

Supporting Statement A for OMB 0596-0003

GRAZING PERMIT ADMINISTRATION

Terms of Clearance (5 CFR 1320)

In accordance with 5 CFR 1320, the information collection is approved for three years.

Abstract (5 CFR 1320)

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) collects information necessary to administer livestock grazing permits and related actions on approximately 94 million acres of National Forest System (NFS) lands. This collection supports statutory and regulatory requirements under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1700 et seq.) and USDA regulations at 36 CFR 222, subparts A and C. The agency requires this information to determine applicant eligibility, issue new grazing permits, process permit renewals and modifications, verify ownership or legal entity status, administer waivers or escrow actions, and ensure compliance with laws and regulations governing rangeland management.

The collection consists of seven national rangeland management forms used for both new applicants and existing permit holders, along with one new form establishing Grazing Agreements with formally recognized Grazing Associations. These forms provide essential data for permit issuance; administration of financial transactions such as fee refunds, credits, or transfers; documentation of waivers and lien-holder interests; and verification of livestock ownership and corporate or partnership organization. Data from these forms are also used to prepare year-end summaries, the Annual Grazing Statistical Summary Report, and information provided to the National Agricultural Statistics Service every five years.

Respondents include individuals, family partnerships, corporations, and other legal entities that graze livestock on NFS lands. Approximately 70 percent of respondents are small businesses. Respondents complete forms electronically or manually, with options for submission via email, mail, fax, phone, or face-to-face interactions with Forest Service personnel. Forms are designed to minimize burden while ensuring adequate information for decision-making. On average, approximately 1,655 responses are submitted annually.

This submission represents a tri-annual renewal for the existing seven forms and includes one new form for Grazing Agreements. Although the number of responses fluctuates annually due to permit expirations, new applications, and administrative actions, there have been no changes to the underlying processes for the forms being renewed. The new form captures information previously presented in formats based on local preferences. The new form will establish a formalized grazing agreement framework. Without these information collections, the Forest Service would be unable to issue or administer grazing permits,

evaluate qualifications, or maintain compliance with federal statutory and regulatory mandates.

Federal Register Thesaurus of Indexing Terms (Suggested):

Grazing lands; Livestock; Rangeland management; Permits; Public lands; Agriculture; Natural resources; Federal lands; Information collection.

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.**

Annually, livestock grazing occurs on approximately 94 million acres of National Forest System (NFS) lands. Information must be collected on an individual basis from applicants and/or permit holders to allow proper administration of the livestock grazing program. Similar information is not available from any other source. The information collected is subject to authorization and administrative oversight by the U.S. Forest Service, and is required for the issuance and administration of livestock grazing permits, including fee collections, as authorized by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976, as amended, 43 U.S.C. 1700 et seq. and USDA regulations at 36 CFR 222, subparts A and C. This applies to both the seven forms for renewal and the new form for grazing agreements.

U.S. Code

Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 (43 U.S.C. §§1701-2, 43 U.S.C. § 1732 and 43 U.S.C. §§1751-1752 relate to FS grazing).

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

Table 1 below displays the types of information collection forms that are needed in connection with the rangeland management program. The information collected is needed to issue livestock grazing permits to qualified and/or preferred applicants. There is no change to that process for collecting data. Each form displays specific information that is required for the specific type of grazing permit. All seven forms included with this request are national-level rangeland management forms that allow for consistency among the established U.S. Forest Service Regions that authorize livestock grazing on NFS lands (Regions 1 through 9).

Each of these forms is designed to address a unique management circumstance associated with the livestock grazing program on NFS lands. The forms are completed by the new applicants requesting grazing use, by the existing permit holders (permittees) requesting a specific program administration action, or by prior permit holders requesting a new permit. This is done in cooperation with rangeland management personnel and the authorized officer at the appropriate administrative Forest Service office.

