

2019 Supporting Statement - Part B OMB 0596-0201
Role of Communities in Stewardship Contracting Projects

B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods

- 1. Describe (including a numerical estimate) the potential respondent universe and any sampling or other respondent selection method to be used. Data on the number of entities (e.g., establishments, State and local government units, households, or persons) in the universe covered by the collection and in the corresponding sample are to be provided in tabular form for the universe as a whole and for each of the strata in the proposed sample. Indicate expected response rates for the collection as a whole. If the collection had been conducted previously, include the actual response rate achieved during the last collection.**

This being the sixth year of surveying the results of the U.S. Forest Service Stewardship program, it was decided this would be a good year to evaluate the monitoring process. So, for 2019, the project will include reviewing the reports generated from 2013-2018 to identify projects that were reviewed in those years. From this list of projects, a portion of them will be reviewed to see if the recommendations presented were implemented and whether the program saw success based on these recommendations. Results of the review will be presented regionally throughout the year.

2. Describe the procedures for the collection of information including:

- **Statistical methodology for stratification and sample selection,**
- **Estimation procedure,**
- **Degree of accuracy needed for the purpose described in the justification,**
- **Unusual problems requiring specialized sampling procedures, and**
- **Any use of periodic (less frequent than annual) data collection cycles to reduce burden.**

A review of all the annual reports from 2013-2018 will be done to identify the projects that were evaluated. From this list, a selection of the projects to follow up on will be randomly selected. The key principals in each project will be contacted and asked a series of questions on the success of the project and the usefulness of the recommendations. The key principals to be surveyed will include the Forest Supervisor, FS program manager overseeing the Stewardship project and the partners that were/are involved in the project.

- 3. Describe methods to maximize response rates and to deal with issues of non-response. The accuracy and reliability of information collected must be shown to be adequate for intended uses. For collections based on sampling, a special justification must be provided for any collection that will not yield "reliable" data that can be generalized to the universe studied.**

The phone survey method is used in order to secure a high response rate. The phone interview is conducted at a time convenient for the participant. In addition the potential respondent universe includes only individuals who have chosen to be involved in some manner in a stewardship contracting project; therefore they will be familiar with the information in the survey. Currently, we have had 100 percent of the individuals contacted responding. However, if there were a selected individual who did not wish to participate in the survey, the interviewer would randomly select (using stratified random sampling based on type) another participant from the project's list.

- 4. Describe any tests of procedures or methods to be undertaken. Testing is encouraged as an effective means of refining collections of information to minimize burden and improve utility. Tests must be approved if they call for answers to identical questions from 10 or more respondents. A proposed test or set of tests may be submitted for approval separately or in combination with the main collection of information.**

No tests or procedures are undertaken. An OMB survey number was awarded, the information collection has been renewed, and the survey has been conducted for six years.

- 5. Provide the name and telephone number of individuals consulted on statistical aspects of the design and the name of the agency unit, contractor(s), grantee(s), or other person(s) who will actually collect and/or analyze the information for the agency.**

The Pinchot Institute for Conservation and their subcontractors will be collecting and analyzing the data. The project manager at Pinchot Institute is William C. Price, President, willprice@pinchot.org, 202.797.6580. Lead analyst will be Dr. Tony Cheng, Colorado State University.