

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Fish and Wildlife Service**

[FWS-HQ-NWRS-2020-N055;  
FXRS1263090000-190-FF09R81000; OMB  
Control Number 1018-0102]

**Agency Information Collection  
Activities; Submission to the Office of  
Management and Budget for Review  
and Approval; National Wildlife Refuge  
Special Use Permit Applications and  
Reports**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service,  
Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection;  
request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the  
Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we,  
the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
(Service), are proposing to renew an  
information collection with revisions.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to  
submit comments on or before  
September 2, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and  
recommendations for the proposed  
information collection should be sent  
within 30 days of publication of this  
notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/  
PRAMain](http://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. Please provide a copy  
of your comments to the Service  
Information Collection Clearance  
Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,  
MS: PRB (JAO/3W), 5275 Leesburg Pike,  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803 (mail); or  
by email to [Info\\_Coll@fws.gov](mailto:Info_Coll@fws.gov). Please  
reference OMB Control 1018-0102 in  
the subject line of your comments.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Madonna L. Baucum, Service  
Information Collection Clearance  
Officer, by email at [Info\\_Coll@fws.gov](mailto:Info_Coll@fws.gov),  
or by telephone at (703) 358-2503.  
Individuals who are hearing or speech  
impaired may call the Federal Relay  
Service at 1-800-877-8339 for TTY  
assistance. You may also view the ICR  
at [http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/  
PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In  
accordance with the PRA and 5 CFR  
1320.8(d)(1), we provide the general  
public and other Federal agencies with  
an opportunity to comment on new,  
proposed, revised, and continuing  
collections of information. This helps us

assess the impact of our information  
collection requirements and minimize  
the public's reporting burden. It also  
helps the public understand our  
information collection requirements and  
provide the requested data in the  
desired format.

On September 13, 2019, we published  
a notice in the **Federal Register** (84 FR  
48368) announcing our intent to request  
renewal of this information collection.  
We solicited public comment for 60  
days, ending on November 12, 2019. We  
received one comment in response to  
the notice; however, the commenter did  
not address the information collection  
requirements. No response is required.

As part of our continuing effort to  
reduce paperwork and respondent  
burdens, we are again soliciting  
comments from the public and other  
Federal agencies on the proposed ICR  
that is described below. We are  
especially interested in public comment  
addressing the following:

(1) Whether or not the collection of  
information is necessary for the proper  
performance of the functions of the  
agency, including whether or not the  
information will have practical utility;

(2) The accuracy of our estimate of the  
burden for this collection of  
information, including the validity of  
the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Ways to enhance the quality,  
utility, and clarity of the information to  
be collected; and

(4) How might the agency minimize  
the burden of the collection of  
information on those who are to  
respond, including through the use of  
appropriate automated, electronic,  
mechanical, or other technological  
collection techniques or other forms of  
information technology, e.g., permitting  
electronic submission of response.

Comments that you submit in  
response to this notice are a matter of  
public record. Before including your  
address, phone number, email address,  
or other personal identifying  
information in your comment, you  
should be aware that your entire  
comment—including your personal  
identifying information—may be made  
publicly available at any time. While  
you can ask us in your comment to  
withhold your personal identifying  
information from public review, we  
cannot guarantee that we will be able to  
do so.

*Abstract:* The National Wildlife  
Refuge System Administration Act of  
1966 (Administration Act, 16 U.S.C.

668dd-668ee), as amended by the  
National Wildlife Refuge System  
Improvement Act of 1997, consolidated  
all refuge units into a single National  
Wildlife Refuge System (System). It also  
authorized us to offer visitor and public  
programs, including those facilitated by  
commercial visitor and management  
support services, on lands of the System  
when we find that the activities are  
appropriate and compatible with the  
purpose(s) for which the refuge was  
established and the System's mission.  
The Refuge Recreation Act of 1962  
(Recreation Act, 16 U.S.C. 460k-460k-4)  
allows the use of refuges for public  
recreation when it is not inconsistent or  
does not interfere with the primary  
purpose(s) of the refuge. The Alaska  
National Interest Lands Conservation  
Act (ANILCA, 16 U.S.C. 3101 *et seq.*)  
provides specific authorization and  
guidance for the administration and  
management of national wildlife refuges  
within the State of Alaska. Its provisions  
provide for the issuance of permits  
under certain circumstances.

