

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****Notice of Availability for Public Comment on Proposed Data Management and Communications Standards for U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System**

**AGENCY:** National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** Notice of availability is hereby given for a 30-day public comment period on proposed Data Management and Communications (DMAC) standards for the initial implementation of the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS). The proposed standards are contained in the draft Ocean.US Data Management and Communications Plan for Research and Operational Integrated Ocean Observing Systems—I. Interoperable Data Discovery, Access, and Archive (May 2004). The Plan, developed by the Ocean.US office under the auspices of the inter-agency National Ocean Research Leadership Council's (NORLC) Ocean Observations Executive Committee (EXCOM), provides guidance to ocean and coastal data providers regarding data documentation (metadata) and discovery, data transport, Internet-enabled data browsing, and data archiving of the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System. The Plan provides additional recommendations regarding the incorporation of marine data buoy observations into IOOS by way of establishing cooperative arrangement(s) with the NOAA National Data Buoy Center (NDBC). Review and comment from the public and all interested parties on the proposed standards are hereby solicited. All substantive comments received during the review period will be considered by a broadly based, expert panel convened by Ocean.US for that purpose. The final Plan will subsequently be announced in the **Federal Register**, and the standards contained therein shall be adopted for the initial implementation of IOOS. Any subsequently proposed modifications or additions to these standards shall be subject to public review and comment as described herein.

**DATES:** Written comments on the proposed standards must be received no later than 5 p.m. eastern standard time, on December 10, 2004. Written

comments should be sent to: Ocean.US, Attention: Ms. Rosalind E. Cohen, 2300 Clarendon Blvd. Suite 1350, Arlington, VA 22201. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to the following address: [Rosalind.E.Cohen@noaa.gov](mailto:Rosalind.E.Cohen@noaa.gov), or by FAX to (703) 588-0872. The Plan is available on-line to interested parties from the Office of Ocean.US Web site at the following URL: [http://dmac.ocean.us/dacsc/imp\\_plan.jsp](http://dmac.ocean.us/dacsc/imp_plan.jsp). In addition, copies of the Plan may be obtained by contacting Ocean.US at the above Ocean.US address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information about this notice, please contact Rosalind E. Cohen, Office of Ocean.US, telephone: (703) 588-0854. E-mail: [Rosalind.E.Cohen@noaa.gov](mailto:Rosalind.E.Cohen@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Ocean.US Office, operating by inter-agency agreement under the statutory authority of the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP, 10 U.S.C. 7901 *et seq.*), serves as the national agent for integrating ocean observing activities (<http://www.ocean.us>). Ocean.US is also the focal point for relating U.S. ocean observing system elements to associated international efforts, such as the Global Earth Observing System of Systems (GEOSS) and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) sponsored Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS). The U.S. IOOS represents the U.S. contribution to the ocean components of these international partnership efforts. Key to the realization of the U.S. IOOS is the establishment of an integrated DMAC infrastructure. This infrastructure will enable users to discover, retrieve, and use data from federal and state government, government-sponsored, other public, private, and commercial coastal and ocean observing activities regardless of source or location.

In 2002 Ocean.US established a broad-based national IOOS DMAC Steering Committee that was charged with developing a plan for the assessment of IOOS DMAC standards needs, making initial recommendations, and formulating a process by which standards gaps so identified could be addressed. This assessment resulted in the current DMAC Plan: Data Management and Communications Plan for Research and Operational Integrated Ocean Observing Systems—I. Interoperable Data Discovery, Access, and Archive, May 2004. The DMAC Plan provides prioritized recommendations, with additional concrete guidance to data providers, to establish initial DMAC standards and

practices for the U.S. IOOS. The areas addressed include: (1) Metadata, data discovery and data location; (2) data transport; (3) data archival; and, (4) data policy.

**Review to Date of the Plan and Proposed Standards**

Over the past 18 months the DMAC Plan has undergone several levels of review, and substantive comments received at each stage have been incorporated into the current May 2004 draft. Comments were received from internal and external reviews by national and international technical and scientific experts, federal and state ocean and coastal resource managers, as well as organized discussions at various national and regional professional workshops and conferences. Comments were also solicited and received electronically via the Ocean.US Web site. This current solicitation formalizes and completes the public review of the Plan.

