

fiscal years. As part of this process the Council will review the Strategy and update as necessary.

The Council is preparing additional documents regarding habitat restoration program implementation and the development of monitoring standards that will be published upon completion. As indicated in this Strategy, the Council will promote a variety of efforts to facilitate promotion of partnerships and efficient, effective restoration of estuarine habitats.

*References:* Cowardin, L.M. V. Carter, F.C. Golet, and E.T. LaRoe. 1979. "Classification of wetlands and deepwater habitats of the United States." U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Biological Services Program; FWS/OBS-79/31. 131 pp.

Restore America's Estuaries. 2002. "A National Strategy to Restore Coastal and Estuarine Habitat." Arlington, VA.

**Luz D. Ortiz,**

*Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**SUMMARY:** The Leader, Regulatory 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 February 3, 2003.

**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 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: November 26, 2003.

**John D. Tressler,**

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

### Office of the Chief Financial Officer

*Type of Review:* Revision.

*Title:* U.S. Department of Education Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs Form and Grant Performance Report Form.

*Frequency:* Once, only per application for new awards (524).

*Affected Public:* State, local, or tribal gov't, SEAs or LEAs; Not-for-profit institutions; Businesses or other for-profit.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:* Responses: 23,250. Burden Hours: 421,875.

*Abstract:* This collection is necessary for the award and administration of discretionary and formula grants. The collections specific to ED forms are part of the reinvented process ED used for awarding multi-year discretionary grants. The new process substantially increases flexibility of the grant process by enabling all years of multi-year budget to be negotiated in at the time of initial award (Budget Information Non-Construction Programs, ED FORM 524). The U.S. Department of Education Grant Performance Report (ED Form 524B) is one of the tools used by ED Staff as a monitoring tool in the Post-Award and Grant Administration functions.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 2149. When you access the information collection, click on

"Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651 or to the e-mail address [vivian\\_reese@ed.gov](mailto:vivian_reese@ed.gov). Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address [OCIO\\_RIMG@ed.gov](mailto:OCIO_RIMG@ed.gov) or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Sheila Carey at her e-mail address [Sheila.Carey@ed.gov](mailto:Sheila.Carey@ed.gov).

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

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