We issue special use permits for a  
specific period as determined by the  
type and location of the management  
activity or visitor service provided.  
These permits authorize activities such  
as:

- Agricultural activities (haying and  
grazing, 50 CFR 29.1 and 29.2).
- Beneficial management tools that  
we use to provide the best habitat  
possible on some refuges (50 CFR 30.11,  
31.14, 31.16, and 36.41).
- Special events, group visits, and  
other one-time events (50 CFR 25.41,  
25.61, 26.36, and 36.41).
- Recreational visitor service  
operations (50 CFR 25.41, 25.61, and  
36.41).
- Guiding for fishing, hunting,  
wildlife education, and interpretation  
(50 CFR 25.41 and 36.41).
- Commercial filming (43 CFR 5, 50  
CFR 27.71) and other commercial  
activities (50 CFR 29.1 and 36.41).
- Building and using cabins to  
support subsistence or commercial  
activities (in Alaska) (50 CFR 26.35 and  
36.41).
- Research, inventory and  
monitoring, and other noncommercial  
activities (50 CFR 26.36 and 36.41).

We use three forms to collect  
applicant information:

- FWS Form 3-1383-G (General  
Activities Special Use Application).

- FWS Form 3–1383–C (Commercial Activities Special Use Application).
- FWS Form 3–1383–R (Research and Monitoring Special Use Application).

The information we collect helps ensure that: (1) Applicants are aware of the types of information that may be needed for permit issuance; (2) requested activities are appropriate and compatible with the purpose(s) for which the refuge was established and the System’s mission; and (3) the applicant is eligible or is the most qualified applicant to receive the special use permit.

We may collect the necessary information in a non-form format (through discussions in person or over the phone, over the internet, by email, or by letter). In some instances, respondents will be able to provide information verbally. Often, a simple email or letter describing the activity will suffice. For activities that might have a large impact on refuge resources (e.g., commercial visitor services, research, etc.), we may require applicants to provide more detail on operations, techniques, and locations. Because of the span of activities covered by special use permits and the different management needs and resources at each refuge, respondents may not be required to answer all questions. Depending on the requested activity, refuge managers have the discretion to ask for less information than appears on the forms. However, refuge managers must not ask for more or different information.

We issue permits for a specific period as determined by the type and location

of the use or service provided. We use these permits to ensure that the applicant is aware of the requirements of the permit and his/her legal rights. Refuge-specific special conditions may be required for the permit. We identify conditions as an addendum to the permit. Most of the special conditions pertain to how a permitted activity may be conducted and do not require the collection of information. However, some special conditions, such as activity reports, before and after site photographs, or data sharing, would qualify as an information collection, and we have included the associated burden below.

**Proposed Revision**

We are proposing to revise this collection to request OMB approval of a new form, FWS Form 3–1384, “Bid Sheet—National Wildlife Refuge System.” We developed this form to streamline collection of the necessary pre-award information from applicants during bidding processes to conduct economic uses on Service lands, such as livestock, harvesting hay and stock feed, or removing timber (50 CFR 29.21). This form will simplify the pre-award selection/bidding process for bidders and for refuge staff.

Currently, the only form approved for collection of this information is the Commercial Activities Special Use Permit Application (FWS Form 3–1383–C), which bidders and refuge staff alike find confusing and complicated; this hampers the Service’s ability to collect the basic information necessary to determine which applicants will be

awarded economic use privileges. The proposed Bid Sheet will be much clearer for bidders, better enabling them to understand what information the refuge needs in order to select bids for economic use, and, therefore, reducing the time and burden for the public and Service staff in the pre-award selection bidding process. This form is also easily customizable to the individual economic use being awarded. We will continue to use the Commercial Special Use Permit as the actual award document that will outline the terms and conditions of the economic use on Service lands.

*Title of Collection:* National Wildlife Refuge Special Use Permit Applications and Reports, 50 CFR 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, & 36.

*OMB Control Number:* 1018–0102.

*Form Number:* FWS Forms 3–1383–G, 3–1383–C, 3–1383–R, and 3–1384.

*Type of Review:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*Respondents/Affected Public:* Individuals and households; businesses and other for-profit organizations; nonprofit organizations; farms; and State, local, or tribal governments.

*Respondent’s Obligation:* Required to obtain or retain a benefit.

*Frequency of Collection:* On occasion for applications; annually or on occasion for reports.

*Total Estimated Annual Nonhour Burden Cost:* \$259,500 for fees associated with applications for commercial use activities (\$100.00 x an estimated 2,595 applications (individuals and private sector respondents only)).

