

later than the closing date of the comment period.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ruth Johnson (Ruth.Johnson@noaa.gov) or Carrie Hubard (Carrie.w.Hubard@noaa.gov) or Phone: (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The amendment and application are 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).

Permit No. 821-1588-02 (R. Davis) authorizes the permit holder to conduct research under four projects: 1) capture, tag, sample, release Weddell seals (*Leptonychotes weddelli*) on McMurdo Sound, Antarctica; 2) approach, tag, biopsy, photograph sperm whales (*Physeter macrocephalus*) in the Gulf of Mexico, and conduct research activities on Odontocetes that may result in Level B harassment; 3) import/export marine mammal specimens obtained from dead animals; and 4) Project IV - Hunting Behavior and Energetics of Free-Ranging Elephant Seals. The permit holder now requests authorization to amend Project II to increase the number of sperm whales to be taken by harassment during photo-identification and behavioral observations to 530 animals. Currently 100 sperm whales may be incidentally harassed during tagging and biopsy sampling of 60 animals.

Danied Engelhauff (File No. 909-1726) requests a permit to biopsy sample and collect naturally sloughed skin from sperm whales (*Physeter macrocephalus*) and a variety of other non-listed cetacean species in the Gulf of Mexico, North Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, and Mediterranean Sea. The goal is the continuation of a previous four-year study that analyzes population genetic structure between the Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea, North Atlantic Ocean, and Mediterranean Sea and provides a comparison of these putative geographic populations with those of other geographic areas. The project is part of a multi-year and multi-institution, cross-disciplinary research program to understand the impacts of oil/gas industries and seismic exploration on the endangered sperm whale population in the Gulf of Mexico. Samples would be collected by obtaining skin samples via biopsy dart, sloughed skin sampling,

as well using extant samples of stored material obtained from NMFS Southeast and Northeast regional stranding networks. Samples will be exported to the research facilities at the University of Durham's Biological Sciences Laboratory, New Zealand, or to a similar research facility in the United States for genetic sample processing.

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: January 13, 2004.

Stephen L. Leathery,

Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 04-1215 Filed 1-20-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Notice of Availability of Progress Report: The Coral Reef Conservation Grants Program

AGENCY: Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) announces the availability of *Progress Report: The Coral Reef Conservation Grant Program* (Report). The Report was published in response to the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 (Act, 16 U.S.C. 6401 *et seq.*, Pub. L. 106-562), which directs NOAA's Administrator to provide a report that documents the effectiveness of its grants program (Program) no later than three years after enactment of the Act.

The Report provides an overview of the Program since its establishment in 2002. It also highlights the achievements of the Program in each of six substantive topic areas, as well as provides specific information on each of the 83 grants awarded in fiscal years 2002 and 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request a copy of the Report please contact the NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program by e-mail at coralreef@noaa.gov, by fax at (301) 713-4389, or by mail at 1305 East West Highway, NOS/ORR 10201, Silver Spring, MD 20910. The Report is also available electronically on the NOAA Coral Reef Information System Web site (<http://www.coris.noaa.gov>).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 (Act, 16 U.S.C. 6401 *et seq.*, Pub. L. 106-562) authorizes the DOC, through the NOAA Administrator and subject to the availability of funds, to make matching grants of Federal financial assistance to support projects for the conservation of coral reefs. The Act also directs NOAA's Administrator to provide a report that documents the effectiveness of its grant program (Program) no later than three years after enactment of the Act. *Progress Report: The Coral Reef Conservation Grant Program* is NOAA's response to this requirement.

This report provides an overview of the Program since its establishment in 2002, including a description of the process and results of the Program's development. It also highlights the achievements of the Program in each of the six topic areas, and provides specific information on each of the 83 grants awarded in fiscal years 2002 and 2003. This includes a State-by-State listing of Federal and non-Federal matching funds, and a detailed description of each activity, its outcomes, and measurements of performance. The report also contains summary tables that organize grant information by geographic and substantive topic area. Finally, the report contains an initial assessment of the effectiveness of the Program.

Dated: January 14, 2004.

