

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 070999C]

**Marine Mammals; File No. 638-1519-00**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Receipt of application.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Thomas R. Kieckhefer, Pacific Cetacean Group, UC Monterey Bay Education, Science & Technology Center, 3239 Imjin Road, #122, Marina, California 93933, has submitted an application for scientific research on humpback whales.

**DATES:** Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before August 21, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** The application and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 (562/980-4027).

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application should be mailed to the Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular 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 by other electronic media.

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 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 (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the

taking, importing, and exporting of endangered fish and wildlife (50 CFR 222.23).

The applicant is requesting to harass up to 300 humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) annually in Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, California during photo-identification and prey identification studies. The research will be carried out over a 5-year period. The research will investigate the feeding ecology of humpback whales in Monterey Bay.

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: July 13, 1999.

**Ann D. Terbush,**

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

[FR Doc. 99-18641 Filed 7-20-99; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-F**

**CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE****Proposed 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.

Currently, the Corporation is soliciting comments concerning its proposed applications entitled: The

2000 Application Guidelines for AmeriCorps National, State, and Indian Tribes and U.S. Territories. Copies of the information collection requests can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section by September 20, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to the Corporation for National and Community Service, Nancy Talbot, Director, Planning and Program Development, 1201 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20525.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nancy Talbot (202) 606-5000, ext. 470.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Comment Request**

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 on 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.

**Background**

The 2000 Application Guidelines for AmeriCorps National, State, and Indian Tribes and U.S. Territories provide the background, requirements and instructions that potential applicants need to complete an application to the Corporation for funds to operate AmeriCorps programs.

**Current Action**

The Corporation seeks public comment on the forms, the instructions for the forms, and the instructions for the narrative portion of these application guidelines. The application forms and instructions are being revised to reflect the evaluation criteria approved by the Corporation board last year. In some instances this means that

questions appear under different categories than previously. In an effort to streamline and consolidate this application package, there is one title page all AmeriCorps National, State, and Indian Tribes and U.S. Territories can use. The budget form and title page have been revised so that information is asked for one place and does not need to be copied to some other part of the form as in the past. Form instructions are clearer and are written in plain language.

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

*Agency:* Corporation for National and Community Service.

*Title:* The 2000 Application Guidelines for AmeriCorps National, State and Indian Tribes and U.S. Territories.

*OMB Number:* 3045-0047.

*Agency Number:* None.

*Affected Public:* Eligible applicants to the Corporation for funding.

*Total Respondents:* 2000.

*Frequency:* Once per year.

*Average Time Per Response:* Ten (10) hours.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 20,000 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: July 16, 1999.

**Thomas L. Bryant,**

*Associate General Counsel.*

[FR Doc. 99-18624 Filed 7-20-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6050-28-P

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### TRICARE; the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS); Specialized Treatment Services (STS) Program

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice is to advise interested parties that the VA Palo Alto Health Care System (VAPAHCS) and the San Francisco VA Medical Center (SfVAMC), located in TRICARE Region Ten, have been designated as Regional Specialized Treatment Services Facilities (STSFs) for Cardiac Surgery. Both of these facilities are members of

the Veterans Integrated Service Network 21 (VISN 21) of the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). The application for the STSF designation was submitted by VISN 21 and approved by the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs). The Lead Agent for Region Ten will ensure the STSFs maintain the quality and standards required for specialized treatment services. The designation covers the following Related Groups:

104—Cardiac valve procedure with cardiac catheterization

105—Cardiac valve procedure without PTCA

106—Coronary bypass with PTCA

107—Coronary bypass with cardiac catheterization

108—Other cardiothoracic procedures

109—Coronary bypass without cardiac catheterization

Travel and lodging for the patient and, if stated to be medically necessary by a referring physician, for one non-medical attendant, will be reimbursed by the VAPAHCS or SfVAMC in accordance with the provisions of the Joint Federal Travel Regulation. Patients will be referred to the STSFs based on patient/provider preference and, if no preference is indicated, the referrals will occur on a one-for-one rotational basis between the VAPAHCS and the SfVAMC. DoD beneficiaries who reside in the Regional STSF Catchment Area for VAPAHCS and SfVAMC in TRICARE Region Ten must receive cardiac surgery services for the above DRGs from these facilities unless a Nonavailability Statement (NAS) or an authorization is issued. Evaluation by VAPAHCS or SfVAMC in person is preferred, and travel and lodging expenses for the evaluation will be reimbursed as stated above. It is possible to conduct the evaluation telephonically if the patient is unable to travel to VAPAHCS or SfVAMC. If the procedure cannot be performed at the VAPAHCS and SfVAMC, these facilities will provide a medical necessity review prior to issuance of a NAS or authorization.

The Regional STSF Catchment Area for VAPAHCS and SfVAMC covering Region Ten will be defined by zip codes in the Defense Medical Information System STSF Catchment Area Directory. The Catchment Area includes zip codes within TRICARE Region Ten that fall within a 200-mile radius of the midpoint of a line between the VAPAHCS and SfVAMC.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** On or after October 1, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Eric Raffin, CHE, VAPAHCS, at (650) 849-0113; or Lieutenant Colonel Pam

Cygan, TRICARE Region Ten Lead Agent Office, at (707) 424-6533; or Lieutenant Colonel Teresa Sommese, TRICARE Management Activity, (703) 681-3628, extension 5029; or Mr. Tariq Shahid, TRICARE Management Activity, (303) 676-3801.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In FR DOC 93-27050, appearing in the **Federal Register** on November 5, 1993 (Vol. 58, FR 58955-58964), the final rule on the STS Program was published. Included in the final rule was a provision that a notice of all military and civilian STS facilities be published in the **Federal Register** annually. This notice is issued under the authority of 10 U.S.C. 1105 and 32 CFR 199.4(a)(10).

Dated: July 14, 1999.

**L.M. Bynum,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 99-18514 Filed 7-20-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-10-M

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Office of Science

#### Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a meeting of the Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee (BESAC). Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

**DATES:** Tuesday, August 10, 1999, 8:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Wednesday, August 11, 1999, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Washingtonian Marriott, 9751 Washingtonian Boulevard, Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sharon Long; Office of Basic Energy Sciences; U. S. Department of Energy; 19901 Germantown Road; Germantown, MD 20874-1290; Telephone: (301) 903-5565

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Purpose of the Meeting:* The purpose of this meeting is to provide advice and guidance with respect to the basic energy sciences research program.

#### **Tentative Agenda**

*Tuesday, August 10, 1999*

- Welcome and Introduction of New BESAC Members
- Remarks from Dr. Martha Krebs, Director, Office of Science