

particular amendment request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at 301/713-0376, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period. Please note that comments will not be accepted by e-mail or other electronic media.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jill Lewandowski or Jeannie Drevenak, 301/713-2289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The permit application No. 753-1599-00 is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR 222-226).

The applicant requests authorization to conduct research on humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) and gray whales (*Eschrichtius robustus*) in the state waters of Alaska, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington and/or California. The overall objective of the proposed research is to study the mating behavior, social organization and behavioral ecology of these species. The applicant requests to conduct this research over a five year period.

The applicant specifically requests authorization for (1) 4,000 total annual takes of humpback whales through photo-identification, close approach, incidental harassment, sound recording, aerial photogrammetry and underwater observation with 400 of these annual takes for biopsy sampling; and (2) 500 total annual takes of gray whales through photo-identification, close approach, incidental harassment, sound recording, aerial photogrammetry and underwater observation with 100 of these annual takes for biopsy sampling. The applicant also requests authorization to import collected tissue into the U.S. and dissect/collect tissues, particularly related to sound production systems, of dead humpback and gray whales.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an initial determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**,

NMFS is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: August 23, 2000.

**Ann D. Terbush,**

*Chief, Permits and Documentation Division,  
Office of Protected Resources, National  
Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 00-22067 Filed 8-28-00; 8:45 am]

**Billing Code: 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Technology Administration

#### National Medal of Technology 2001 Award Program

**AGENCY:** Technology Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Announcement of the National Medal of Technology 2001 Award Program.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, Technology Administration (TA), is accepting nominations for its year 2001 National Medal of Technology Award Program.

Established by Congress in 1980, the President of the United States awards the National Medal of Technology annually to our nation's leading innovators. If you know of a candidate who has made an outstanding contribution in technology, send for a nomination packet now.

**DATES:** The deadline for submission of an application is December 15, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** The 2001 Nomination Applications can be obtained from the National Medal of Technology Program Office, Technology Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room 4226, Washington, D.C. 20230. The packets are also available by visiting the NMT website at NMT@ta.doc.gov or by faxing the office at 202/501-8153.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Andrew J. Fowell, Acting Director, 202-482-5572.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Medal of Technology is the highest honor bestowed by the President of the United States to America's leading innovators. Enacted by Congress in 1980, the Medal of Technology was first awarded in 1985. The Medal is given annually to individuals, teams, or companies for accomplishments in the innovation, development, commercialization, and management of technology, as evidenced by the establishment of new or significantly improved products, processes, or services.

The primary purpose of the National Medal of Technology is to recognize technological innovators who have made lasting contributions to enhancing America's competitiveness and standard of living. The Medal highlights the national importance of fostering technological innovation based upon solid science, resulting in commercially successful products and services.

### The Selection Process

A distinguished, independent committee representing both private and public sectors evaluates the merits of all candidates nominated through an open, competitive solicitation process. The U.S. Department of Commerce's Office of the Under Secretary for Technology is responsible for administering the National Medal of Technology. Committee recommendations are forwarded to the Secretary of Commerce who then makes recommendations to the President for final decision.

### The Awards Presentation

Each year the National Medal of Technology awards are presented by the President in a joint White House ceremony with the National Medal of Science. (The National Medal of Science is administered by the National Science Foundation.) An award's dinner sponsored by the National Science and Technology Medals Foundation and other events are planned around the White House ceremony.

For over a decade, the Medal has celebrated the extraordinary achievements of American trailblazers, fostering a national legacy and inspiring future innovators. Of the 126 Medals of Technology awarded since 1985, 115 have been awarded to individuals or teams. Eleven has been awarded to companies.

**Cheryl L. Shavers,**

*Under Secretary of Commerce for Technology,  
Technology Administration.*

[FR Doc. 00-22008 Filed 8-28-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-18-P**

## CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

### Renewal of a Currently Approved Information Collection; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Corporation for National and Community Service.

**ACTION:** Notice.

The Corporation for National and Community Service (hereinafter the "Corporation") has submitted the following public information collection

request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). Copies of these individual ICRs, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by calling the Corporation for National and Community Service, Mr. Noel McCaman, Director, AmeriCorps Recruitment Office, (202) 606-5000, extension 443. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TTY-TDD) may call (202) 565-2799 between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

Comments should be sent to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: Ms. Brenda Aguilar, OMB Desk Officer for the Corporation for National and Community Service, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, Washington, D.C. 20503, (202) 395-6929, within 30 days from the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

The OMB is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Corporation, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Propose ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Propose ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information to those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g. permitting electronic submissions of responses.

*Agency:* Corporation for National and Community Service.

*Type of Review:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*Title:* AmeriCorps National Referral Card.

*OMB Number:* 3045-0004.

*Agency Number:* None.

*Frequency:* One response per individual (optional collection).

*Affected Public:* Individuals and households.

*Number of Respondents:* 100,000. (50,000 through the Corporation's 1-800 number, and 50,000 through the Corporation's website).

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 3 minutes.

*Total Burden Hours:* 5,000 hours.

*Total Annualized capital/startup costs:* None.

*Total annual costs (operating/maintenance):* \$42,900—1-800 number costs and \$0.00 for the website).

*Description:* The AmeriCorps National Referral Card is submitted by potential AmeriCorps members to the Corporation for input into a national recruitment referral database and the information provided is distributed to approved AmeriCorps programs. The programs then contact individuals who have completed the form and ask them to formally apply for AmeriCorps member positions.

The Corporation seeks to revise the current AmeriCorps National Referral Card in order to determine:

- (1) Citizenship or if applicant is a lawful permanent resident alien of the United States (a statutory requirement for participation in AmeriCorps);
- (2) Knowledge of foreign languages. (The current card asks only about Spanish language skills);
- (3) If the individual is interested in serving in a summer program; and
- (4) The geographic area(s) in which the individual would prefer to serve.

Dated: August 23, 2000.

**Noel V. McCaman,**

*Director of AmeriCorps Recruitment, Corporation for National and Community Service.*

[FR Doc. 00-21983 Filed 8-28-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6050-28-U**

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**SUMMARY:** The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before October 30, 2000.

**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 Leader, Regulatory 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. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: August 23, 2000.

**John Tressler,**

*Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

### Office of Educational Research and Improvement

*Type of Review:* Reinstatement.

*Title:* Public Libraries Survey.

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Affected Public:* State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs; Federal Government.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:* Responses: 56. Burden Hours: 1,680.

*Abstract:* The Public Libraries Survey is an annual survey of public libraries in the 50 States, D.C. and the Outlying Areas. Data for local public libraries are aggregated at the State and national levels. Federal, state, and local officials use the data for planning, evaluation, monitoring, budgeting, administration, and policy. Other users include librarians, educators, and researchers. The respondents are the 50 States, D.C. and the Outlying Areas.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, or should be addressed to Vivian Reese,