Richard W. Spinrad,

Assistant Administrator, Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 04-1166 Filed 1-20-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-JE-P

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Corporation for National and Community Service.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Corporation for National and Community Service (hereinafter the "Corporation"), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that requested data can

be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirement on respondents can be properly assessed.

The Corporation proposes to conduct a series of outcome measurement surveys among a sample of AmeriCorps members, AmeriCorps sub-grantee organizations that deliver services, and end-beneficiaries of the services provided by projects in which AmeriCorps sub-grantee organizations and members are involved. The information will meet the federal government's accountability requirements under the Government Performance Results Act of 1993 and, at the same time, be useful to AmeriCorps program managers.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section by March 22, 2004.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by the title of the information collection activity, by any of the following methods:

(1) By mail sent to: Corporation for National and Community Service, Attn: Kevin Cramer, Department of Research and Policy Development, Room 8109, 1201 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20525.

(2) By hand delivery or by courier to the Corporation's mailroom, Room 6010, at the mail address given in paragraph (1) above, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

(3) By fax to: (202) 565-2785, Attn: Kevin Cramer, Department of Research and Policy Development.

(4) Electronically through the Corporation's e-mail address system: kcramer@cns.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kevin Cramer at (202) 606-5000, ext. 232.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Corporation 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;
- Enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- 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.

Title of Information Collection Activity: Performance Measurement in AmeriCorps.

Background: The Corporation is strongly committed to making its performance measurement and management systems more results oriented in order to strengthen the accountability and performance of its programs. As part of its effort to do so, there is a need to collect outcome information regarding the Corporation's AmeriCorps programs (consisting of AmeriCorps*State and National, AmeriCorps*VISTA, and AmeriCorps*National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC)). Information on program performance will be informed by a series of surveys, to be conducted electronically and by telephone, of a sample of AmeriCorps members, sub-grantee organizations that deliver services, and end-beneficiaries of the services provided by projects in which AmeriCorps sub-grantee organizations and AmeriCorps members are involved.

Current Action: The Corporation seeks public comment on the survey instruments and forms that will be used to collect and report information on program performance.

Agency: Corporation for National and Community Service.

Title: Performance Measurement in AmeriCorps.

OMB Number: None.

Agency Number: None.

Affected Public: AmeriCorps members, sub-grantee organizations, and service beneficiaries.

Total Respondents: 4,250.

Frequency: Annually.

Average Time Per Response: 10 minutes.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 708 hours.

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): None.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): None.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: January 14, 2004.

David A. Reingold,

Director, Department of Research and Policy Development.

[FR Doc. 04-1211 Filed 1-20-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6050--\$S-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Notice of Availability of Government-Owned Inventions; Available for Licensing

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DOD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The inventions listed below are assigned to the U.S. Government as represented by the Secretary of the Navy and are available for licensing by the Department of the Navy.

U.S. Patent No. 6,033,708: Method for Producing Sterile Filterable Liposome Dispersion, Navy Case No. 77,808//U.S. Patent No. 6,358,678: Applications of Reversible Crosslinking and Co-Treatment in Stabilization and Viral Inactivations of Erythrocytes, Navy Case No. 78,253//U.S. Patent No. 6,447,848: Nanosize Particle Coatings Made by Thermally Spraying Solution Precursor Feedstocks, Navy Case No. 78,896.

ADDRESSES: Requests for copies of the inventions cited should be directed to the Naval Research Laboratory, Code 1004, 4555 Overlook Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20375-5320, and must include the Navy Case number.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jane F. Kuhl, Technology Transfer Office, NRL Code 1004, 4555 Overlook Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20375-5320, telephone (202) 767-7230. Due to temporary U.S. Postal Service delays, please fax (202) 404-7920, E-Mail: kuhl@utopia.nrl.navy.mil or use courier delivery to expedite response.

(Authority: 35 U.S.C. 207, 37 CFR part 404).

Dated: January 13, 2004.

J. T. Baltimore,

Lieutenant Commander, Judge Advocate General's Corps, U.S. Navy, Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 04-1222 Filed 1-20-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3810--FF-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office