

and actions that are similar to the Proposed Action, with the exception of the management direction proposed for livestock grazing and recreation. Under this alternative, three ACECs would be designated and managed to achieve the recovery of the desert tortoise through modifications to multiple use within those special management areas. Livestock grazing within the ACECs would be managed according to forage production criteria intended to meet the desert tortoise recovery objectives. Recreation management direction would also be modified to minimize conflicts with recovery efforts. Section 7 consultation would continue to be conducted with the USFWS on any federal action that might affect listed species.

Alternative B (DWMA Alternative) contains most of the management goals and prescriptions recommended in the Recovery Plan, with less emphasis on multiple use management of the public lands. Two special management areas, labeled Desert Wildlife Management Areas (DWMAs), would protect 52 percent of the desert tortoise designated critical habitat. The DWMAs would contain approximately 300,800 acres and would be managed primarily for the recovery of the desert tortoise. Management prescriptions would not authorize livestock grazing, mineral development, many land use authorizations, and some types of recreational activities within the DWMAs. No special management attention, other than required Section 7 consultation on federal actions that might affect listed species, would be directed to the approximately 454,000 acres of desert tortoise habitat outside of the DWMAs, unless the desert tortoise populations occupying that habitat were in jeopardy.

Alternative C (No Action Alternative) would continue management under the approved Caliente MFP. Management recommendations from the Recovery Plan either would not be implemented or would not be systematically or comprehensively implemented. Section 7 consultation with the USFWS would continue to be conducted prior to the authorization of any federal action affecting listed species. Management direction would also be provided through the issuance of Biological Opinions by the USFWS through Section 7 consultation. Current management directions for livestock grazing and off-highway vehicle events were developed as a result of Biological Opinions issued to minimize effects on desert tortoise habitat. The No Action Alternative forms the baseline against which to assess the effects of the

alternatives and is required for a comprehensive NEPA analysis.

Dated: April 15, 1998.

Robert V. Abbey,

State Director, Nevada.

[FR Doc. 98-11195 Filed 4-27-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-HC-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration on Aging, HHS

[Program Announcement No. AoA-98-6]

Fiscal Year 1998 Program Announcement; Availability of Funds and Notice Regarding Applications

AGENCY: Administration on Aging, HHS.

ACTION: Announcement of availability of funds and request for applications to carry out research on Alzheimer's disease caregiving options.

SUMMARY: The Administration on Aging (AoA) announces that under this program announcement it will hold a competition for a project to conduct research on Alzheimer's disease caregiving options and best practices, including respite care, assisted living, the impact of intervention by social service agencies on victims, and related caregiving options.

The deadline date for the submission of applications is June 29, 1998. Applicant eligibility for this grant competition is limited by the applicable funding provisions of the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriation Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-78) which, by incorporating both Senate Report 105-58 and House Report 105-390 (Conference Committee) provides \$2 million "for social research into Alzheimer's disease care options * * *" The Senate Report urges that the research "utilize and give discretion to municipalities with aged populations (over the age of 60) of over 1 million * * *" Accordingly, under this AoA program announcement, to be eligible to compete an applicant must be designated by the Mayor as officially representing a municipality with 1 million or more persons 60 years of age and older.

Application kits are available by writing to the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging, Office of Program Development, 330 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 4274, Washington, DC 20201, or by calling 202/619-1269.

Dated: April 23, 1998.

Jeanette C. Takamura,

Assistant Secretary for Aging.

[FR Doc. 98-11268 Filed 4-27-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4150-40-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Submission of Study Package to the Office of Management and Budget; Opportunity for Public Comment

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of submission to OMB and request for comments for reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired.

ABSTRACT: The survey is used by NPS for the purpose of collecting public interview data which are used to determine conversion factors used in converting electro-mechanical visitor counts into recreation visits.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and 5 CFR Part 1320, Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements, the National Park Service invites public comments on a proposed information collection request (ICR) which has been submitted to OMB for approval. Comments are invited on: (1) The need for the information including whether the information has practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the reporting burden estimate; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

A 60 Day Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Collection of Information; Opportunity for Public Comment was published in the **Federal Register** on February 11, 1997, Volume 62, #28, page 6266. No replies were received from the public as a result of the **Federal Register** Notice. Past NPS interviewer experiences show that park visitors have a positive interest in participating in the surveys and in volunteering information in response to the survey questions. Due to streamlining the scope of the survey, there has been a reduction in 700 burden hours from the previously approved survey and as was indicated in the February 11, 1997 **Federal Register** Notice.