Table 1 - Information Collection

Form	Description	Information Provided to:	Prepared by
FS-2200-001	<u>Refund, Credit, or Transfer Application*</u> : Prepared to request a refund, credit, or transfer of any unused portion of previously paid grazing fees. The agency uses the information to determine the appropriate response to the permittee's request as well as determine the amount of refund, credit, or transfer of the grazing fee. Authority for the request of this information is 5 U.S.C. 301, 36 CFR 222.50(i).	Forest Officer	Permit Holder
FS-2200-002	<u>Application for Temporary Grazing or Livestock Use Permit (for Temporary Grazing or Livestock Use)</u> : Use of a specific form of livestock grazing that is based on the type of permit being requested. The Forest Service uses the information to determine qualifications and eligibility of an applicant for a permit and to issue the appropriate permit. This information is requested and specifically designed to	Forest Officer	Applicant and/or Permit Holder

Form	Description	Information Provided to:	Prepared by
	provide information for a specific type of grazing permit as authorized in 5 U.S.C. 301, 36 CFR 222.3(c).		
FS-2200-016	Application for Term Grazing Permit (for Term Grazing)	Forest Officer	Applicant and/or Permit Holder
FS-2200-017	Application for Term Private Land Grazing Permit (for Term Private Land Grazing).	Forest Officer	Applicant and/or Permit Holder
FS-2200-012	<u>Waiver of Term Grazing Permit*</u> : Prepared when a permittee waives their permitted grazing privileges back to the United States. It may also identify a purchaser of the permitted livestock and/or base property associated with the permit. The Forest Service uses this information to cancel an existing grazing permit, to identify the preferred permit applicant based on the purchase of permitted livestock and/or base property, and to issue a subsequent grazing permit. This information is requested under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 301, 36 CFR 222.3(c)(1)(vi)(F).	Forest Officer	Permit Holder
FS-2200-013	<u>Escrow Waiver of Term Grazing Permit Privileges*</u> : Prepared when a permittee requests the use of permitted livestock or base property associated with a grazing permit as collateral security for a loan. The agency uses this information to identify a lien holder so that in the event of default on the loan, the grazing permit can be assigned to the lien holder. Escrow waiver provisions and procedures are acknowledged in the February 10, 1938 Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Agriculture and the Farm Credit Administration and subsequent December 21, 1990 Memorandum of Understanding between the Forest Service and the Farm Credit Banks. Authority for requesting this information is 5 U.S.C. 301, 36 CFR 222.3(c)(1)(vi)(F).	Forest Officer	Applicant and/or Permit Holder
FS-2200-025	<u>Ownership Statement by Corporation, Partnership, or Other Legal Entity*</u> : Identifies the corporate or partnership structure of the applicant or permit holder. Allows the Forest Officer to issue grazing permits in consideration of the applicant's or permittee's legal organization of the entity. Authority for this information request is 5 U.S.C. 301, 36 CFR 222.3(c).	Forest Officer	Applicant and/or Permit Holder
NEW FORM	<u>Grazing Agreement</u> : Prepared when issuing a formal grazing agreement with a formally recognized Grazing Association to outline the parameters of the agreement.	Applicant and/or Permit Holder	Forest Officer
* Forms or documents may be required in conjunction with FS-2200-002, FS-2200-016, FS-2200-017, and/or FS-2200-025.			

a. What will this information be used for? Provide ALL uses.

The seven national-level standard rangeland management forms are used only to acquire data from applicants applying for new grazing permits or making changes to their current grazing permit(s). For new applicants, the information collected will be associated with acquiring a new livestock grazing permit. For existing permit holders, the information collected will be associated with actions pertaining to their current livestock grazing permit and/or renewal of their livestock grazing permit. For prior permit holders, the information collected will be the same as for new applicants (to acquire a new livestock grazing permit).

The new grazing agreement form will document the agreement between the USFS and the permit holder the parameters for grazing being permitted.

Additional uses for data collected via the rangeland management information collection forms include creating summaries and reports with electronic data to create year-end reports and the Annual Grazing Statistical Summary Report, providing information to the National Agricultural Statistics Service every five years for their Census information.

b. How will the information be collected (for example 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?

These forms can be requested and obtained from the local NFS units electronically via fax, face-to-face, over the phone, over the internet, or via written request through U.S. mail. The forms would then be completed by the applicant and/or their representatives, or in situations of face-to-face settings with agency personnel. These forms are designed so they may be completed manually or electronically. The completed forms may be printed hardcopy or sent via email electronically.

Respondents would be allowed to choose the option best suited for their needs:

1. Complete form(s) on their own then submit for review electronically or hard copy;
2. Complete the grazing permit forms electronically with assistance from forest officer; and/or
3. Complete the grazing permit forms electronically or hard copy at face-to-face meetings with assistance from forest officer.

All completed forms must be reviewed and approved by the forest officer.

Electronic Capability:

Is this collection available electronically? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, can this collection be submitted electronically? Yes ☒ No ☐

Each avenue of information collected will need to choose one of the descriptions below:

☐ Fillable, Fileable

☒ Fillable, Printable

☐ Fillable, Fileable, Signable

☐ Paper only

☐ Printable only

Include the Uniform Resource Locator (URL): <https://usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/fs-orms/orms-forms/Pages/FormsBrowse.aspx>

c. How frequently will the information be collected?

Frequency of use for each form would vary depending on the type of data collection form requested by respondents. In general:

1. FS-2200-001 is completed as needed to request a refund, credit, or transfer of paid grazing fees;
2. FS-2200-002 is completed annually to request temporary grazing or livestock use;
3. FS-2200-012 is completed on a one-time-basis when the grazing permit is waived;
4. FS-2200-013 is completed on a one-time-basis when a lien for the permitted livestock and/or base property exists and at the time of release from the lien;
5. FS-2200-016 is completed on a one-time-basis to apply for a term grazing permit;
6. FS-2200-017 is completed on a one-time-basis to apply for a private land permit; and
7. FS-2200-025 is completed on a one-time-basis when the applicant is recognized as a corporation, partnership, or other legal entity and anytime during the term grazing permit to revise the existing ownership statement.
8. NEW FORM will be completed on a one-time-basis when issuing a grazing agreement for a ten-year term. Grazing agreement is completed by the Forest Officer and provided to the Applicant/Permit Holder.

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

The information collected is shared with other organizations via the Annual Grazing Statistical Summary Report which displays grazing permit data for national, regional, and State totals for number and type of livestock data provided in data collection forms FS-

2200-002, FS-2200-016, and FS-2200-017. The Annual Grazing Statistical Summary Report is also posted on the U.S. Forest Service website, for internet viewing by the public at www.fs.fed.us/rangeland-management/reports/index.shtml.

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

The information collection requirements for these seven rangeland management forms associated with the livestock grazing program have remained constant over time. The forms were updated to allow for electronic completion with fill-in data fields. This was done to provide an option for respondents to complete the data collection forms on printed copies or electronically.

The new form for grazing agreements is a new information 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, such as 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.

Information technology applications are available for this information collection. The forms are available electronically to agency personnel and may be forwarded to respondents electronically for completion or completed on-site at the respective NFS units. Completion of the national level rangeland management forms electronically reduces the amount of total time needed to complete, review, and process each form.

All seven forms for renewal have been updated to allow for electronic fill-in using common MS Word software. Information can be collected electronically from respondents. Upon final review and acceptance of the completed forms, original signatures must be acquired on hard copies from the applicant and/or permit holder requesting the action, from the Forest Officer that is recommending the action, and finally from the Forest Officer that approves the action.

The grazing agreement form will be completed by the Forest Officer electronically.

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 Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and U.S. Forest Service collect similar information associated with administration of their livestock grazing programs. A review was performed of each of these Agency's programs and forms. Due to the

geographically unique nature of these permits, and of the location of permit holders, no duplication was identified.

