

The Supporting Statement for OMB 0596-0212

Extension of Timber Sales

October 2008

A. Justification

- 1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary. Identify any legal or administrative requirements that necessitate the collection. Attach a copy of the appropriate section of each statute and regulation mandating or authorizing the collection of information.**

Laws, Statutes, and Regulations

- Public Law 110-234 (Section 8401), 122 Stat. 93, May 22, 2008 (Farm Bill)
- Public Law 110-246 (Section 8401), 122 Stat. 1651, June 18, 2008 (Farm Bill Two)
- 36 CFR 223.52 – Market-Related Contract Term Addition
- FR Notice 78 51388 (proposed changes to 36 CFR 223.52)

Section 8401

On June 18, 2007, Section 8401 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, Pub. L. No. 110-234, 122 Stat. 93 (May 22, 2008) (Farm Bill One) was repealed, and section 8401 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, Pub. L. No. 110-246, 122 Stat. 1651 (June 18, 2008) (Farm Bill Two) was enacted. Section 8401 (copy attached) is identical in both versions of the Act.

Section 8401 provides several different relief options for timber sale purchasers due to a drastic reduction in forest products markets. To obtain any of the relief options, Section 8401 required a purchaser to provide certain information on or before September 16, 2008. On June 26, 2008, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) granted emergency approval of the Forest Service's request to collect the required information under OMB number 0596-0212. Congress is currently discussing technical amendments to the Farm Bill, which if adopted could reopen the need for this information. Therefore, the Agency has included the burden hours for information requirements resulting from such changes to the Farm Bill, which would be the same as that approved under the initial clearance granted by OMB and is included in item A.2. below.

Market-Related Contract Term Addition and Substantial Overriding Public Interest

The committee notes for section 8401 state *"the Managers encourage the Forest Service to revise the existing regulations within 90 days of enactment of this Act to reflect provisions of this section for future market problems."* On September 3, 2008, Federal Register notice 78 FR 51388 was published. The notice included proposed changes to the Market-Related Contract Term Addition (MRCTA) regulation at Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 223.52. Upon adoption of the proposed amendments, purchasers seeking to change the producer price index listed in their contract(s) will be required to provide information identical to that currently authorized under this information collection (0596-0212). Thus, this renewal request includes the burden hours that would result from adoption of the proposed changes to 36 CFR 223.52.

In addition, the Agency intends to provide additional time to certain timber sales not covered

The Supporting Statement for OMB 0596-0212

Extension of Timber Sales

October 2008

by the Farm Bill, based on a determination of Substantial Overriding Public Interest (SOPI). Purchasers seeking a SOPI extension will be required to provide a waiver of liability including collection of the same information required for extending sales under the Farm Bill and authorized under this information collection (0596-0212). Therefore, this renewal request includes the burden hours resulting from adoption of this policy.

2. Indicate how, by whom, and for what purpose the information is to be used. Except for a new collection, indicate the actual use the agency has made of the information received from the current collection.

a. What information will be collected - reported or recorded? (If there are pieces of information that are especially burdensome in the collection, a specific explanation should be provided.)

Farm Bill Amendments (anticipated)

Information to be collected upon adoption of technical amendments to the Farm Bill:

- FS-2400-70, Contract Cancellation and Release of Liability: This is a detailed contract cancellation and release of liability form. Information collected on this form:

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| ◇ Timber sale name | ◇ Certification |
| ◇ Contract number | ◇ Signature |
| ◇ Purchaser name | ◇ Corporate Seal |
| ◇ Witness signatures | |

- FS-2400-71, Request for Relief and Release of Liability Statement: One-page form identifying the relief options requested and including a statement that releases the United States from all liability associated with approving or denying the options. Information collected:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| ◇ Timber sale name | ◇ Rationale for request |
| ◇ Contract number | ◇ Signature |
| ◇ Purchaser name | |

- Classification of Volume - Farm Bill (No form): Pursuant to section 8401 of the Farm Bill, purchasers seeking a change in the producer price index used for determining market related contract term additions and emergency rate re-determinations of the timber sale contract must identify how much of the contract timber volume will be processed into softwood lumber, hardwood lumber or wood chip products.

