USDA, Forest Service
Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA)/Information Collection Request (ICR)
Justification for a Nonmaterial/Non-substantive Change Request Formally OMB 83c
OMB Control 0596-0082: Special Use Administration

The USDA Forest Service is requesting a nonmaterial/non-substantive change for information collection 0596-0082: Special Use Administration. This request is for approval of a nonmaterial/non-substantive change to offer four of the forms currently approved under this collection to be offered as with an option for electronic submission:

- FS-2700-3b, Special Use Permit for Noncommercial Group Use
- FS-2700-3c, Special Use Application and Permit for Recreation Events
- FS-2700-3f, Special Use Application and Temporary Permit for Outfitting and Guiding
- FS-2700-30, Application for Permit for Archaeological Investigations

Respondents may complete and submit the applications for these special uses on National Forest System lands either in paper format or electronically through a digital portal that the Forest Service is developing and plans to make available on its public website imminently. The electronic version will collect the same information as the paper form; no new data elements have been added. Use of the electronic option will be voluntary. The digital portal is being offered to reduce respondent burden, improve accuracy through automated validation where feasible, eliminate mailing costs and delays, and support Forest Service efforts to expand electronic government services consistent with the Government Paperwork Elimination Act (GPEA). Respondents who prefer to submit a paper form may continue to do so. The Forest Service estimates that offering the electronic option will not increase and may modestly to moderately reduce the overall burden associated with this collection. This change is also addressed in an upcoming 60-day notice as part of the process to revise 0596-0082.