Each of the seven rangeland management forms and the new grazing agreement form collects specific information. This unique information required to issue and administer livestock grazing permits for geographically unique parcels of NFS lands is not available from any other source.

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

The collection of information may impact small business or other small entities such as an individual, family partnership, corporation, or other legal entities associated with ranches or small farms, including commercial recreation operators who wish to graze livestock on NFS lands. The information is requested infrequently, such as when there is a new applicant, following the expiration of existing grazing permits, or when a particular administrative action is requested by the permittee. These forms have been specifically designed to collect the least amount of information possible and still achieve program compliance from all respondents to reduce burden to the public. Out of the average of 1,655 respondents annually, the Agency estimates that 70% are small businesses.

The new grazing agreement form is the documented permit issued by the USFS to a formally recognized Grazing Association.

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 frequency of information collection has been minimized to the maximum extent possible and could not be reduced without elimination of information collection. Elimination would make it impossible for the Forest Service to administer the livestock grazing program in accordance with statutes and regulations. It is essential that the agency acquire the requested information to determine the applicant's qualifications for the livestock grazing permit, to ensure a permittee's compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and for other administrative actions that may arise in the rangeland management program.

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

a. Requiring respondents to report information to the agency more often than quarterly.

This collection of information does not have a requirement for the information to be collected quarterly or more.

b. Requiring respondents to prepare a written response to a collection of information in fewer than 30 days after receipt.

This collection of information does not have a requirement for the information to prepare a written response to the collection of information in fewer than 30 days after receipt.

c. Requiring respondents to submit more than an original and two copies of any document.

This collection of information does not have a requirement for the respondents to submit more than an original document.

d. Requiring respondents to retain records, other than health, medical, government contract, grant-in-aid, or tax records for more than three years.

This collection of information is under United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service File Code 2230, Grazing and Livestock Use Permit System, Temporary or up to 75 years. The collection does not have a mandatory requirement for retaining records or record keeping.

e. In connection with a statistical survey, that is not designed to produce valid and reliable results that can be generalized to the universe of study.

This collection of information does not have a connection with a statistical survey.

f. Requiring the use of a statistical data classification that has not been reviewed and approved by OMB.

This collection of information does not have a requirement of the use of statistical data classification.

g. 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.

This collection of information does not have a pledge of confidentiality.

- h. 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.**

No information of a sensitive nature is included with this information collection.

On March 19, 2026, a 60-Day Federal Register notice was published at 85 FR 161. A copy of this Federal Register notice is included in this package.

Table 1. Summary of public comments received, and agency response or action taken related to the comment(s)

Commenter (using Personal Identifier protocols)	Comment	Forest Service response or action related to comment
James Rasmussen	Overall, in favor with the collection of information.	No action needed.

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.

The following three groups have been provided copies of the rangeland management forms multiple times to review and comment. Each group appreciated the opportunity to review and comment but no comments were received.

Public Lands Council/National Cattlemen's Beef Association
1275 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 801
Washington DC 20004

202.347.0228

American Sheep Industry Association
9785 Maroon Circle, Suite 360
Englewood, CO 80112
303.771.3500

National Cattlemen's Beef Association
1275 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 801
Washington, D.C. 20004
(202) 347-0228

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

This collection of information does not provide any payment or gift to respondents.

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

No information covered by a Privacy Act and the System of Records Notice are included in the collection of information.

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 are included with this information collection.

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. If this request for approval covers more than one form, provide separate hour burden estimates for each form.

Record keeping burden should be addressed separately and should include columns for:

a) Description of record keeping activity: [None or table entry](#)

b) Number of record keepers: [None or table entry](#)

c) Annual hours per record keeper: [None or table entry](#)

d) Total annual record keeping hours (columns b x c): [Zero or table entry](#)

Table 2 below displays the total number of permits issued the last three years (2023 to 2025). Approximately 1,695 grazing permit related forms were completed in 2023, approximately 1,646 in 2024 and approximately 1,625 in 2025. The number of national level grazing permit forms completed varies by type and by year. Changes from year to year are a result of the random numbers of expiring permits, new applicants seeking to apply for grazing permits, and of special requests from existing permit holders each year.