**Authority:** 10 U.S.C. 7901 *et seq.*

Dated: November 3, 2004.

**Richard W. Spinrad,**

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

[FR Doc. 04-25109 Filed 11-9-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-JE-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****Notice of Availability of the Final Reserve Operations Plan for the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Sanctuary Program (NMSPP), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Department of Commerce (DOC).

**ACTION:** Notice; correction.

**SUMMARY:** The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) announcement of the availability of the Final Reserve Operations (ROP) Plan for the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve (Reserve) appeared in the **Federal Register** dated October 15, 2004 (69 FR 199), pages 61205-61207. The document contained an incorrect point of contact for information. In addition, the ROP is not yet available.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Vicki Wedell, 301-713-3125, extension 137.

**Correction**

In the **Federal Register** of October 15, 2004, in FR Doc. 04-23165, on page 61205, in the second column, correct the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** caption to read:

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Malia Chow, (808) 397-2660, [nwhi@noaa.gov](mailto:nwhi@noaa.gov).

In the same notice, on page 61205, in the second column, add a **DATES** caption to read:

**DATES:** The date of the release of the final ROP for distribution to the public will be announced when available in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: November 3, 2004.

**Daniel J. Basta,**

*Director, National Marine Sanctuary Program, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration.*

[FR Doc. 04-25108 Filed 11-9-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-JE-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers****Chief of Engineers Environmental Advisory Board; Meeting**

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice; cancellation.

**SUMMARY:** The Chief of Engineers Environmental Advisory Board meeting scheduled for November 19, 2004, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. published in the **Federal Register** on Thursday, November 4, 2004 (69 FR 64282), has been cancelled.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Norman Edwards, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, DC 20314-1000; Ph: 202-761-1934.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** None.

**Brenda S. Bowen,**

*Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 04-25051 Filed 11-9-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3710-92-M**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****Department of the Navy****Meetings of the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Executive Panel**

**AGENCY:** Department of the Navy, DOD.

**ACTION:** Notice of closed meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The CNO Executive Panel will hear classified briefings and provide consensus advice to the Chief of

Naval Operations on "The Navy Role in Near East Security." The Panel will also receive CNO direction regarding future studies to be conducted.

**DATES:** Meetings will be held on November 18-19, 2004, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held at the Center for Naval Analyses, 4825 Mark Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22311.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Commander Gary Herbert, CNO Executive Panel, (703) 681-4941 or Commander Kevin Wilson, CNO Executive Panel, (703) 681-6206.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2), these matters constitute classified information that is specifically authorized by Executive Order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense and are, in fact, properly classified pursuant to such Executive Order. Accordingly, the Secretary of the Navy has determined in writing that the public interest requires that all sessions of this meeting be closed to the public because they will be concerned with matters listed in section 552b(c)(1) of title 5, United States Code.

Dated: November 5, 2004.

**J.H. Wagshul,**

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

[FR Doc. 04-25182 Filed 11-9-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3810-FF-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION****Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests**

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**SUMMARY:** The Leader, Information Management Case Services Team, Regulatory Information Management Services, 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 January 10, 2004.

**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, Information Management Case Services Team, Regulatory Information Management Services, 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 5, 2004.

**Angela C. Arrington,**

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

**Office of the Chief Financial Officer**

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Title:* Application for Federal Education Assistance (ED Form 424) Clearance Package.

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Affected Public:* State, local, or tribal gov't, SEAs or LEAs; individuals or household; businesses or other for-profit; not-for-profit institutions.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:*

*Responses:* 25,326.

*Burden Hours:* 6,331.

*Abstract:* Need to collect information necessary for the processing of various Department of Education grant program's application packets from State and Local educational agencies, institutions of higher education. Information is used by program offices to determine eligibility and facilitate in the disbursement of program funds.