

viability, including availability to fisheries. More detailed information on studies of potential impacts of sounds on fish and invertebrates is provided in Appendix E of L-DEO's application.

Negligible Impact Determination

NMFS has preliminarily determined, provided that the aforementioned mitigation and monitoring measures are implemented, that the impact of conducting a seismic program in the southwest Pacific Ocean may result, at worst, in a temporary modification in behavior and/or low-level physiological effects (Level B Harassment) of small numbers of certain species of marine mammals. While behavioral and avoidance reactions may be made by these species in response to the resultant noise from the airguns, these behavioral changes are expected to have a negligible impact on the affected species and stocks of marine mammals.

While the number of potential incidental harassment takes will depend on the distribution and abundance of marine mammals in the area of seismic operations, the number of potential harassment takings is estimated to be relatively small in light of the population size (see Table 2). NMFS anticipates the actual take of individuals to be lower than the numbers depicted in the table, because those numbers do not reflect either the implementation of the mitigation numbers or the fact that some animals will avoid the sound at levels lower than those expected to result in harassment. Additionally, mitigation measures require that the *Langseth* avoid any areas where marine mammals are concentrated.

In addition, no take by death and/or serious injury is anticipated, and the potential for temporary or permanent hearing impairment will be avoided through the incorporation of the required mitigation measures described in this document. This conclusion is supported by: (1) the likelihood that, given sufficient notice through slow ship speed and ramp-up of the seismic array, marine mammals are expected to move away from a noise source that it is annoying prior to its becoming potentially injurious; (2) TTS is unlikely to occur, especially in odontocetes, until levels above 180 dB re 1 μ Pa (rms) are reached; (3) the fact that injurious levels of sound are only likely very close to the vessel; and (4) the monitoring program developed to avoid injury will be sufficient to detect (using visual detection and PAM), with reasonable certainty, all marine mammals within or entering the identified safety zones.

Endangered Species Act (ESA)

Under section 7 of the ESA, the National Science Foundation (NSF) has begun consultation on this proposed seismic survey. NMFS will also consult internally on the issuance of an IHA under section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA for this activity. Consultation will be concluded prior to a determination on the issuance of an IHA.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

On September 22, 2005 (70 FR 55630), NSF published a notice of intent to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OES) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with the use of seismic sources in support of NSF-funded research by U.S. academic scientists. NMFS agreed to be a cooperating agency in the preparation of the EIS/OEIS. This EIS/OEIS has not been completed. Therefore, in order to meet NSF's and NMFS' NEPA requirements for the proposed activity and issuance of an IHA to L-DEO, the NSF has prepared an Environmental Assessment of a Marine Geophysical Survey by the *Langseth* in the southwest Pacific Ocean off the coast of Tonga. NMFS is reviewing that document and will either adopt NSF's EA or conduct a separate NEPA analysis, as necessary, prior to making a determination of the issuance of the IHA. NMFS has posted NSF's EA on its website at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/permits/incidental.htm#applications>.

Preliminary Conclusions

Based on the preceding information, and provided that the proposed mitigation and monitoring are incorporated, NMFS has preliminarily concluded that the proposed activity will incidentally take, by level B behavioral harassment only, small numbers of marine mammals. The provision requiring that the activities not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the affected species or stock for subsistence uses does not apply for this proposed action. No take by Level A harassment (injury) or death is anticipated and harassment takes should be at the lowest level practicable due to incorporation of the mitigation measures proposed in this document.

Proposed Authorization

NMFS proposes to issue an IHA to L-DEO for a marine seismic survey in the southwest Pacific Ocean during January February, 2009, provided the previously

mentioned mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements are incorporated.

Dated: November 18, 2008.

James H. Lecky,

*Director, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[Docket Number: 0811191487-81488-01]

RIN: 0648-XL97

National Weather Service (NWS); NOAA Science Advisory Board's Environmental Information Services Working Group

AGENCY: National Weather Service (NWS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice of solicitation for members of the NOAA Science Advisory Board's Environmental Information Services Working Group.

SUMMARY: The Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere requested the NOAA Science Advisory Board (SAB) to obtain input from a standing working group, the Environmental Information Services Working Group (EISWG), as a mechanism to address interactions between NOAA and its Partners. The initial focus of the EISWG is to advise on issues raised and enhance effective collaboration between the National Weather Service and its partners. The composition of the Working Group will reflect those interests.

