

application and 21 hours per grant per year for all of the grant-related collections. The combined total public burden for the HPF grants-for-HBCUs program-related information collections would average 31 hours per successful applicant/grantee. These estimates of burden include time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and reviewing the collection of information.

**Estimated Number of Respondents/Record Keepers:** NPS estimates that there are 335 responses per year. This is the gross number of responses for all of the elements included in this information collection. The net numbers of applicants and grantees participating in this information collection annually are 47 applicants and from among them 24 grantees. The frequency of response varies depending upon the activity. Applicants complete the grant application once. Successful applicants execute the grant agreement once and usually seek an amendment once during the two-year grant cycle. During the grant cycle, grantees seek NPS approval once for qualified consultants, plans and specifications, and the final report. There are three on-site inspections during the course of the two-year grant. There is one on-site inspection at the beginning of the project, one in the middle, and one at the end of the project. Grantees comply with government-wide record-keeping requirements throughout the duration of the grant. Grantees provide one interim report per year and usually make requests for payment six times a year.

**Estimated average number of Applicant responses:** 47 annually.

**Estimated average gross number of Grantee responses:** 288 annually.

**Estimated average gross number of responses:** 335 annually.

**Estimated average burden hours per Applicant response:** 10 hours.

**Estimated average burden hours per Grantee response:** 2 hours.

**Estimated average annual burden hours per Grantee for all responses:** 21 hours.

**Estimated total annual average burden hours per respondent:** 31 hours.

**Estimated Annual Burden on Respondents:** 957 hours.

NPS is soliciting comments regarding:

(1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of NPS, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) The accuracy of the burden estimate including the validity of the method and assumptions used;

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

(4) Ways to minimize the burden of collecting the information, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology; or,

(5) Any other aspect of this collection of information.

NPS will summarize and include in the request for OMB approval all responses to this notice. All comments will also become a matter of public record. You can obtain copies of the information collection from John W. Renaud, Project Coordinator, State, Tribal and Local Programs, Heritage Preservation Services, National Center for Cultural Resources, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW., Org. Code 2255, Washington, DC 20240-0001

Dated: October 28, 2003.

**Leonard E. Stowe,**

*Acting Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, WAPC.*

[FR Doc. 03-28838 Filed 11-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4312-CT-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### 60 Day Notice of Intention To Request Clearance of Collection of Information; Opportunity for Public Comment

**AGENCY:** Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Yellowstone National Park.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Yellowstone National Park Wolf Economic Study will provide park managers and others with important, accurate information about the Yellowstone National Park visitor population in general as well as visitor and trip characteristics of those who specifically view wolves in the park. The importance of visitation specifically tied to wolves in the park will be examined. The mail-back questionnaire is designed to systematically collect data from visitors in several different topic areas: Individual characteristics, trip/visit characteristics, individual activities and individual opinions on park and wildlife management.

	Estimated numbers of	
	Responses	Burden hours
Yellowstone National Park Wolf Economic Study ..	5,000	1,917

Under provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and 5 CFR part 1320, Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements, the National Park Service is soliciting comments on the need for gathering the information in the proposed surveys. The NPS also is asking for comments on the practical utility of the information being gathered; the accuracy of the burden hour estimate; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden to respondents, including use of automated information collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

The NPS goal in conducting this survey is to develop statistically valid estimates of Yellowstone National Park visitation and to evaluate the economic effects of wolf restoration in the context of an accurate regional economic model that measures the role of Yellowstone National Park in the overall regional economy. The broader information on visitation, visitor demographics, and the regional economy will have application to other park planning efforts where reliable visitation and economic data is needed for evaluation of project proposals and other management issues.

**DATES:** Public comments will be accepted on or before 60 days from the date of publication in the **Federal Register**.

Send Comments to: Dr. John Duffield, University of Montana, Department of Economics, Missoula, MT 59812.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. John Duffield. Voice: 406-721-2265, Email: <bioecon@montana.com>.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Titles:** Yellowstone National Park Wolf Economic Study.

**Bureau Form Number:** None.

**OMB Number:** To be requested.

**Expiration Date:** To be requested.

**Type of request:** Request for new clearance.

**Description of need:** Wolf restoration in Yellowstone is an internationally important wildlife conservation success story. The visibility and public interest in wolves, wolf viewing, and wolf-based education programs has far exceeded initial expectations. A major public issue with wolf restoration was the cost to implement, in tax dollars, versus

economic benefits. Proponents thought it a boon; opponents predicted negative regional economic impacts. Economic studies done prior to restoration predicted large positive economic benefits. The wolf recovery program has now matured; this proposal would quantify the economic and social effects due to wolf restoration as well as provide critical baseline information for other planning and analyses.

