

information for new stores or make updates on current stores on an as needed basis. In addition, we have developed a hard copy version of Form FNS-252-C for corporations that choose to submit a paper version to FNS. If a corporation submits a hard copy of Form FNS-252-C to the field office, field office staff will enter the data manually into STARS II.

Burden Estimates: As noted above, we will evaluate the revised Form FNS-252-2 and Form FNS-252-C on the appropriateness and clarity of the form's content, format and design. Before making final changes to these forms, we will consider feedback from the public. If the results of the evaluation are positive, we will finalize the revised Form FNS-252-2 and the addendum to the revised retailer application, Form FNS-252-C. We will begin using both forms when the new STARS II system is operational, approximately the fourth quarter of 2004. We will continue to use the current Form FNS-252-2 until we are ready to use the revised meal service application.

Reauthorization figures have not been calculated into the burden estimates for meal services and corporations because it is extremely rare that a meal service or corporation is asked to complete a new application at the time of reauthorization. Like traditional retail food stores, meal services and corporations are reauthorized at least once every five years. During the reauthorization process of these firms, however, information on the application is confirmed over the telephone or through some other means. Updates are then made by field office staff in the STARS database. Both meal services and corporations are routinely exempt from a visit prior to authorization and during reauthorization.

The burden associated with the revised Form FNS-252-2 has been determined from information available in the current STARS database on initial authorizations for meal services. We have used end-of-year Fiscal Year (FY) 2002 data as the base number for current estimates. Because of current economic conditions, we believe this number will increase or remain constant for the present year. We will use 219 as the base number for all newly authorized meal services. We have further increased this number by 3% (7) to account for meal service applications that are processed by field offices but are not authorized. As such, we expect to receive and process 226 initial meal service applications in the upcoming year.

The hourly burden rate per response for the current Form FNS-252-2, as

approved by OMB, is 12 minutes. We estimate the burden rate per response for the revised meal service application to be an average of 11 minutes (.18 hour)—a reduction of one minute per response from the current meal service application. Hourly burden time per response varies and includes the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather and copy records, complete and review the application and submit the form and documentation to FNS. We estimate the burden rate per response for the addendum to the revised retailer application, Form FNS-252-C, to be an average of 5 minutes (.08 hour). According to end-of-year FY 2002 data, chain stores accounted for 12.8 percent of all authorized stores (146,423), but only 4 percent were new authorizations (750).

The estimated burden computation is provided below:

New Authorizations 226;
Reauthorizations NA; Total Responses = 226. We estimate the annual burden hours to be 41 hours for the revised Form FNS-252-2. The computation is provided below:

FNS-252-2:

Affected Public: Meal service providers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 226.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses Per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Responses: 226.

Estimated Time Per Response: .18 hours.

Estimate of Burden: $(226 \times .18) = 41$ hours.

We estimate the annual burden hours to be 60 hours for the addendum to the revised retailer application, Form FNS-252-C. The computation is provided below:

Addendum to Revised Retailer Application, Form FNS-252-C:

Affected Public: Retail food stores under a corporation.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 750.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses Per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Responses: 750.

Estimated Time Per Response: .08 hours.

Estimate of Burden: $(750 \times .08) = 60$ hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: $(60 + 41) = 101$ hours.

Dated: December 2, 2003.

Roberto Salazar,

Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.

[FR Doc. 03-31685 Filed 12-23-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Bridger-Teton National Forest, Big Piney Ranger District, Wyoming. Cottonwood II Vegetation Treatment

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The analysis area of 41,420 acres is located in the North and South Cottonwood Creek watershed on the Big Piney Ranger District of the Bridger-Teton National Forest. It is approximately 25 miles north of Big Piney, Wyoming on the east slope of the Wyoming Range. All lands within the analysis area are National Forest System lands, within Sublette and Lincoln Counties, Wyoming. The legal description includes portions of: T32N, R115W; T32N, R116W; T33N, R114W; T33N, R115W; T34N, R115W.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by February 3, 2004. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) is expected to be available to the public in September 2004 and the Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final EIS) is expected to be available to the public in January 2005.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to: District Ranger, Big Piney Ranger District, P.O. Box 218, Big Piney, Wyoming, 83113. For further information, e-mail correspondence to mailroom_r4_bridger_teton@fs.fed.us and on the subject line put only "Cottonwood Vegetation Treatment."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: District Ranger, Big Piney Ranger District, P.O. Box 218, Big Piney, Wyoming 83113 or phone (307) 276-3375.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose and Need for Action

The purpose of this proposal is to improve Forest resource conditions in the North and South Cottonwood Creek drainage, bringing them closer to desired conditions. Attaining the Desiring Future Conditions for each Forest resource will help restore healthy ecosystem functioning and support sustainable resource use.

Alternative 1—Proposed Action

This proposal was developed in response to public issues identified during initial scoping, changes in resource demand since the Cottonwood Plain Implementation Study, and recently identified resource issues. This proposal is also designed to improve