The EISWG will be composed of 15-18 members, who, by reason of knowledge, experience or training, are especially qualified to represent users of NOAA environmental information services, including, but not limited to, the commercial weather industry (both value-added and end-users), academia, and the media. Membership may also include representatives of federal, state and regional government agencies and non-governmental agencies. NOAA is requesting nominations for membership in the SAB EISWG.

DATES: Nominations must be received by January 23, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Nominations should be submitted electronically to (noaa.sab.eiswg@noaa.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Sprague, 301-713-0217.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The complete Terms of Reference of this working group can be found on the NOAA Science Advisory Board Web site: http://www.sab.noaa.gov/Working_Groups/standing/index.html.

At this time, NOAA is soliciting for up to eighteen members qualified to represent users of NOAA environmental information services, including, but not limited to, the commercial weather industry (both value-added and end-users), academia, and the media. Membership may also include representatives of federal, state and regional government agencies and non-governmental agencies. Members should have a credible science background, and an operational knowledge of federal agencies and interactions with state and local partners. The Working Group will convene 2–3 times over a year following the initial meeting. It will not advise NOAA directly, but, instead, will advise the SAB, which will deliberate on the Working Group's input before advising NOAA.

The intent is to select the membership of the group from the suggested candidates; however, the SAB retains the prerogative to propose members to the working group who were not nominated if it deems this necessary to achieve the desired balance. Once selected, the members' names will be posted at <http://www.sab.noaa.gov>.

The NOAA SAB has advised that the establishment of EISWG should be an interim solution. One year after the first meeting of the EISWG, the NOAA SAB will evaluate the effectiveness of this Working Group as a mechanism for obtaining advice on partnership issues relating to environmental information services. Following that evaluation, the SAB will recommend other steps as deemed necessary.

Nominations: Anyone is eligible to nominate and self-nominations will be accepted. Nominations should provide: (1) The nominee's full name, title, institutional affiliation, and contact information; (2) the nominee's area(s) of expertise; and (3) a concise Curriculum Vitae (CV) or resume that covers education, experience, relevant publications and summarizes how this expertise addresses the EISWG terms of reference.

Dated: November 20, 2008.

David Murray,

Director, Management and Organization Division, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, National Weather Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. E8-27973 Filed 11-24-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Information Collection; Submission for OMB Review, Comment Request

AGENCY: Corporation for National and Community Service.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Corporation for National and Community Service (hereinafter the "Corporation"), has submitted a public information collection request (ICR) entitled the Disaster Response Cooperative Agreement Application Package to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13, (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). Copies of this ICR, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by calling the Corporation for National and Community Service, Phil Shaw, Office of Emergency Management at 202-606-6697. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TTY-TDD) may call (202) 565-2799 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted, identified by the title of the information collection activity, to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: Ms. Katherine Astrich, OMB Desk Officer for the Corporation for National and Community Service, by any of the following two methods within 30 days from the date of publication in this **Federal Register**:

- (1) By fax to: (202) 395-6974, Attention: Ms. Katherine Astrich, OMB Desk Officer for the Corporation for National and Community Service; and
- (2) Electronically by e-mail to: Katherine_T_Astrich@omb.eop.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The OMB 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;
- Propose ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Propose ways to 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.

Comments

A 60-day public comment Notice was published in the **Federal Register** on February 12, 2008. This comment period ended April 12, 2008. No public comments were received from this notice.

Description: The Disaster Response Cooperative Agreement allows an existing Corporation grantee to establish a legal framework with the Corporation to support disaster response activities assigned by a FEMA Mission Assignment. Programs operating under a Cooperative Agreement can receive reimbursement of expenses accrued while on disaster assignment.

The Corporation seeks to develop a new Disaster Response Cooperative Agreement (DRCA) Application. When developed, the application will revise/clarify the application review and clearance process. It will also expand data collection to support enhanced asset mapping efforts.

Type of Review: New Information Collection.

Agency: Corporation for National and Community Service.

Title: Disaster Response Cooperative Agreement Application.

OMB Number: None.

Agency Number: None.

Affected Public: Existing grantees and CNCS supported programs.

Total Respondents: 100 annually.

Frequency: One (1) time.

Average Time per Response: 2 hours.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 200 hours.

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): None.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): None.

Dated: November 17, 2008.

Kristin McSwain,

Acting Chief Operations Officer, Corporation for National and Community Service.

[FR Doc. E8-27906 Filed 11-24-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID DoD-2008-OS-0145]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: United States Military Entrance Processing Command (USMEPCOM), Officer of the Under Secretary of