

is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) The accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Proposed Project: Hepatitis C Among Health Care for the Homeless Program Patients—New

The Health Care for the Homeless Clinicians' Network (HCHCN) of the National Health Care for the Homeless Council, Inc., through a cooperative agreement with the Bureau of Primary Health Care, Health Resources and Services Administration, proposes to conduct epidemiological research regarding hepatitis C. The study will be of adult homeless patients and will be conducted using laboratory tests and

patient interviews. The study is designed to estimate the prevalence of lifetime hepatitis C infection among homeless adults and the rate of comorbidity of hepatitis C and hepatitis B infection, identify high-risk groups, describe health service utilization specific to hepatitis C, and assess patient knowledge and attitudes regarding hepatitis C. The participants will be recruited from eight clinics of the national Health Care for the Homeless Program.

The estimated response burden is as follows:

Respondent	Number of respondents	Responses per respondent	Hours per response	Total hour burden
Patients	400	1	1	400
Total	400	400

Send comments to Susan G. Queen, Ph.D., HRSA Reports Clearance Officer, Room 14-33, Parklawn Building, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Dated: November 30, 1999.

Jane Harrison,

Director, Division of Policy Review and Coordination.

[FR Doc. 99-31515 Filed 12-3-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development; Meeting of the National Reading Panel

Notice is hereby given of the Washington, DC area meeting of the National Reading Panel. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 8, 1999, from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM and on Thursday, December 9, 1999, from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM. The meeting location is the Holiday Inn Georgetown, 2101 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20007. The entire meeting will be open to the public.

The National Reading Panel was requested by Congress and created by the Director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in consultation with the Secretary of Education. The Panel will study the effectiveness of various approaches to teaching children how to read and report on the best ways to apply these findings in classrooms and at home. Its members include prominent reading

researchers, teachers, child development experts, leaders in elementary and higher education, and parents. The Chair of the Panel is Dr. Donald N. Langenberg, Chancellor of the University System of Maryland.

The Panel will build on the findings presented by the National Research Council's Committee on the Prevention of Reading Difficulties in Young Children. Based on these findings and the National Reading Panel's own review of the literature, the Panel will: Determine the readiness for application in the classroom of the results of these research studies; identify appropriate means to rapidly disseminate this information to facilitate effective reading instruction in the schools; and identify gaps in the knowledge base for reading instruction and the best ways to close these gaps.

The agenda for this meeting will include presentations of subgroup reports and discussions of the reports by The National Reading Panel. A period of time will be set aside at approximately 3:00 PM on Thursday, December 9 for members of the public to address the Panel and express their views regarding the Panel's mission. Individuals desiring an opportunity to speak before the Panel should address their requests to F. William Dommel, Jr., J.D., Executive Director, National Reading Panel, c/o Mr. Patrick Riccards and either mail them to the Widmeyer-Baker Group, 1825 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Fifth Floor, Washington, DC 20009, or e-mail them to patrickr@twbg.com, or fax them to 202-667-0902. Request for addressing the Panel should be received by December 6, 1999. Panel business permitting, each public speaker will be allowed five minutes to present his or

her views. In the event of a large number of public speakers, the Panel Chair retains the option to further limit the presentation time allowed to each. Although the time permitted for oral presentations will be brief, the full text of all written comments submitted to the Panel will be made available to the Panel members for consideration.

For further information contact Mr. Patrick Riccards at 202-667-0901. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact Mr. Patrick Riccards by December 6, 1999.

Dated: November 29, 1999.

Duane Alexander,

Director, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

[FR Doc. 99-31582 Filed 12-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Issuance of Permit for Incidental Take of Threatened Species

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Issuance.

On September 22, 1999, a notice was published in the **Federal Register** (64 FR 51333-51334) that an application had been filed with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) by South Central Utah Telephone Association for a permit to incidentally take, pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16