

funding for the HCP will be provided; (4) the taking will not appreciably reduce the likelihood of the survival and recovery of the species in the wild; and (5) the measures, if any, required by the Service will be met, and we have received assurances that the plan will be implemented, the Service will issue SPI its requested permit. Regulations governing permits for endangered and threatened species are at 50 CFR 17.22 and 17.32.

Proposed Sierra Pacific Industries Habitat Conservation Plan

The SPI HCP will encompass land within the State of California where SPI timber management operations occur. SPI currently manages about 1.6 million acres of timber land in the State of California. Activities to be covered by the proposed HCP include those necessary to manage and harvest timber land within the State of California. Covered activities also include development and management of mitigation measures and monitoring.

The SPI HCP will cover the federally listed Northern spotted owl and the unlisted California spotted owl. Both species are subject to injury or mortality during timber harvest operations and management activities.

Alternatively, the California Spotted owl will potentially be covered by a SPI CCAA, and the Northern spotted owl will be covered under the SPI HCP.

Environmental Impact Statement

NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) requires that Federal agencies conduct an environmental analysis of their proposed actions to determine if the actions may significantly affect the human environment. Through our early analysis and based on 40 CFR 1502.3, we have determined that implementation of the proposed SPI HCP may have significant impacts on the human environment and, because it involves spotted owls and timber harvest, is likely to be controversial. Therefore, before deciding whether to issue an ITP to SPI, we will prepare an EIS to analyze the environmental impacts associated with issuance of the ITP. The EIS will also include analysis of a reasonable range of alternatives to the proposed action. Alternatives considered in the EIS may include, but are not limited to, variations in the permit term or permit structure; the No Surprises timeframe allowed under the ITP; the level of take allowed; the level, location, or type of conservation, monitoring, or mitigation provided; the scope of covered activities; the list of covered species; or a combination of

these factors. Additionally, a no action alternative will be included.

Request for Information

We request data, comments, new information, or suggestions from the public, other concerned governmental agencies, the scientific community, Tribes, industry, or any other interested party on this notice. We will consider these comments in developing the draft EIS. We seek specific comments on:

1. Biological information and relevant data concerning covered species;
2. Additional information concerning the range, distribution, population size, and population trends of covered species;
3. Direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts that implementation of the proposed covered activities could have on endangered, threatened, and other covered species, and their communities or habitats;
4. Other possible alternatives to the proposed action(s) that the Service should consider;
5. Other current or planned activities in the subject area and their possible impacts on covered species;
6. The presence of archaeological sites, buildings and structures, historic events, sacred and traditional areas, and other historic preservation concerns, which are required to be considered in project planning by the National Historic Preservation Act; and
7. Any other environmental issues that should be considered with regard to the proposed SPI HCP, and permit action(s).

Public Availability of Comments

You may submit your comments and materials by one of the methods listed above in the **ADDRESSES** section. Before including your address, phone number, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—might be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Comments and materials we receive, as well as supporting documentation we use in preparing the EIS, will be available for public inspection by appointment, during normal business hours, at the Service's Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office in Sacramento, California (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

Scoping Meetings

See **DATES** for the dates and times of the public scoping meetings. The primary purpose of these meetings and public comment period is to provide the public with a general understanding of the background of the proposed action and to solicit suggestions and information on the scope of issues and alternatives we should consider when drafting the EIS. Written comments will be accepted at the meetings. Comments can also be submitted by methods listed in **ADDRESSES**. Once the draft EIS and proposed SPI HCP are complete and made available for review, there will be additional opportunity for public comment on the content of those documents.

Persons needing reasonable accommodations in order to attend and participate in the public meetings should contact the Service using one of the methods listed in **ADDRESSES** as soon as possible. In order to allow sufficient time to process requests, please make contact no later than one week before the public meeting. Information regarding this proposed action is available in alternative formats, upon request.

Authority

We provide this notice under section 10 of the ESA and per NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1501.7, 1506.5 and 1508.22).

Michael Senn,

Acting Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, Pacific Southwest Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

[178A2100DD/AAKC001030/AOA501010.999900 253G]; OMB Control Number 1076-0177]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Tribal Energy Development Capacity Program

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) are proposing to renew an information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before September 22, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments on this information collection request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget's Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior by email at OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov; or via facsimile to (202) 395-5806. Please provide a copy of your comments to Mr. Chandler Allen, Division of Energy and Mineral Development, Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development, Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, 13922 Denver West Parkway, Suite 200, Lakewood, CO 80401; facsimile: (303) 969-5273; email: Chandler.Allen@bia.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 1076-0177 in the subject line of your comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request additional information about this ICR, contact Mr. Chandler Allen by email at Chandler.Allen@bia.gov, or by telephone at (720) 407-0607. You may also view the ICR at <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we provide the general public and other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

A **Federal Register** notice with a 60-day public comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on June 15, 2017 (82 FR 27521). No comments were received.

We are again soliciting comments on the proposed ICR that is described below. We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is the collection necessary to the proper functions of the BIA (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the BIA enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the BIA minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. Before including your address, phone number, email address,

or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Abstract: The Energy Policy Act of 2005 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance to Indian Tribes and Tribal energy resource development organizations for energy development and appropriates funds for such projects on a year-to-year basis. See 25 U.S.C. 3502. When funding is available, the Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development (IEED) may solicit proposals for projects for building capacity for Tribal energy resource development on Indian land from Tribal energy resource development organizations and Indian Tribes, including Alaska Native regional and village corporations under the TEDC program. For the purposes of this program, "Indian land" includes: All land within the boundaries of an Indian reservation, pueblo, or rancheria; any land outside those boundaries that is held by the United States in trust for a Tribe or individual Indian or by a Tribe or individual Indian with restrictions on alienation; and land owned by an Alaska Native regional or village corporation.

Those who would like to submit a TEDC project proposal must submit an application that includes certain information and, once funding is received must submit reports on how they are using the funding. A complete application must contain the following:

- A formal signed resolution of the governing body of the Tribe or Tribal energy resource development organization demonstrating authority to apply;
- A proposal describing the planned activities and deliverable products; and
- A detailed budget estimate, including contracted personnel costs, travel estimates, data collection and analysis costs, and other expenses.

The project proposal must include the information about the Tribe or Tribal energy resource development organization sufficient to allow IEED to evaluate the proposal based on the following criteria:

- (a) Energy resource potential;
- (b) Applicant's energy resource development history and current status;
- (c) Applicant's existing energy resource development capabilities;

(d) Demonstrated willingness of the applicant to establish and maintain an independent energy resource development business entity;

(e) Intent to develop and retain energy development capacity within the applicant's government or business entities; and

(f) Applicant commitment of staff, training, or monetary resources.

The IEED requires this information to ensure that it provides funding only to those projects that meet the goals of the TEDC and the purposes for which Congress provides the appropriations.

Title of Collection: Tribal Energy Development Capacity Program.

OMB Control Number: 1076-0177.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: Indian Tribes and Tribal energy resource development organizations under 25 U.S.C. 3502.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 26 per year, on average; 9 project participants each year, on average.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 26 applications per year, on average; 18 progress reports per year, on average.

Estimated Completion Time per Response: 40 hours per application; 1.5 hours per progress report.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 1,067 hours (1,040 for applications and 27 for progress reports).

Respondent's Obligation: Responses required to receive a benefit.

Frequency of Collection: Once per year for applications; 2 times per year for progress reports.

Total Estimated Annual Nonhour Burden Cost: \$0.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The authority for this action is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*)

Elizabeth K. Appel,

Director, Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action—Indian Affairs.

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