

found in the Forest Plan; whether the EIS has sufficient environmental analysis to make an informed decision; and whether the proposed action meets the purpose and need for action. With this information, the Responsible Official must decide whether to select the proposed action and what, if any, additional actions should be required.

Substantive Provisions

Guidance for management of the Monument comes from the 1985 Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument's Comprehensive Management Plan, which is fully incorporated into the 1990 Gifford Pinchot National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan), as amended by the 1994 Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl.

All actions authorized by the Forest Service on National Forest System lands must be consistent with the Forest Plan. If a proposed project-specific action is not consistent with the Forest Plan, the Responsible Official may modify the proposed action to make it consistent with the plan, reject the proposed action, or amend the plan such that the action will be consistent with the plan, as amended. When proposing a forest plan amendment, the planning regulations require the Responsible Official to identify in this notice which specific substantive requirements (36 CFR 219.8 through 219.11) are directly related to the plan direction being modified by the amendment based on the purpose of the amendment or the effects of the amendment (36 CFR 219.13(b)(5)).

The substantive requirements that are likely directly related to the purpose of the forest plan amendments are 36 CFR 219.8(a)(3)(i)(B), 219.8(a)(3)(i)(G), and 219.8(b)(1).

An amendment to Management Area A Recreation—Planning and Inventory standard and guideline 2 may be needed to allow project activities within the Monument and for potential road upgrades along the road corridors of FS-99 and FR-25 to exceed the Retention VQO during project implementation. The substantive requirements that are likely directly related to the effects of this forest plan amendment are 36 CFR 219.8(b)(2), 219.10(a)(1), and 219.10(b)(1)(i).

An amendment to Management Area A Recreation—Use Administration standard and guideline 2 may be needed to allow for off-road vehicle during the summer during project implementation.

The substantive requirements that are likely directly related to the effects of this forest plan amendment are 36 CFR 219.8(a)(2)(ii), 219.10(a)(1), and 219.10(a)(5).

An amendment to Management Area A Facilities—Road Operations standard and guideline 1 may be needed to add National Forest System road(s) in the area. The substantive requirement that is likely directly related to the effects of this forest plan amendment is 36 CFR 219.10(a)(3).

An amendment to Management Area A Facilities—Road Operations standards and guidelines 2 and 3 may be needed to allow for road and off-road vehicle use on Deer and Elk Winter Range from December 1 to April 1 during project implementation. The substantive requirements that are likely directly related to the effects of this forest plan amendment are 36 CFR 219.9(a)(1), 219.10(a)(1), and 219.10(a)(5).

Keith Lannom,

Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Business Enterprise Research and Development Survey

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on May 29, 2024, during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

Agency: U.S. Census Bureau, Commerce.

Title: Business Enterprise Research and Development Survey.

OMB Control Number: 0607–0912.

Form Number(s): BRD–1.

Type of Request: Regular submission, Request for an Extension, without

Change, of a Currently Approved Collection.

Number of Respondents: 47,500.

Average Hours per Response: 2 hours and 37 minutes.

Burden Hours: 124,450.

Needs and Uses: The Census Bureau is requesting clearance to continue to conduct the Business Enterprise Research and Development Survey (BERD) for the 2024–2026 survey years without change. Companies are the major performers of research and development (R&D) in the United States, accounting for over 70 percent of total U.S. R&D expenditures each year. A consistent business R&D information base is essential to government officials formulating public policy, industry personnel involved in corporate planning, and members of the academic community conducting research. To develop policies designed to promote and enhance science and technology, past trends and the present status of R&D must be known and analyzed. Without comprehensive business R&D statistics, it would be impossible to evaluate the health of science and technology in the United States or to make comparisons between the technological progress of our country and that of other nations.

BERD is a joint statistical project between the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES) within the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Census Bureau. The National Science Foundation Act of 1950 as amended authorizes and directs the National Science Foundation “. . . to provide a central clearinghouse for the collection, interpretation, and analysis of data on scientific and engineering resources and to provide a source of information for policy formulation by other agencies of the Federal government” and the authority was renewed by Section 505 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010. This mandate is fulfilled by NCSES. One of the methods used by NCSES to fulfill this mandate is the BERD (and its predecessor surveys)—the primary federal source of information on R&D in the business sector. NCSES together with the Census Bureau, the collecting and compiling agent, analyze the data and publish the resulting statistics.