Table 2: Estimated Total Number of forms used, by Type, During Fiscal Years 2023-2025.

(a) Description of the Collection Activity	(b) Form Number	(c) Number of Respondents ¹		
		FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
Refund, Credit, or Transfer Application	FS-2200-001	116	126	114
Application for Temporary Grazing or Livestock Use Permit	FS-2200-002	110	131	110
Waiver of Term Grazing Permit	FS-2200-012	262	225	248
Escrow Waiver of Term Grazing Permit	FS-2200-013	64	45	43
Application for Term Grazing Permit	FS-2200-016	659	657	629
Application for Term Private Land Grazing Permit	FS-2200-017	35	28	27
Ownership Statement by Corporation, Partnership, or Other Legal Entity	FS-2200-025	449	434	454
Grazing Agreement ²	New	0	0	0
Total¹	---	1,695	1,646	1,625

¹ Based on information reported in Rangeland Information Management System electronic database for each type of grazing permit issued during 2023 to 2025.

² There have been no grazing agreements issued in the last three years.

Table 3 below displays the Annual burden estimate. We will use the average value of the three-year cycle of 1,655 as the estimated number of respondents.

The annual burden hour is estimated by multiplying the estimated number of respondents by the amount of time needed to complete each form. The time needed per form is then converted to hours and rounded to calculate the number of annual burden hours.

Table 3.

(a) Description of Record Keeping Activity	(b) Number of Record Keepers	(c) Annual Hours per Record Keeper	(d) Total Annual Record Keeping Hours (b x c)
FS-2200-001, Refund, Credit, or Transfer Application	119	20	40
FS-2200-002, Application for Temporary Grazing or Livestock Use Permit	117	20	39
FS-2200-012, Waiver of Term Grazing Permit	245	30	122.5
FS-2200-013, Escrow Waiver of Term Grazing Permit	51	20	20
FS-2200-016, Application for Term Grazing Permit	647	30	323.5
FS-2200-017, Application for Term Private Land Grazing Permit	30	20	10
FS-2200-025, Ownership Statement by Corporation, Partnership, or Other Legal Entity	446	10	74
Grazing Agreement	0	0	0
Totals	1,656	--	629

The Grazing Agreement form is a new form and as a result has no documented burden. The agreement was previously a free text format with no standardized form or format. The creation of this form will provide consistency and standardized content. It will make the process more efficient.

Provide estimates of annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens for collections of information, identifying and using appropriate wage rate categories.

Table 4.

(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
FS-2200-001, Refund, Credit, or Transfer Application	40	\$ 47.99	\$ 1,919.60
FS-2200-002, Application for Temp Grazing or Livestock Use Permit	39	\$ 47.99	\$ 1,871.61
FS-2200-012, Waiver of Term Grazing Permit	122.5	\$ 47.99	\$ 5,878.78
FS-2200-013, Escrow Waiver of Term Grazing Permit	20	\$ 47.99	\$ 959.80
FS-2200-016, Application for Term Gazing Permit	323.5	\$ 47.99	\$ 15,524.77
FS-2200-017, Application for Term Private Land Grazing Permit	10	\$ 47.99	\$ 479.90
FS-2200-025, Ownership Statement by Corporation, Partnership, or Other Legal Entity	74	\$ 47.99	\$ 3,551.26
Grazing Agreement	0	\$ 47.99	0
Totals	538	---	\$ 30,185.72

¹ Mean wage of \$47.99 taken from Bureau of Labor Statistics - Occupational Employment Statistics May 2026 National Industry - Specific Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates - NAICS 115200 - Support Activities for Animal Production- Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers
<https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/ocwage.pdf>

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.