Wolf recovery generates positive economic impacts on the Greater Yellowstone Area (GYA) regional economy in several ways. The most significant impacts arise from visitors traveling from outside the region who choose to come to Yellowstone because wolves are present or who extend their stay because of wolves. Other impacts include wolf-program related expenditures. Economic impacts depend on visitor numbers and expenditures, which are best measured through visitor surveys. Understanding the contribution of wolf recovery requires development of a model of the actual aggregate role of Yellowstone National Park in the regional economy.

*Automated data collection:* At the present time, there is no automated way to gather this information because it includes directly contacting visitors to Yellowstone National Park.

*Description of respondents:* Visitors to Yellowstone National Park.

*Estimated average number of respondents:* 5,000.

*Estimated average number of responses:* Each respondent will respond only one time, so the number of responses will be the same as the number of respondents.

*Estimated average burden hours per response:* 23 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* 1 time per respondent.

*Estimated annual reporting burden:* 1,917 hours.

Dated: November 4, 2003.

**Leonard E. Stowe,**

*Acting National Park Service Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 03-28843 Filed 11-18-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### Plan of Operations and Environmental Assessment for Seismic Exploration, Big Thicket National Preserve, Texas

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of the plan of operations and environmental

assessment for Seismic Exploration within the Big Sandy Creek, Menard Creek Corridor, and Hickory Creek Savannah Units of Big Thicket National Preserve, Polk, Hardin and Tyler Counties, Texas.

**SUMMARY:** The National Park Service, in accordance with subsection 9.52(b) of Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 9, subpart B, has received from Seismic Assistants, Ltd., a Plan of Operations for seismic exploration within Big Thicket National Preserve, Texas. The Plan of Operations and accompanying Environmental Assessment are available for public review and comment.

**DATES:** The National Park Service will accept comments from the public on the Plan of Operations and Environmental Assessment for 30 days after publication of this notice. No public meetings are scheduled at this time.

**ADDRESSES:** The Plan of Operations and Environmental Assessment will be available for public review and comment in the office of the Superintendent, Big Thicket National Preserve, 3785 Milam Street, Beaumont, Texas. Copies can be requested from the Superintendent, Big Thicket National Preserve, 3785 Milam Street, Beaumont, Texas 77701 or by calling (409) 839-2689.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Doug Hutter, Acting Chief, Division of Resources Management, Big Thicket National Preserve, 3785 Milam Street, Beaumont, Texas 77701, (409) 839-2689, Extension 232.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** If you wish to comment, you may mail comments to the Superintendent, Big Thicket National Preserve, at the above street address. You may also hand deliver comments to the superintendent at the same address. Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

Dated: September 23, 2003.

**Michael D. Snyder,**

*Deputy Regional Director, Intermountain Region, National Park Service.*

[FR Doc. 03-28842 Filed 11-18-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### Plan of Operations, Environmental Assessment, Padre Island National Seashore, Texas

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability of a Plan of Operations, Environmental Assessment, and Floodplains and Wetlands Statement of Findings for a 30-day public review at Padre Island National Seashore.

**SUMMARY:** The National Park Service (NPS), in accordance with Section 9.52(b) of Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, and Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands has received from BNP Petroleum Corporation a Plan of Operations for drilling and production of the Dunn-Peach No. 1 Well from a surface location 6.9 miles south along the Gulf beach, from the end of Park Road 22, within Padre Island National Seashore. Additionally, the NPS has prepared an Environmental Assessment and a Floodplains and Wetlands Statement of Findings for the site of the proposed well.

**DATES:** The above documents are available for public review and comment through December 19, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** The Plan of Operations, Environmental Assessment, and Floodplain and Wetlands Statement of Findings are available for public review and comment in the Office of the Superintendent, Padre Island National Seashore, 20301 Park Road 22, Corpus Christi, Texas. Copies of the Plan of Operations are available, for a duplication fee, from the Superintendent, Padre Island National Seashore, PO Box 181300, Corpus Christi, Texas 78480-1300.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Arlene Wimer, Environmental Protection Specialist, Padre Island National Seashore, PO Box 181300, Corpus Christi, Texas 78480-1300, Telephone: 361-949-8173 x 224, e-mail at [Arlene\\_Wimer@nps.gov](mailto:Arlene_Wimer@nps.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** If you wish to submit comments about this document within the 30 days; mail them