MRTCA and SOPI (36 CFR 223.52)

Upon adoption of the proposed MRCTA regulation (36 CFR 223.52), the Forest Service will require purchasers seeking a substantial overriding public interest (SOPI) extension for contracts not included under the Farm Bill, to submit the extension request in writing along with the appropriate release of liability statement. The Agency has developed two forms for this purpose, FS-2400-72 and FS-2400-73. The burden hours of these new forms are included in this renewal request, as are the burden hours for the MRTCA Request for Producer Price Index Change and request for SOPI extension.

The Supporting Statement for OMB 0596-0212

Extension of Timber Sales

October 2008

- FS-2400-72, Request for Relief and Release of Liability Statement (MRTCA, 36 CFR 223.52(c)(3)): One page form with statement that releases the United States from liability resulting from relief provided by 36 CFR 223.52(c)(3). Information collected:
 - ◊ Timber sale name
 - ◊ Contract number
 - ◊ Purchaser name
 - ◊ Signature

- FS-2400-73, Request for Producer Price Index Change and Release of Liability Statement (MRTCA, 36 CFR 223.52(a)(2)): One page form releasing the United States from liability resulting from relief provided by 36 CFR 223.52(a)(2). Includes written list of products (by volume) that purchaser intends/expects to produce from timber on subject sale. Information collected:
 - ◊ Timber sale name
 - ◊ Contract number
 - ◊ Purchaser name
 - ◊ Signature
 - ◊ Written request for producer price index change based on product list (no designated format).

- Substantial Overriding Public Interest (SOPI) extension (No form, submitted with FS-2400-72 and FS-2400-73): Written request for extension of timber sale.

b. From whom will the information be collected? If there are different respondent categories (e.g., loan applicant versus a bank versus an appraiser), each should be described along with the type of collection activity that applies.

Forest Service officials collect the information from individuals and businesses that purchase timber via National Forest System timber sale contracts that include a provision for Market-Related Contract Term Addition.

Table 1

Information Collected	Information Provided to:	Information Provided By (include estimated percentage of total responses in each category)		
		Individuals	Private Sector (Businesses, farms, non-profits)	State, County, or Local Government
FS-2400-70 - Contract Cancellation and Release of Liability	Timber Contracting Officers	10%	90%	0
FS-2400-71 or equivalent - Request for Relief and Release of Liability Statement	Timber Contracting Officers	10%	90%	0
Farm Bill Classification of volume into 3 groups (No form)	Timber Contracting Officers	10%	90%	0
SOPI Extension (no form)	Timber Contracting Officers	10%	90%	0
FS-2400-72, Request for Relief and Release of Liability Statement, 36 CFR 223.52(c)(3)	Timber Contracting Officers	10%	90%	0
FS-2400-73, Request for Producer Price Index Change and Release of Liability Statement	Timber Contracting Officers	10%	90%	0

The Supporting Statement for OMB 0596-0212

Extension of Timber Sales

October 2008

c. What will this information be used for - provide ALL uses?

The Forest Service used the information collected through September 16, 2008, to determine a purchaser's eligibility for one or more of the options in section 8401 of the Farm Bill. The Agency will collect similar information upon adoption of the proposed technical changes to the Farm Bill.

Changes to 36 CFR 223.52: The information collected by the Forest Service due to adoption of changes to 36 CFR 223.52 will assist Agency Contracting Officers in determining a purchaser's eligibility for a SOPI extension or eligibility to change the producer price index in a timber sale contract.

d. How will the information be collected (e.g., forms, non-forms, electronically, face-to-face, over the phone, over the Internet)? Does the respondent have multiple options for providing the information? If so, what are they?

Respondents submit all forms and the SOPI request for extension in hard copy, as these documents require original signatures.

Respondents may submit the request for producer price index change that accompanies form FS-2400-73 in hardcopy with the form, or separately via facsimile or e-mail.

e. How frequently will the information be collected?

Frequency of information collection for:

- FS-2400-70 and FS-2400-71: One-time collection
- SOPI request for extension: One-time collection
- FS-2400-72 and FS-2400-73: 20 responses annually, respondents submit one of these two forms

f. Will the information be shared with any other organizations inside or outside USDA or the government?

The Forest Service has no plans to share the information with any other organization inside or outside the USDA or the government.

g. If this is an ongoing collection, how have the collection requirements changed over time?

This is a request for renewal of an information collection approved under emergency clearance following implementation of the 2008 Farm Bill. The emergency clearance expires on December 31, 2008. Anticipated technical changes to the Farm Bill will result in collection of information approved under current emergency clearance.

Agency proposed changes to 36 CFR 223.52, will result in the addition of two items not previously approved for this information collection. The first is a one-time requirement for purchasers seeking a substantial overriding public interest (SOPI) extension for contracts not included under the Farm Bill. Such purchaser will be required to submit an extension request in writing along with a release of liability statement.

The Supporting Statement for OMB 0596-0212

Extension of Timber Sales

October 2008

In addition, the proposed amendment to 36 CFR 223.52 will require purchasers seeking a change in the producer price index to identify how much of the contract timber volume will be processed into softwood lumber, hardwood lumber or wood chip products. Respondents may submit this information in format of their choice. This will be an ongoing collection.

- 3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g. permitting electronic submission of responses, and the basis for the decision for adopting this means of collection. Also, describe any consideration of using information technology to reduce burden.**

Limited liability agreements require an original signature by the purchaser, thus collection of this information will be via hard copy. Purchasers seeking a change of index may submit the timber classification information by hard copy, facsimile, or via e-mail.

- 4. Describe efforts to identify duplication. Show specifically why any similar information already available cannot be used or modified for use for the purposes described in Item 2 above.**

The information requested is not available from any other source and is unique to a single event in the life of a Forest Service timber sale contract.

- 5. If the collection of information impacts small businesses or other small entities, describe any methods used to minimize burden.**

Ninety percent of private sector businesses impacted by this information collection are classified as small businesses. The Agency uses the following methods to minimize burden:

- The Forest Service only requests the minimum information needed to process options authorized under the Farm Bill, to process a request for a SOPI extension, and incorporate the change into the interim Market-Related Contract Term Addition regulation.
- The information requested is readily available to purchasers and does not require any statistical analysis of data or the need to go to outside sources for the information.

Table 2

Information Collection for:	Private Sector Business	
	% Small Entity	% not Small Entity
Farm Bill • FS-2400-70 • FS-2470-71 • Farm Bill Classification of Sale Volume	90%	10%
SOPI Extension	90%	10%
MRCTA • FS-2400-72, or • FS-2400-73 (including request for index change)	90%	10%

- 6. Describe the consequence to Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently, as well as any technical or legal obstacles to reducing burden.**

The Supporting Statement for OMB 0596-0212

Extension of Timber Sales

October 2008

Liability

A purchaser may receive additional time to complete a contract under the Farm Bill or SOPI extension. Without the release of liability statements, the Forest Service is vulnerable to lawsuits from purchasers seeking compensation or damages resulting from conditions or events that were not part of the original contract.

If the Forest Service unilaterally modifies or cancels a contract during the additional time-period due to environmental litigation, the Agency could be liable for damage claims. The Agency would not be liable for such damages if the purchaser had completed the contract without the additional time. The limited liability agreement protects the government from incurring liability that was not part of the original contractual agreement.

Changing an Index

An option in the Farm Bill, which is also in the proposed amendment to the MRCTA regulation, is a procedure for changing an index used in a contract. The index helps determine when to do a Market-Related Contract Term Addition and/or an Emergency Rate Re-determination. Prior to advertising a sale, the Forest Service identifies the single index that it determines represents over half of the contract volume. It uses one of three indexes: softwood lumber, hardwood lumber or wood chips.

Sometimes more than one index might apply. The Forest Service estimates that this will only occur in less than 100 timber sales per year. In such situations, a procedure is needed to change the index to reflect what the purchaser intends to produce, if different from the government's presale estimate. To change the index, the Forest Service must know what products the purchaser intends to produce, and the only way to determine that is to have the purchaser provide the information.

Under the Farm Bill and the proposed amended regulation, a purchaser has one opportunity to change the index when awarded the contract. To avoid disputes, the contract record must contain written documentation indicating that the purchaser initiated the change of index. Such documentation must include a listing of products the purchaser intended to produce at the time of request submission. Without this documentation, a purchaser could allege that the government unilaterally and inappropriately changed the index.

7. Explain any special circumstances that would cause an information collection to be conducted in a manner:

- **Requiring respondents to report information to the agency more often than quarterly;**
- **Requiring respondents to prepare a written response to a collection of information in fewer than 30 days after receipt of it;**
- **Requiring respondents to submit more than an original and two copies of any document;**
- **Requiring respondents to retain records, other than health, medical, government contract, grant-in-aid, or tax records for more than three years;**
- **In connection with a statistical survey, that is not designed to produce valid and**

The Supporting Statement for OMB 0596-0212

Extension of Timber Sales

October 2008

reliable results that can be generalized to the universe of study;

- **Requiring the use of a statistical data classification that has not been reviewed and approved by OMB;**
- **That includes a pledge of confidentiality that is not supported by authority established in statute or regulation, that is not supported by disclosure and data security policies that are consistent with the pledge, or which unnecessarily impedes sharing of data with other agencies for compatible confidential use; or**
- **Requiring respondents to submit proprietary trade secret, or other confidential information unless the agency can demonstrate that it has instituted procedures to protect the information's confidentiality to the extent permitted by law.**

There are no special circumstances. The collection of information is conducted in a manner consistent with the guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.6.

- 8. If applicable, provide a copy and identify the date and page number of publication in the Federal Register of the agency's notice, required by 5 CFR 1320.8 (d), soliciting comments on the information collection prior to submission to OMB. Summarize public comments received in response to that notice and describe actions taken by the agency in response to these comments. Specifically address comments received on cost and hour burden.**

Notice was published in the Federal Register on July 22, 2008 (73 FR 42542) and provided the public with a 60 day comment period. The Forest Service established an electronic mail box for the receipt of electronic comments. No comments responsive to the Federal Register notice were received.

Describe efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and record keeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported.

Consultation with representatives of those from whom information is to be obtained or those who must compile records should occur at least once every 3 years even if the collection of information activity is the same as in prior periods. There may be circumstances that may preclude consultation in a specific situation. These circumstances should be explained.

A Forest Service official contacted three timber sale purchasers who submitted information requested for relief options offered under the Farm Bill. Copies of their views on the information collection burden are below.

Travis Lumber Co., Inc.

Terry Bryant

479-928-2036

Contacted September 9, 2008

Q: Were the instructions clear on the FS-2400-70 and FS-2400-71 forms?

A: Yes, had no trouble following the instructions for completing the forms. Applied for relief options under the Farm Bill for seven to eight sales on the Ozark National Forest and four

The Supporting Statement for OMB 0596-0212

Extension of Timber Sales

October 2008

to five sales on the Ouachita National Forest.

Q: How long did it take to complete the forms?

A: It only took a few minutes to complete the forms for each sale.

Q: Did you request a change of index?

A: No

Q: Was the information requested for a change of index readily available?

A: N/A

Q: How long did it take to compile and submit the information?

A: N/A

General comments on the process and burden: Mr. Bryant said that he requested all of the relief options provided under the Farm Bill including the additional Market-Related Contract Term Adjustment time. The repeal of Farm Bill 1 and concurrent enactment of Farm Bill 2 caused some confusion and duplication of work in having to re-apply for relief options. Overall, the relief options absolutely helped in getting back to work on sales that could not have been operated otherwise.

North Shore Forest Products

John Gephart

218-349-1212

Contacted September 9, 2008

Q: Were the instructions clear on the FS-2400-70 and FS-2400-71 forms?

A: They were a little confusing, especially figuring out which blocks to check on form 71, but it didn't take long (about 30 minutes) to figure out.

Q: How long did it take to complete the forms?

A: Once the forms were understood, it only took a few minutes to complete them.

Q: Did you request a change of index?

A: Yes

Q: Was the information requested for a change of index readily available?

A: Yes

Q: How long did it take to compile and submit the information?

A: Only a few minutes, but it must be recognized that this is just a snapshot based on current market conditions.

General comments on the process and burden: Process was O.K. Mr. Gephart provided other information relative to the Farm Bill options, but that [information] did not pertain to the information collection burden.

Hedstrom Lumber Company

Howard Hedstrom

218-387-2995

Contacted September 10, 2008

Q: Were the instructions clear on the FS-2400-70 and FS-2400-71 forms?

A: Yes

The Supporting Statement for OMB 0596-0212

Extension of Timber Sales

October 2008

Q: How long did it take to complete the forms?

A: It took about 1-2 hours to study the relief options, forms, etc. and get questions answered before actually completing the forms. After that, it only took a few minutes per form. Relief under the Farm Bill was requested on six to seven sales.

Q: Did you request a change of index?

A: Yes

Q: Was the information requested for a change of index readily available?

A: Yes

Q: How long did it take to compile and submit the information?

A: It took about an hour per sale.

General comments on the process and burden: The overall workload was doubled as a result of Farm Bill 1 being repealed and then having to resubmit the information under Farm Bill 2.

9. Explain any decision to provide any payment or gift to respondents, other than re-enumeration of contractors or grantees.

The Forest Service does not provide any payment or gift to respondents, other than re-enumeration of contractors or grantees.

10. Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for the assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy.

There is not assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents. All public requests for information collected from respondents are processed under the Freedom of Information Act.

11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior or attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private. This justification should include the reasons why the agency considers the questions necessary, the specific uses to be made of the information, the explanation to be given to persons from whom the information is requested, and any steps to be taken to obtain their consent.

No information of a sensitive nature is collected.

12. Provide estimates of the hour burden of the collection of information. Indicate the number of respondents, frequency of response, annual hour burden, and an explanation of how the burden was estimated.

- **Indicate the number of respondents, frequency of response, annual hour burden, and an explanation of how the burden was estimated. If this request for approval covers more than one form, provide separate hour burden estimates for each form.**

- a) **Description of the collection activity**
- b) **Corresponding form number (if applicable)**
- c) **Number of respondents**
- d) **Number of responses annually per respondent,**
- e) **Total annual responses (columns c x d)**

The Supporting Statement for OMB 0596-0212

Extension of Timber Sales

October 2008

f) Estimated hours per response

g) Total annual burden hours (columns e x f)

Table 3 – Categories of Respondents

Information Collection for:	Annual Number of Respondents	Individuals		Private Sector Business	
		# of Respondents	%	# of Respondents	%
FS-2400-70	3.3333 ¹	.3333	10	2.9997	90
FS-2400-71	283.3333 ²	28.3333	10	254.9997	90
Farm Bill Classification of Sale Volume	26.6667 ³	2.6667	10	24	90
SOPi Extension	13.3333 ⁴	1.3333	10	11.9997	90
MRCTA Liability waiver and request for index change	20 ⁵	2	10	18	90

¹ Estimates are that 10 respondents will submit form FS-2400-70. Averaged over 3 years, this is 3.333 respondents per year.

² Estimates are that 850 respondents will submit form FS-2400-71. Averaged over 3 years, this is 283.3333 respondents per year.

³ Estimates are that 80 respondents will submit Farm Bill Classification of Sale Volume requests. Averaged over 3 years, this is 26.6667 respondents per year.

⁴ Estimates are that 40 respondents will submit SOPi requests (new form to be developed, similar to FS-2400-71). Averaged over 3 years, this is 13.333 respondents per year.

⁵ Estimates are that 20 respondents a year will submit MRCTA reclassification requests (no form).

Table 4 – Estimated Annual Burden

(a) Description of the Collection Activity	(b) Form Number	(c) Number of Respondents		(d) Number of responses annually per Respondent	(e) Total annual responses		(f) Estimate of Burden Hours per response	Subtotal Burden Hours Per Respondent		(g) Total Annual Burden Hours
		Individuals	Private Sector Business		Individuals	Private Sector Business		Individuals	Private Sector Business	
Farm Bill Contract Cancellation and Release of Liability	FS-2400-70	.3333	2.9997	1	.3333	2.9997	0.2	.06666 ≈ .1	.59994 ≈ .6	.7
Farm Bill Request for Relief and Release of Liability Statement	FS-2400-71	28.3333	254.9997	1	28.3333	254.9997	0.2	5.66666 ≈ 6	50.99994 ≈ 51	57
Farm Bill Classification of Sale Volume	No Form	2.6667	24	1	2.6667	24	0.5	1.33335 ≈ 1	12	13
SOPi Extension	No Form	1.3333	11.9997	1	1.3333	11.9997	0.2	.26666 ≈ .3	2.39994 ≈ 2.4	2.7
MRCTA Liability waiver and request for index change	FS-2400-72 or FS-2400-73	2	18	1	2	18	0.5	1	9	10
Totals	--	15.3	311.7	--	34.6	311.7	--	8.4	75	83.4 ≈ 83

The Supporting Statement for OMB 0596-0212

Extension of Timber Sales

October 2008

- **Record keeping burden should be addressed separately and should include columns for:**
 - a) **Description of record keeping activity: None**
 - b) **Number of record keepers: None**
 - c) **Annual hours per record keeper: None**
 - d) **Total annual record keeping hours (columns b x c): Zero**
- **Provide estimates of annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens for collections of information, identifying and using appropriate wage rate categories.**

Table 5

(a) Description of the Collection Activity	(b) Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents (Hours)	(c)* Estimated Average Income per Hour	(d) Estimated Cost to Respondents
Farm Bill Request for Relief Option	.7	\$25.98	\$18.19
Farm Bill Cancellation Liability Release	57	\$25.98	\$1480.86
Farm Bill Classify Sale Volume	13	\$25.98	\$337.74
SOPJ Extension	2.7	\$25.98	\$70.15
MRCTA Liability waiver and request for index change	10	\$25.98	\$259.80
Totals	83.4	---	<i>83.4 burden hours = \$2,166.74</i>

The estimated annualized cost to the contractor respondents for the data in this package is approximately \$2,166.74; based on the mean hourly rate from the May 2007 Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Employment and Wages, for occupational series 19-1032 Foresters (www.bls.gov/oes).

- 13. Provide estimates of the total annual cost burden to respondents or record keepers resulting from the collection of information, (do not include the cost of any hour burden shown in items 12 and 14). The cost estimates should be split into two components: (a) a total capital and start-up cost component annualized over its expected useful life; and (b) a total operation and maintenance and purchase of services component.**

There are no capital operation and maintenance costs.

- 14. Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government. Provide a description of the method used to estimate cost and any other expense that would not have been incurred without this collection of information.**

The response to this question covers the actual costs the agency will incur as a result of implementing the information collection. The estimate should cover the entire life cycle of the collection and include costs, if applicable, for:

- **Employee labor and materials for developing, printing, storing forms**
- **Employee labor and materials for developing computer systems, screens, or reports to support the collection**
- **Employee travel costs**

The Supporting Statement for OMB 0596-0212

Extension of Timber Sales

October 2008

- **Cost of contractor services or other reimbursements to individuals or organizations assisting in the collection of information**
- **Employee labor and materials for collecting the information**
- **Employee labor and materials for analyzing, evaluating, summarizing, and/or reporting on the collected information**

Table 5

ACTION ITEM	PERSONNEL	GS LEVEL	HOURLY RATE*	HOURS	SALARY
Farm Bill Request for Relief Option	Contracting Officer	12	\$39.55	212.5	\$8,404.38
Farm Bill Cancellation Liability Release	Contracting Officer	12	\$39.55	2.5	98.88
Farm Bill Classify Sale Volume	Contracting Officer	12	\$39.55	40	1,582.00
SOPI Extension	Contracting Officer	12	\$39.55	10	395.50
MRCTA Liability waiver and request for index change	Contracting Officer	12	\$39.55	10	395.50
Totals				550	\$10,875.26

Timber sale contracting officers will initiate the request for information and process the information received. The Forest Service estimates that contracting officers will spend an average of ¼ hour per response for action items 1, 2, and 4, and an average of ½ hour per response for action items 3 and 5. The hourly rate of a GS-12/4 used in the above calculations.

** Taken from: <http://www.opm.gov/oca/08tables/index.asp>, Cost to Government calculated at hourly wage multiplied by 1.3*

15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments reported in items 13 or 14 of OMB form 83-I.

Initially, this information received emergency approval for 1230 responses and 206 burden hours. Based on responses received from June 2008 through September 2008, the estimated number of responses and burden hours has decreased significantly. This renewal package requests approval of ~~347~~ 347 responses and 83 burden hours, and has been reorganized into two ICs: Individual and Private Sector. Two new forms FS-2400-72 and FS-2400-73 have been added, in addition to a SOPI extension (no form designated) - based on proposed changes to 36 CFR 223.52 (based on changes to the Farm Bill).

16. For collections of information whose results are planned to be published, outline plans for tabulation and publication.

There are no plans to publish results of this information collection.

17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons that display would be inappropriate.

The Forest Service will display the OMB approval expiration date.

18. Explain each exception to the certification statement identified in item 19, "Certification Requirement for Paperwork Reduction Act."

There are no exceptions to the certification statement identified in item 19 of form 83-I, "Certification Requirement for Paperwork Reduction Act."

B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods

The Forest Service does not employ statistical methods regarding the information collected.