

Scientific Research Permit No. 924-1484-00.

DATES: Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before September 18, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The amendment request and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s): Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910, (301) 713-2289;

Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200, Long Beach, California 90802-4213, (562) 980-4001; and

Protected Resources Coordinator, Pacific Islands Area Office, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, 1601 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 1110, Honolulu HI 96814-4700, (808) 973-2935.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this request should be submitted 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 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, (301) 713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject amendment to Permit No. 924-1484-00, issued on February 8, 2000 (65 FR 6175) 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). Permit No. 924-1484-00 authorizes the applicant to conduct controlled vessel approach trials and obtain audio/video recordings on humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) during the course of research to evaluate whale behavior in the presence of vessels. The research

occurs in Hawaiian waters between Maui and Lanai, and off the northwest coast between Kona and Hawaii. The authority of this permit currently expires on August 31, 2004.

The permit holder is now requesting authorization to: (1) change the expiration date to August 31, 2005; (2) add approach takes for spinner dolphins (*Stenella longirostris*), spotted dolphins (*Stenella attenuata*) and bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) when in the presence of humpback whales; and (3) increase annual humpback whale takes to 350 for controlled vessel approaches and 700 for video/audio recordings.

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 14, 2000.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 00-20990 Filed 8-16-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

Title: Patent Cooperation Treaty.

Form Number(s): PTO/SB/2101/134/144, PTO 1382, PCT/Model of Power of Attorney, PCT/Model of General Power of Attorney, PCT/IPEA/401, PCT/IB/328.

Agency Approval Number: 0651-0021.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Burden: 595,060 hours annually.

Number of Respondents: 439,554 responses per year.

Avg. Hours Per Response: Based on estimates and knowledge of this information collection, the USPTO estimates the burden hours required by the public to gather, prepare and submit the required information to be the following amounts of time: 1 hour for the Request and Fee Calculation (PCT/RO/101), demands (PCT/IPEA/401 Annex and Notes), and amendments; 3 hours for descriptions/claims/drawings/abstracts; 0.25 hours for transmittal letters to the RO/US (PRO/1382), PCT/Model of Power of Attorney, PCT/Model of General Power of Attorney, extensions of time, priority documents, indications/deposited microorganisms, notices/confirmation/precautionary designations, notices effecting later elections (PCT/IB/328), and for fee authorizations; 2 hours for responses to invitations to correct defects; 0.5 hours for requests for rectification of obvious errors; and 4 hours for petitions. In addition, the USPTO estimates that it will take the following amount of time for the public to provide the information for these information requirements overlooked in previous submissions: 0.25 hours for requests to the IB to transmit copies of an international application; withdrawals of international applications, designations of the state, demands, election, and priority claims; and requests/authorizations to access international applications; and 2 hours for translations. The time estimates for the forms include the amount of time the USPTO estimates it will take an applicant to read and understand the instructions, gather the necessary information, complete the forms, prepare the necessary attachments, and submit the forms to the USPTO.

Needs and Uses: This information collection is required by the provisions of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). The PCT is administered by the International Bureau (IB) of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in Geneva, Switzerland. The general purpose of the PCT is to simplify the filing of international applications for the same invention in each of 108 designated countries. The USPTO would not be able to fulfill its obligations as a PCT Receiving Office (RO), an International Searching Authority (ISA), or as an International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA), if this information was not collected. The applicant must supply the information in order to apply for patent protection under the PCT. The USPTO uses the information to process, search and examine the application and to process any other communicate

concerning the application, as required by the PCT. The IB uses the information to administer international applications as required by the PCT. This information collection does have associated forms; however, not all of the information required by the collection is collected from the public by using forms.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; businesses or other for-profit; not-for-profit institutions; farms; the Federal Government; and state, local or tribal government.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Thao P. Nguyen, Acting Records Officer, Office of Data Management, Data Administration Division, (703) 308-7397, USPTO, Suite 310, 2231 Crystal Drive, Washington, DC 20231.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent on or before September 18, 2000 to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Dated: August 11, 2000.

Thao P. Nguyen,

Acting Records Officer, USPTO, Office of Data Management, Data Administration Division.

[FR Doc. 00-20881 Filed 8-16-00; 8:45am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Defense Partnership Council Meeting

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Department of Defense (DoD) announces a meeting of the Defense Partnership Council. Notice of this meeting is required under the Federal Advisory Committee Act. This meeting is open to the public. The agenda will include: an update on the Blue Collar Wage Setting project; a partnership presentation by the Army Operations Support Command, AFGE Local 15 and NAGE R7-68; and other topics related to the enhancement of Labor-Management partnerships through DoD.

DATES: The meeting is to be held on September 19, 2000, in room 1E801, Conference Room 7, the Pentagon, from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. Comments should be

received by September 11, 2000, in order to be considered at the September 19 meeting.

ADDRESSES: We invite interested persons and organizations to submit written comments or recommendations. Mail or deliver your comments or recommendations to Mr. Ben James at the address shown below. Seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Individuals wishing to attend who do not possess an appropriate Pentagon building pass should call the below listed telephone number to obtain instructions for entry into the Pentagon. Handicapped individuals wishing to attend should also call the below listed telephone number to obtain appropriate accommodations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Ben James, Chief, Labor Relations Branch, Field Advisory Services Division, Defense Civilian Personnel Management Service, 1400 Key Blvd, Suite B-200, Arlington, VA 22209-5144, (703) 696-6301, ext. 730.

Dated: August 10, 2000.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 00-20917 Filed 8-16-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-10-M

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 16, 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 11, 2000.

John Tressler,

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

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

Type of Review: Reinstatement

Title: Application for Free Loan Service of Captioned Media Program (English and Spanish Version) and Media Response Card (English and Spanish Version)

Frequency: On Occasion

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit; Individuals or household; Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 1,170,000

Burden Hours: 40,667

Abstract: This package provides an application form for prospective users of captioned media and response cards to evaluate satisfaction with captioned media.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, or should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address OCIO_IMG_Issues@ed.gov or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify