:WOComment@blm.gov). Please include "ATTN: 1004-0019" and your name and return address in your Internet message.

You may deliver comments to the Bureau of Land Management,

Administrative Record, Room 401, 1620 L Street, NW., Washington, DC.

All comments will be available for public review at the L Street address during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.) Monday through Friday.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** You may contact Ken Visser on (202) 452-7743 (Commercial or FTS). Persons who use a telecommunication device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) on 1-800-877-8330, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to contact Mr. Visser.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** 5 CFR 1320.12(a) requires that we provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning a collection of information to solicit comments on:

(a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper functioning of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(b) the accuracy of our estimates of the information collection burden, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions we use;

(c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and

(d) ways to minimize the information collection burden on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

The Taylor Grazing Act (TGA) of 1934 (43 U.S.C. 315 *et seq.*) and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLMPA) of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*) provide the authority for the BLM to administer the livestock grazing program consistent with land use plans, multiple use objectives, sustained yield, environmental values, economic considerations, and other factors.

Sections 4 and 15 of the TGA and the regulation at 43 CFR 4120.3-3 allow permittees the opportunity to construct and maintain rangeland improvements on the public lands. Applicants must submit Form 4120-7, Application and Approval for Range Improvement Permit, to request rangeland improvement projects. BLM authorizes rangeland improvement projects to facilitate handling livestock while they are using public lands as an important and integral part of grazing use administration. BLM uses the information the permittees and lessees provide to:

(1) Review requests for privately funded rangeland improvement projects for compatibility with multiple use objectives and land use plans;

(2) Develop appropriate conditions and specifications; and

(3) Approve or reject the applications.

We use the name and address to determine if the applicant is a grazing permittee in compliance with 43 CFR 4120.3-3(a). Applicants also specify if they will construct a new improvement or obtain a permit to maintain an existing improvement. The applicant must briefly state a purpose or justification to determine the compatibility of proposed use with multiple use plans. The applicant identifies the specific location to determine land ownership and if needed, provides a plat to delineate linear improvements such as fences or pipelines.

Because of the variations in size and complexity of rangeland improvement projects, BLM estimates it takes 20 minutes to complete the required information. We estimate 60 responses per year and a total annual burden of 20 hours.

BLM will summarize all responses to this notice and include them in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: February 3, 2003.

**Michael H. Schwartz,**

*Bureau of Land Management, Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 03-3011 Filed 2-6-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-84-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WO-310-1310-PB-241A]

#### Extension of Approved Information Collection. OMB Control Number 1004-0034

**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) is requesting the office of Management and Budget (OMB) to extend an existing approval to collect certain information from those persons who wish to transfer interest in oil and gas or geothermal leases by assignment of record title or transfer operating rights (sublease) in oil and gas or geothermal leases under the terms of the mineral leasing laws. BLM uses Form 3000-3, Assignment of Record Title Interest In A Lease for Oil and Gas or Geothermal Resources, and Form 3000-3a, Transfer of Operating

Rights (Sublease) In A Lease for Oil and Gas or Geothermal Resources, to collect this information. This information allows the BLM to transfer interest in oil and gas or geothermal leases by assignment of record title or transfer operating rights (sublease) in oil and gas or geothermal leases under the regulations at 43 CFR 3106, 3135, and 3216.

**DATES:** You must submit your comments to BLM at the address below on or before April 8, 2003. BLM will not necessarily consider any comments received after the above date.

**ADDRESSES:** You may mail comments to: Bureau of Land Management, (WO-630), Eastern States Office, 7450 Boston Blvd., Springfield, Virginia 22153.

You may send comments via Internet to: [WOComment@blm.gov](mailto:WOComment@blm.gov). Please include "ATTN: 1004-0034" and your name and return address in your Internet message.

You may deliver comments to the Bureau of Land Management, Administrative Record, Room 401, 1620 L Street, NW, Washington, DC.

All comments will be available for public review at the L Street address during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.), Monday through Friday.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** You may contact Barbara Gamble on (202) 452-0338 (Commercial or FTS). persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8330, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to contact Ms. Gamble.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** 5 CFR 1320.12(a) requires BLM to provide 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning a collection of information to solicit comments on:

(a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper functioning of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(b) The accuracy of our estimates of the information collection burden, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions we use;

(c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and

(d) Ways 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 technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 181 *et seq.*) and the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1001-1025) authorize the Secretary of the