

generally not required to respond to an information collection, unless the OMB approves it and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall generally be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information that does not display a valid OMB Control Number. See 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6.

DOL seeks PRA authorization for this information collection for three (3) years. OMB authorization for an ICR cannot be for more than three (3) years without renewal. The DOL notes that information collection requirements submitted to the OMB for existing ICRs receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review.

*Agency:* DOL—OWCP.

*Title of Collection:* Extension.

*OMB Control Number:* 1240–0032.

*Affected Public:* Private Sector—State, Local, and Tribal Governments.

*Total Estimated Number of*

*Respondents:* 4,155.

*Total Estimated Number of*

*Responses:* 4,155.

*Total Estimated Annual Time Burden:*

1,039 hours.

*Total Estimated Annual Other Costs*

*Burden:* \$2,356.

(Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3507(a)(1)(D))

**Nicole Bouchet,**

*Senior PRA Analyst.*

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BILLING CODE 4510–26–P

## OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

### Request for Nominations of Experts to Peer-Review Draft Guidance on Valuing Ecosystem Services in Federal Benefit-Cost Analyses

**AGENCY:** Office of Management and Budget.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for nominations.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) will propose draft guidance called *Guidance for Assessing Changes in Environmental and Ecosystem Services in Benefit-Cost Analysis*. This notice requests public nominations of experts to participate in an independent scientific peer review of this forthcoming proposed Guidance.

**DATES:** The 21-day public comment period to provide nominations begins May 25, 2023, and ends June 15, 2023. Nominations must be received on or before June 15, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your nominations by emailing them to *MBX.OMB.OIRA.ESGuidancePeerReview@omb.eop.gov*

(subject line: Peer Review Nomination for Ecosystem Services Guidance) no later than June 15, 2023. To receive full consideration, nominations should include all of the information requested below. Please be advised that public comments, including communications on these nominations, are subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.

*Privacy Act Statement:* Submission of nominations is voluntary. Solicitation of this information is authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1111. The information furnished will be used to select independent peer reviewers to evaluate forthcoming proposed guidance entitled *Guidance for Assessing Changes in Environmental and Ecosystem Services in Benefit-Cost Analysis*. While the information solicited by this notice is intended to be used for internal purposes, in certain circumstances it may be necessary to disclose this information externally, for example to contractors, as necessary to perform their duties for the Federal government; to a congressional office in response to an inquiry from that congressional office made at the request of the individual to whom the record pertains; or to other agencies, courts, and persons as necessary and relevant in the course of litigation, and as necessary and in accordance with requirements for law enforcement. A complete list of the routine uses can be found in the system of records notice associated with this collection of information, OMB Public Input System of Records, OMB/INPUT/01.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, *MBX.OMB.OIRA.ESGuidancePeerReview@omb.eop.gov* (subject line: Peer Review Nomination for Ecosystem Services Guidance).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

Two OMB circulars provide guidance to Federal agencies on benefit-cost analyses. Circular A–4: *Regulatory Analysis*<sup>1</sup> discusses analyses of regulations' impacts, as required under section 6(a)(3) of Executive Order (E.O.) 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review),<sup>2</sup> the Regulatory Right-to-Know Act,<sup>3</sup> and a variety of related authorities. Circular A–94: *Guidelines and Discount Rates for Benefit-Cost Analysis of*

<sup>1</sup> OMB, Circular A–4, *Regulatory Analysis* (Sept. 17, 2003), available at [https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/legacy\\_drupal\\_files/omb/circulars/A4/a-4.pdf](https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/legacy_drupal_files/omb/circulars/A4/a-4.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> Exec. Order No. 12866, 58 FR 51735 (Oct. 4, 1993).

<sup>3</sup> Public Law 106–554, 624, 114 Stat. 2763A–161 (codified at 31 U.S.C. 1105 note).

