

For the reasons set out in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR Part 165 as follows:

The authority citation for part 165 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1231; 50 U.S.C. 191; and 33 CFR 1.05-1(g), 6.04-1, 6.04-6, and 160.5; and 49 CFR 1.46.

2. A new temporary section § 165.T08-066 is added to read as follows:

§ 165.T08-066 Safety Zone; GIWW, Houma, LA.

(a) *Location.* The following area is a Safety Zone: GIWW from Mile Marker 54 WHL to Mile Marker 59 WHL.

(b) *Effective dates.* This section becomes effective at 6:00 a.m. on December 2, 1996 and terminates at 6:00 p.m. on December 6, 1996.

(c) *Regulations.* In accordance with the general regulations in § 165.23 of this part, entry into this zone is prohibited except as authorized by the Captain of the Port.

Dated: October 28, 1996.

M. B. Slack,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port.

[FR Doc. 96-29689 Filed 11-19-96; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

45 CFR Part 672

Antarctica; Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Final rule with a request for comments.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is adding a new section to its regulation on enforcement of the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 to adjust the civil monetary penalties that may be imposed for inadvertent and deliberate violations of that law for inflation since the date of their enactment.

DATES: This rule is effective November 20, 1996. Comments, however, are welcome at any time and will be considered in making future revisions.

ADDRESSES: All comments should be addressed to: John Chester, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Room 1265, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Chester on (703) 306-1060 (voice) and (703) 306-0149 (facsimile)—those are not toll-free numbers—or by electronic mail as jchester@nsf.gov through INTERNET.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990 (104 Stat. 890; 28 U.S.C. 2461 note) as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (section 31001(s)(1) of the Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996, Pub. L. 104-134, approved 4/26/96) directs each Federal agency to adjust, by regulation, each civil monetary penalty provided by law within the jurisdiction of that agency to compensate for the effects of inflation. The only civil monetary penalties within the jurisdiction of the National Science Foundation are those imposed for violations of the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2401 et seq.). This amendment to the rules governing enforcement of that law adds a new section setting out the penalties for inadvertent and deliberate violations and adjusting those penalties for inflation as provided in the Debt Collection Improvement Act.

Because section 31001(s)(2) of the Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996 provides that the first adjustment of a civil monetary penalty made pursuant to its amendment to the Debt Collection Improvement Act "may not exceed 10 percent of such penalty", the Foundation is adjusting these penalties in two steps: a 10 percent increase effective on January 1, 1997 and an increase to the full amount called for in the amended Debt Collection Improvement Act on January 1, 1998. Future adjustments will be made at least once every four years as called for in the amended Debt Collection Improvement Act.

Because this action merely makes adjustments required by statute, public comments are not being solicited prior to its effective date.

Determinations

I have determined, under the criteria set forth in Executive Order 12866, that this rule is not a significant regulatory action requiring review by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs. I also certify, pursuant to the requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601-612, that none of the clerical corrections and

nomenclature and address changes made by this rule will have a significant economic impact on any small entities. Finally, I have reviewed this rule in light of section 2 of Executive Order 12778 and certify for the National Science Foundation that this rule meets the applicable standards provided in sections 2(a) and 2(b) of that order.

List of Subjects in 45 CFR Part 672

Administrative practice and procedure, Antarctica.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 45 CFR part 672 is amended as follows:

PART 672—ENFORCEMENT AND HEARING PROCEDURES; TOURISM GUIDELINES

1. The authority citation for part 672 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 2401 et seq., 28 U.S.C. 2461 note.

2. After § 672.23, add the following new section:

§ 672.24 Maximum civil monetary penalties for unintentional and intentional violations.

(a) For violations occurring before January 1, 1997, the maximum civil penalty that may be assessed under §§ 672.20(b) and 672.23(a) is set by the statute at \$5,000 for unintentional violations and \$10,000 for intentional violations.

(b) For violations occurring between January 1, 1997 and December 31, 1997, the maximum civil penalty is adjusted under authority of the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990 (28 U.S.C. 2461 note) as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-134, approved 4/26/96) to \$5,500 for unintentional violations and \$11,000 for intentional violations.

(c) For violations occurring after December 31, 1997, the maximum civil penalty is adjusted under authority of the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990 (28 U.S.C. 2461 note) as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-134, approved 4/26/96) to \$12,000 for unintentional violations and \$23,000 for intentional violations.

Dated: November 12, 1996.

National Science Foundation
Lawrence Rudolph,
General Counsel.

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