NCSES has published annual R&D statistics collected from the Survey of Industrial Research and Development (1953–2007), the Business R&D and Innovation Survey (2008–2016), the Business Research and Development Survey (2017 and 2018), and the Business Enterprise Research and Development Survey (2019–2023) for 70

years. The results of the surveys are used to assess trends in R&D expenditures by industry sector, investigate productivity determinants, formulate science and tax policy, and compare individual company performance with industry averages. This survey is the Nation's primary source for international comparative statistics on business R&D spending.

BERD will continue to collect the following types of information:

- R&D expense based on accepted accounting standards.
- Worldwide R&D of domestic companies.
- Business segment detail.
- R&D related capital expenditures.
- Detailed data about the R&D workforce.
- R&D strategy and data on the potential impact of R&D on the market.

Beginning in 2019, in an effort to reduce burden, BERD began rotating select content off the survey in alternating years. In 2019, questions related to intellectual property and technology transfer were removed from the survey. In 2020, questions related to detail of R&D performed by others, activities with academia, industries of business and specific federal agency funding R&D, and areas of application for R&D were removed and the intellectual property and technology transfer questions rotated back on. This cycle of rotating content has continued. In 2021, the Capital Expenditures section was revised to collect additional information on assets. Proposed at that time was to collect two consecutive years of data (for 2021 and 2022) and rotate select asset content off the survey in alternating years. So, in 2023, BERD would have had a subset of the asset content, and in 2024, all of the asset content would have been included on the survey. This proposed content rotation did not occur in 2023.

However, the rotation will commence in 2024. Resulting in a subset of the asset content collected in 2024 and all of the asset content collected in 2025 and so on, similar to the other rotating content. Census and NCSES will continue to explore content that could be collected less frequently than annual in an effort to continue to reduce respondent burden.

Information from BERD will continue to support NCSES' responsibility to collect information on Research and Development for overall support for Federal policy discussions, as required under the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010.

Policy officials from many Federal agencies rely on these statistics for essential information. Businesses and

trade organizations rely on BERD data to benchmark their industry's performance against others. For example, total U.S. R&D expenditures statistics are used by the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) for incorporating R&D as fixed investment in updates to the National Income and Product Accounts (NIPAs). Also, NCSES, BEA and the Census Bureau periodically seek to use BERD data to augment global R&D investment information that is obtained from BEA's Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and U.S. Direct Investment Abroad (USDIA) surveys. Further, the Census Bureau links data collected by BERD with other statistical files. At the Census Bureau, historical company-level R&D data are linked to a file that contains information on the outputs and inputs of companies' manufacturing plants. Researchers can analyze the relationships between R&D funding and other economic variables by using micro-level data.

Individuals and organizations access the survey statistics via the internet in annual InfoBriefs published by NCSES that announce the availability of statistics from each cycle of BERD and detailed statistical table reports that contain all the statistics NCSES produces from BERD. Information about the kinds of projects that rely on statistics from BERD is available from internal records of Census' Center for Economic Studies. In addition, survey statistics are regularly cited in trade publications and many researchers use the survey statistics from these secondary sources without directly contacting NCSES or the Census Bureau. Some of the users of the survey statistics and the types of information they request are described below.

Frequency: Annually.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: The survey is conducted under the authority of Title 13, United States Code, Sections 8(b), 131, and 182; Title 42, United States Code, Sections 1861–76 (National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended); and Section 505 within the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010.

This information collection request may be viewed at www.reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day

Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function and entering either the title of the collection or the OMB Control Number 0607–0912.

Sheleen Dumas,

Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Current Population Survey (CPS) 2025 Field Test

AGENCY: Census Bureau, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of information collection, request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment on the proposed new information collection, Current Population Survey (CPS) 2025 Field Test, prior to the submission of the information collection request (ICR) to OMB for approval.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before November 29, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments by email to Kyra Linse, Survey Director, Current Population Surveys via the internet at dsc.cps@census.gov. Please reference Current Population Survey (CPS) 2025 Field Test in the subject line of your comments. You may also submit comments, identified by Docket Number USBC–2024–0023, to the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. All comments received are part of the public record. No comments will be posted to <http://www.regulations.gov> for public viewing until after the comment period has closed. Comments will generally be posted without change. All Personally Identifiable Information (for example, name and address) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be