*Federal Programs*<sup>4</sup> discusses analyses of Federal programs or policies, decisions whether to lease or purchase, and asset valuation and sale. In April 2023, OMB proposed draft updates to both circulars.<sup>5</sup> These draft updates both note the importance of analyses accounting for effects on environmental and ecosystem services, as feasible and appropriate, and reference forthcoming OMB guidance on ecosystem services for more discussion on how to conduct such analyses.<sup>6</sup> E.O. 14072 section 4(b) also calls for guidance related to the valuation of ecosystem and environmental services and natural assets in Federal regulatory decision-making.<sup>7</sup>

OMB is currently drafting this guidance, entitled *Guidance for Assessing Changes in Environmental and Ecosystem Services in Benefit-Cost Analysis*. OMB will solicit public comments on the proposed guidance. In addition, the proposed guidance will be peer reviewed. The independent, external scientific peer review will be managed by an OMB contractor. This notice requests public nominations of experts to participate in the independent scientific peer review of the forthcoming guidance on valuing ecosystem services in benefit-cost analyses consistent with Circulars A–4 and A–94.

<sup>4</sup> OMB, Circular A–94, *Guidelines and Discount Rates for Benefit-Cost Analysis of Federal Programs* (Oct. 29, 1992), available at [https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/legacy\\_drupal\\_files/omb/circulars/A94/a094.pdf](https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/legacy_drupal_files/omb/circulars/A94/a094.pdf).

<sup>5</sup> See OMB, Draft for Public Review: Circular A–4, *Regulatory Analysis* (Apr. 6, 2023), available at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/DraftCircularA-4.pdf> (hereinafter Draft Circular A–4 Update); OMB, Draft for Public Review: Circular A–94, *Guidelines and Discount Rates for Benefit-Cost Analysis of Federal Programs* (Apr. 6, 2023), available at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/CircularA94.pdf> (hereinafter Draft Circular A–94 Update).

<sup>6</sup> See Draft Circular A–4 Update 51–52 (“Many regulations will influence environmental or ecosystem services that directly impact the welfare of relevant populations. . . . Where you identify relevant ecosystem services, you should seek to monetize their impacts when feasible, quantify impacts when monetization is not feasible, and describe qualitatively impacts that are not monetized or quantified. See . . . forthcoming OMB guidance on ecosystem services for additional information and guidance.”); Draft Circular A–94 Update 8 (“Projects may directly affect or alter access to the natural environment and the benefits it provides. Analyses should account for relevant effects on ecosystem and environmental services when feasible. See forthcoming OMB guidance on ecosystem services for additional discussion on how to capture the welfare effects of ecosystem and environmental services.”).

<sup>7</sup> Executive Order No. 14072, *Strengthening the Nation's Forests, Communities, and Local Economies* § 4(b), 87 FR 24851, 24854 (Apr. 27, 2022).

## II. Information About This Peer Review

OMB is seeking nominations of individuals with demonstrated and nationally recognized expertise in ecosystem services and natural assets. OMB seeks diverse perspectives, including relevant natural science (e.g., ecology, biology, marine sciences, or hydrology), systems science (e.g., ecosystem ecology or biogeochemistry), applied science (e.g., civil or environmental engineering), and environmental and resource economics disciplines. Nominations of individuals with expertise in multiple disciplines and perspectives are encouraged. A balanced review panel should include experts who together possess the necessary domains of knowledge and a breadth of economic and scientific perspectives to provide rigorous peer review. All nominations will be evaluated for real or perceived conflicts of interest and independence.

To form the list of candidate external reviewers, nominations submitted in response to this notice will be considered along with candidates identified using traditional techniques (e.g., a literature search) to identify additional qualified candidates in the disciplines listed above. After consideration of public nominations, a final multi-disciplinary panel of four to six peer reviewers will be selected from the pool. Selection criteria to be used for panel membership include: (a) distinguished and nationally recognized technical expertise, as well as experience; (b) availability and willingness to serve; and (c) real or perceived conflicts of interest and independence.

**Process and Deadline for Submitting Nominations:** Any person or organization may nominate individuals qualified in the areas described above. Self-nominations are permitted. Submit your nominations by email to [MBX.OMB.OIRA.ESGuidancePeerReview@omb.eop.gov](mailto:MBX.OMB.OIRA.ESGuidancePeerReview@omb.eop.gov) (subject line: Peer Review Nomination for Ecosystem Services Guidance). To receive full consideration, nominations should include all of the following information: contact information for the person making the nomination; the nominee's contact information and institutional affiliation; the nominee's disciplinary and specific areas of expertise; and the nominee's résumé or curriculum vitae or equivalent information about their current position, educational background, expertise, and experience. To assess conflicts of interest and independence for nominees being considered for the peer review, OMB will seek to identify, among other

factors, professional affiliation with the Executive Office of the President within the last 3 years, current contracts with the Federal government to conduct regulatory impact analysis or other decision support analyses, and regular business streams to advocate for or critique regulatory impact analyses on behalf of non-federal entities.

**Richard L. Revesz,**

*Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs.*

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**BILLING CODE 3110-01-P**

## NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[NOTICE: (22-XXX)]

### National Environmental Policy Act; Mars Sample Return Campaign

**AGENCY:** National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of the Mars Sample Return (MSR) Campaign Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS).

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA); Executive Order 12114, *Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions*; the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations, NASA's procedures for implementing NEPA, and Department of the Air Force (DAF) procedures for implementing NEPA, NASA announces the availability of the MSR Campaign Final PEIS. The Final PEIS provides information and analysis related to the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed action to retrieve a scientifically selected set of samples from Mars and transport them to Earth for scientific analysis and research. Cooperating agencies for this effort include the DAF for Hill Air Force Base, Utah, and Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, Florida; the Department of the Army for Dugway Proving Ground; the U.S. Department of Agriculture; and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services—Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**DATES:** NASA will document its decision regarding alternative implementation in a Record of Decision (ROD), which would be signed no sooner than June 26, 2023, after the 30-day mandatory Final PEIS waiting period is complete as required by 40 CFR 1506.11(b)(2).

**ADDRESSES:** The Final PEIS and other informational materials are available at

<https://www.nasa.gov/feature/nepa-mars-sample-return-campaign>. All comments received on the Draft EIS are available in their entirety on the MSR Campaign Docket at <https://www.regulations.gov/document/NASA-2022-0002-0175>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Steve Slaten, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, by electronic mail at [Mars-sample-return-nepa@lists.nasa.gov](mailto:Mars-sample-return-nepa@lists.nasa.gov) or by telephone at 202-358-0016. For questions regarding viewing the Docket, please call Docket Operations, telephone: 202-366-9317 or 202-366-9826.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NASA, in coordination with the European Space Agency, proposes to conduct a campaign to retrieve samples from Mars and transport them to Earth. A scientifically selected set of samples (i.e., Martian rocks, regolith, and atmosphere), acquired and cached on the surface of Mars by the Perseverance rover, would be returned to Earth for scientific analysis and research. The proposed sample landing location is the DAF-managed Utah Test and Training Range, with additional activities potentially occurring on the U.S. Army's Dugway Proving Ground. The Final PEIS provides information and analysis related to the potential environmental impacts associated with this proposed action.

The proposed action and a no action alternative were evaluated in the Final PEIS. Under the no action alternative, the MSR Campaign would not be undertaken and investigation of Mars as a planetary system would be severely constrained due to the cost and complexity of sending into space (and operating) science instruments capable of conducting the appropriate level of sample analysis in space or on Mars where in situ analyses could be performed. The environmental resource areas analyzed in the Final PEIS include health and safety, cultural resources, hazardous materials and waste, soils and geology, biological resources, water resources, air quality and climate, land use, socioeconomic, environmental justice/protection of children, noise, and infrastructure. No significant adverse impacts were identified in the Final PEIS.

Comments and stakeholder input received within the Draft PEIS comment period were considered during the development of the Final PEIS. NASA released the Draft PEIS for comment from November 4, 2022, through December 19, 2022. During the 45-day review and comment period, NASA held two virtual and two in-person