Requirement	Annual number of respondents	Total annual responses	Completion time per response (hours)	Total annual burden hours *
<b>General Special Use Application (Form 3–1383–G)</b>				
Individuals .....	2,285	2,285	0.5	1,143
Private Sector .....	1,219	1,219	0.5	610
Government .....	305	305	0.5	153
<b>Commercial Activities Special Use Application (Form 3–1383–C)</b>				
Individuals .....	1,595	1,595	4	6,380
Private Sector .....	1,000	1,000	4	4,000
Government .....	108	108	4	432
<b>Research and Monitoring Special Use Application (Form 3–1383–R)</b>				
Individuals .....	209	209	5	1,045
Private Sector .....	403	403	5	2,015
Government .....	135	135	5	675
<b>Bid Sheet—National Wildlife Refuge System (Form 3–1384)</b>				
Private Sector .....	250	250	1	250

Requirement	Annual number of respondents	Total annual responses	Completion time per response (hours)	Total annual burden hours *
<b>Activity Reports</b>				
Individuals .....	40	40	0.5	20
Private Sector .....	466	466	0.5	233
Government .....	100	100	0.5	50
Totals .....	8,115	8,115	.....	17,006

\* Rounded.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The authority for this action is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Dated: July 29, 2020.

**Madonna Baucum,**

*Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

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**BILLING CODE 4333-15-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[Docket No. FWS-HQ-IA-2020-0081; FXIA16710900000-201-FF09A30000]

**Foreign Endangered Species Receipt of Permit Applications**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of permit applications; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on an application to conduct certain activities with foreign species that are listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). With some exceptions, the ESA prohibits activities with listed species unless Federal authorization is issued that allows such activities. The ESA also requires that we invite public comment before issuing permits for any activity otherwise prohibited by the ESA with respect to any endangered species.

**DATES:** We must receive comments by September 2, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** *Obtaining Documents:* The applications, application supporting materials, and any comments and other materials that we receive will be available for public inspection at <http://www.regulations.gov> in Docket No. FWS-HQ-IA-2020-0081.

*Submitting Comments:* When submitting comments, please specify the name of the applicant and the permit number at the beginning of your comment. You may submit comments by one of the following methods:

- *Internet:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Search for and submit comments on Docket No. FWS-HQ-IA-2020-0081.
- *U.S. mail or hand-delivery:* Public Comments Processing, Attn: Docket No. FWS-HQ-IA-2020-0081; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters, MS: PRB/3W; 5275 Leesburg Pike; Falls Church, VA 22041-3803.

For more information, see Public Comment Procedures under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Brenda Tapia, by phone at 703-358-2185, via email at [DMAFR@fws.gov](mailto:DMAFR@fws.gov), or via the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Public Comment Procedures**

*A. How do I comment on submitted applications?*

We invite the public and local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies to comment on these applications. Before issuing any of the requested permits, we will take into consideration any information that we receive during the public comment period.

You may submit your comments and materials by one of the methods in **ADDRESSES.** We will not consider comments sent by email or fax, or to an address not in **ADDRESSES.** We will not consider or include in our administrative record comments we receive after the close of the comment period (see **DATES**).

When submitting comments, please specify the name of the applicant and the permit number at the beginning of your comment. Provide sufficient information to allow us to authenticate any scientific or commercial data you include. The comments and recommendations that will be most useful and likely to influence agency

decisions are: (1) Those supported by quantitative information or studies; and (2) those that include citations to, and analyses of, the applicable laws and regulations.

*B. May I review comments submitted by others?*

You may view and comment on others' public comments at <http://www.regulations.gov>, unless our allowing so would violate the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) or Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).

*C. Who will see my comments?*

If you submit a comment at <http://www.regulations.gov>, your entire comment, including any personal identifying information, will be posted on the website. If you submit a hardcopy comment that includes personal identifying information, such as your address, phone number, or email address, you may request at the top of your document that we withhold this information from public review. However, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Moreover, all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public disclosure in their entirety.

**II. Background**

To help us carry out our conservation responsibilities for affected species, and in consideration of section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), we invite public comments on permit applications before final action is taken. With some exceptions, the ESA prohibits certain activities with listed species unless Federal authorization is issued that allows such activities. Permits issued under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA allow otherwise prohibited activities for scientific purposes or to enhance the propagation or survival of the affected species. Service regulations regarding prohibited activities with