

Islands Pacific cod between freezer longliners and other fixed gear.

7. Initial review of a rebuilding plan for *bairdi* crab in the Bering Sea/ Aleutian Islands.

The agendas for the SSC and AP will include the above agenda issues, with the exception of Item 1, standard reports.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during the meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda listed in this notice.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Helen Allen, 907-271-2809, at least 7 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: May 4, 1999.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 99-11697 Filed 5-7-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before June 9, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Danny Werfel, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW, Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the internet address DWERFEL@OMB.EOP.GOV. Requests for copies of the proposed information collection requests should be addressed to Patrick J. Sherrill, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3,

Washington, DC 20202-4651, or should be electronically mailed to the internet address Pat_Sherrill@ed.gov, or should be faxed to 202-708-9346.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Patrick J. Sherrill (202) 708-8196.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment at the address specified above. Copies of the requests are available from Patrick J. Sherrill at the address specified above.

Dated: May 4, 1999.

William E. Burrow,

Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

Type of Review: Reinstatement.

Title: Discretionary Grant Application under Indian Education.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: State, local or Tribal Gov't; SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 100.

Burden Hours: 5,840.

Abstract: Application for funding for Indian Education discretionary programs of Demonstration Grants for

Indian Children and Professional Development. The information is used to determine applicant eligibility and amount of awards for projects selected for funding.

This information collection is being submitted under the Streamlined Clearance Process for Discretionary Grant Information Collections (1890-0001). Therefore, this 30-day public comment period notice will be the only public comment notice published for this information collection.

[FR Doc. 99-11629 Filed 5-7-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Advisory Council on Education Statistics, (ACES)

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a forthcoming meeting of the Advisory Council on Education Statistics (ACES). This notice of this meeting is required under Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. This document is intended to notify the general public of their opportunity to attend.

DATES: May 20-21, 1999.

TIMES:

May 20—Full Council, 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.; Management Committee, 1:00 p.m.–4:30 p.m.; Statistics Committee, 1:00 p.m.–4:30 p.m.; Strategy/Policy Committee, 1:00 p.m.–4:30 p.m.
May 21, 1999—Full Council 12:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m.; Statistics Committee, 8:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.; Strategy/Policy Committee, 8:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.; and Management Committee, 8:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.

LOCATION: Phoenix Park Hotel, 520 North Capitol Street NW, Washington, DC 20001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Barbara Marenus, National Center for Education Statistics, 555 New Jersey Avenue, NW, Room 400J, Washington, DC 20208-5530—(202) 219-1835.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Advisory Council on Education Statistics (ACES) is established under Section 406(c)(1) of the Education Amendments of 1974, Pub. L. 93-380. The Council is established to review general policies for the operation of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) in the Office of Educational Research and Improvement and is responsible for advising on standards to insure that statistics and analyses

disseminated by NCES are of high quality and are not subject to political influence. In addition, ACES is required to advise the Commissioner of NCES and the National Assessment Governing Board on technical and statistical matters related to the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP). The meeting of the Council is open to the public.

The proposed agenda for the full Council includes the following:

- A status report from the NCES Commissioner on the condition of NCES;
- A presentation and discussion of legislated cost and market basket studies contained in the Higher Education Act; and
- The presentation of Committee reports. Individual meetings of the three ACES subcommittees will focus on specific topics:
 - The agenda for the Management Committee includes discussion of the Education Statistics Services Institute's (ESSI) evaluation, the Commissioner's management report, a briefing on customer service activities, a report on NCES's technology activities, and a discussion of the IPEDS redesign.
 - The agenda for the Statistics Committee includes a discussion of the response probability convention in assessment scales, a briefing on NAEP and international assessments, a discussion on NAGB's perspectives on the future of NAEP, a report on the total survey error project, a joint session with the Policy Committee to discuss the NAEP/SASS research activity, and a discussion on NAEP technical and policy issues.
 - The agenda for the Strategy/Policy Committee includes a report on teacher licensure, a progress report on instructional practices, and a report from NECS's taskforce on life long learning.

Records are kept of all Council proceedings and are available for public inspection at the Office of the Executive Director, Advisory Council on Education Statistics, 555 New Jersey Avenue, NW, Room 400J, Washington, DC 20208-7575.

Dated: May 3, 1999.

C. Kent McGuire,

Assistant Secretary for Educational Research and Improvement.

[FR Doc. 99-11701 Filed 5-7-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

National Assessment Governing Board; Public Forum

AGENCY: National Assessment Governing Board; Education.

ACTION: Notice of information collection activity.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB) will submit an Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget for approval.

The ICR is: An Investigation of Alternative Methods for Scale Anchoring and Item Mapping in the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

DATES: Public comments must be submitted on or before June 9, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be submitted by June 9, 1999. Mail to Patricia Hanick, NAEP ALS Project Manager, ACT, Inc., 2255 North Dubuque Road, P.O. Box 168, Iowa City, IA 52243-0168. Copies of the complete ICR and accompanying appendices may be obtained from the NAEP ALS Project Manager at the address above.

Comments may also be submitted electronically by sending electronic mail (e-mail) to Hanick@ACT.org. Electronic comments must be identified by the title of the ICR. No confidential business information should be submitted through e-mail.

Information submitted as a comment concerning this document may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as confidential business information (CBI). Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with the procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential may be disclosed publicly by NAGB without prior notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia Hanick, NAEP ALS Project Manager, ACT, Inc., 2255 North Dubuque Road, P.O. Box 168, Iowa City, IA 52243-0168, Telephone: (319) 337-1452 or (800) 525-6930, e-mail: Hanick@ACT.org.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Electronic copies of this ICR can be obtained from the contact person listed above.

I. Information Collection Request

NAGB is seeking comments on the following Information Collection Request (ICR).

Title: An Investigation of Alternative Methods for Scale Anchoring and Item Mapping in the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

Affected Entities: Parties affected by this information collection are persons who served as panelists for pilot studies, achievement levels-setting (ALS) meetings, and validation research for the 1998 Science NAEP.

Abstract. The purpose of this information collection activity is to gather research information for NAGB to be used in evaluating the procedures for the selection of exemplar items to represent student performance on NAEP. Exemplar items are used as one of the primary means of communicating student performance on NAEP. The criteria for selecting exemplar items is critical to the "message" portrayed by the items when reporting the outcomes of NAEP to the public.

Two statistical criteria currently guide the selection of exemplar items: One based on item difficulty, and the other on item discrimination. Part One of the study will examine that statistical criteria used to select exemplar items by comparing various scale anchoring and item mapping methodologies. The results of these systematic comparisons will be judged not only statistically, but also according to the degree to which they agree with informed judgments about item difficulty. Collecting responses from informed judges is Part Two of the study. Because these individuals have participated in the process of setting achievement levels for the 1998 Science NAEP, they are likely to be keenly interested in the research study.

In Part One of the study, several technical aspects of the anchoring process will be investigated:

- (1) Stringency of difficulty criterion (response probability criterion);
- (2) Point versus interval-based estimates;
- (3) Empirical versus model-based estimates;
- (4) Type of discrimination criterion.

Before conducting the data analysis of the anchoring process, cross validation analyses of random half-samples of the data will be done. Four methods of analyzing the student data are planned:

- (1) Empirical/interval estimation;
- (2) Empirical/point estimation;
- (3) Model-based/interval estimation;
- (4) Model-based/point estimation.

Three factors will be considered as the criteria to determine which anchoring/mapping method is best:

- (1) Consistency of results across subsamples;
- (2) The degree to which the results are supported by informed judgment;