This collection does not have capital operation and maintenance costs.

14. Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government.**Table 5. Estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government**

Action Item	Personnel	GS Level	Hourly Rate*	Hours	Salary
FS-2200-001, Refund, Credit, or Transfer Application	District Rangeland Management Specialist	GS-9/3	41.15	40	\$ 1,646.00
FS-2200-002, Application for Temporary Grazing or Livestock Use Permit	District Rangeland Management Specialist	GS-9/3	41.15	36	\$ 1,481.40
FS-2200-012, Waiver of Term Grazing Permit	District Rangeland Management Specialist	GS-9/3	41.15	129	\$ 5,184.90
FS-2200-013, Escrow Waiver of Term Grazing Permit	District Rangeland Management Specialist	GS-9/3	41.15	59	\$ 2,427.85
FS-2200-016, Application for Term Grazing Permit	District Rangeland Management Specialist	GS-9/3	41.15	339	\$ 13,949.85
FS-2200-017, Application for Term Private Land Grazing Permit	District Rangeland Management Specialist	GS-9/3	41.15	12	\$ 493.80
FS-2200-025, Ownership Statement by Corporation, Partnership, or Other Legal Entity	District Rangeland Management Specialist	GS-9/3	41.15	75	\$ 3,086.25
NEW FORM – Grazing Agreement	District Rangeland Management Specialist	GS-9/3	41.15	0	0
Materials for Developing, Printing, Storing of Forms (+ 10%)	District Rangeland Management Specialist				\$ 2,827.01
Total Annual Cost to Federal Government	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	\$ 31,097.06

¹ Estimated cost to the government is based on an average annual salary of a federal employee at a GS-9, step 3: \$ 65,838. The hourly cost was calculated by dividing the annual salary of \$ 65,838 by 2080 work hours per year for a total of \$ 31.65 and then multiplying by 1.3 to account for estimated fringe benefits for a total hourly rate of \$ 41.15. This estimate is derived from the U.S. Office of Personnel Management Salaries and Wages 2026 Salary Table for General Schedule federal employees, GS-9, Step 3 <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/salary-tables/26Tables/pdf/RUS.pdf>

15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments reported on the burden worksheet (IC staff paste answer into ROCIS Burden Short Statement Block).

Upon this submission, the estimated number of responses is now based on the actual number of permits issued by U.S. Forest Service during the previous three years.

Using these more accurate figures, the estimated number of annual responses has decreased by 53 responses, from 1,708 to 1,655. The total of estimated annual burden hours has subsequently decreased 61 hours, from 690 to 629. The estimated annual cost to respondents has decreased approximately \$ 2,345 (from \$ 32,530 to \$ 30,185) due to the increased number of permits. The estimate includes the increase in mean wage from \$46.75 to \$47.99 per hour. The total estimated annual cost to the government increased \$3,621 from approximately \$34,718 to \$31,097. There have been no changes to the process or the forms since then for the seven form being renewed.

The collection of information for the grazing agreement is a new collection request and did not have a previous burden to the public.

16. For collections of information whose results are planned to be published, outline plans for tabulation and publication. Address any complex analytical techniques that will be used. Provide the time schedule for the entire project, including beginning and ending dates of the collection of information, completion of report, publication dates and other actions.

Information collected in these rangeland management forms are used in the publication in the Annual Grazing Statistical Summary Report. The report is published and posted on the U.S. Forest Service website for access by the public. Livestock numbers and type of livestock information from the data collection forms is displayed in the annual report and summarized for NFS lands, National Forests, and National Grasslands by national, regional, and state totals. It can be accessed at: www.fs.fed.us/rangeland-management/reports/index.shtml.

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.

This collection of information is not seeking approval to not display the expiration date.

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

- ☒ On behalf of this USDA Forest Service, I certify that the collection of information encompassed by this request complies with 5 CFR 1320.9 and the related provisions of 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3).