

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[FR-5818-N-01]

Announcement of Requirements and Registration for “Innovation in Affordable Housing Student Design and Planning Competition”

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the second year of the Innovation in Affordable Housing Student Design and Planning Competition. The competition requires teams of graduate students from multiple disciplines to submit plans in response to a real life affordable housing design issue. The goals of this new competition are: To encourage research and innovation in quality affordable housing design that strengthens the social and physical fabric of low and moderate-income communities and neighborhoods, to raise practitioner and future practitioner capacity to produce more livable and sustainable housing for low and moderate-income people through disseminating best practices, and to foster cross-cutting team-work within the design and community development process.

DATES: February 20, 2015. Although teams may begin registering now, the competition will officially launch on December 19, 2014, when the real life affordable housing design issue is released. The deadline for phase one of the competition will be February 9, 2015. Finalists will be announced on February 20, 2015, and will have until April 2015, to prepare their presentations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Claire Desjardins, Research Utilization Division, Office of Policy Development and Research, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW., Room 8110, Washington, DC 20410, telephone 202-402-5945. Email: Claire.Y.Desjardins@hud.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Subject of Challenge Competition**

Entrants in the Innovation in Affordable Housing Design are requested to present their plans for a site owned by a public housing authority (PHA). This presentation will include architectural designs, neighborhood planning, and financial plans.

Eligibility Rules for Participating in the Competition

The competition is open to any contestant, defined as a team of United States citizens or permanent residents of the United States who are currently enrolled in a graduate level program at a university in the United States. The team members must represent at least three related academic disciplines and will be supported by a faculty advisor. Individuals may not participate in more than one team.

To be eligible to win a prize under this challenge (Challenge), an individual or entity—

1. Shall have registered to participate in the competition under the rules promulgated by HUD;
2. Shall have complied with all the requirements under this section;
3. In the case of a private entity, shall be incorporated in and maintain a primary place of business in the United States, and in the case of an individual, whether participating singly or in a group, shall be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States;
4. May not be a Federal entity or Federal employee acting within the scope of their employment;
5. Shall not be a HUD employee working on their applications or submissions during assigned duty hours;
6. May not be a judge of the competition, or any other party involved with the design, production, execution, or distribution of the Challenge or their immediate family (spouse, parents or step-parents, siblings and step-siblings, and children and step-children);
7. Federal grantees may not use Federal funds to develop challenge applications under the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2011 (COMPETES Act) unless consistent with the purpose of their grant award;
8. Federal contractors may not use Federal funds from a contract to develop COMPETES Act challenge applications or to fund efforts in support of a COMPETES Act challenge submission.

An individual or entity shall not be ineligible because the individual or entity used Federal facilities or consulted with Federal employees during a competition if the facilities and employees are made available to all individuals and entities participating in the competition on an equitable basis.

By participating in this Challenge, contestants agree to assume any and all risks and waive claims against the Federal Government and its related entities, except in the case of willful misconduct, for any injury, death, damage, or loss of property, revenue, or

profits, whether direct, indirect, or consequential, arising from participation in this prize contest, whether the injury, death, damage, or loss arises through negligence or otherwise. By participating in this Challenge, contestants agree to indemnify the Federal Government against third party claims for damages arising from or related to Challenge activities.

Registration Process for Participants:

All Contestants can register on the competition Web site, <http://www.huduser.org/portal/challenge/home.html>. Interested parties can also read all official rules and sign up to receive more information and competition updates on this site.

Submission Period Begins: 12:01 a.m., EDT, December 19, 2014.

Submission Period Ends: 11:59 p.m., EDT, February 9, 2015.

Amount of the Prize:

The winning team of the competition will be awarded \$20,000. The runner-up team will be awarded \$10,000. Prizes awarded under this competition may be subject to Federal income taxes. HUD will comply with the Internal Revenue Service withholding and reporting requirements, where applicable.

Basis Upon Which Winner Will Be Selected:

Submissions to the competition will be assessed by an informed jury of approximately five practitioners and experts in the fields of architecture, urban planning, affordable housing, and other relevant areas, in compliance with the requirements of the COMPETES Act. Jury members will be named after the commencement of the competition.

The jury will make decisions based on the following criteria: Completeness of design, applicability, financial and economic viability, planning criterion, and innovation and creativity.

Additional Information:

The finalists will be invited to a site visit of the PHA in early March, with expenses paid for two team members. All rules and competition information and updates can be found at <http://www.huduser.org/portal/challenge/home.html>.

Copyright and Intellectual Property:

Upon submission, each team warrants that the team members are the sole owners of the submission, and that the submission is wholly original to the team and does not infringe on any copyright or other rights of any third party of which the team is aware.

Submission Rights: By participating in this Challenge, each Team grants to HUD an irrevocable, paid-up, royalty-free, non-exclusive license to post, link to, share, and display publicly on the

Web. The Public Housing Authority may use ideas from submissions in their future efforts to address the affordable housing design issue.

Compliance With Rules and Contacting Contest Winners

Finalists and the Contest Winners must comply with all terms and conditions of these Official Rules, and winning is contingent upon fulfilling all requirements herein. The initial finalists will be notified by email after the date of the judging.

Privacy

Personal information provided to HUD by Contestants registering or filling out the submission form through huduser.org is protected by the Privacy Act, and is used to respond to Contestants in matters regarding their submission, announcements of entrants, finalists, and winners of the Contest. Winners are permitted to cite that they won this contest.

General Conditions:

HUD reserves the right to cancel, suspend, and/or modify the Competition, or any part of it, for any reason, at HUD's sole discretion.

Participation in this competition constitutes a contestant's and teams full and unconditional agreement to abide by the competition's official rules found at <http://www.huduser.org/portal/challenge/home.html>.

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 3719.

Dated: September 23, 2014.

Katherine M. O'Regan,

Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research.

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BILLING CODE 4210-67-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R8-ES-2014-N190;
FXFR1337088SSO0]

Marine Mammals; Incidental Take During Specified Activities; Proposed Incidental Harassment Authorization

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of application and proposed incidental harassment authorization; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have received an application from the United States Coast Guard (USCG) for authorization to take small numbers of marine mammals by harassment incidental to the

replacement of pier piles and the potable water line at USCG Station Monterey in Monterey County, California. In accordance with provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (MMPA), as amended, we request comments on our proposed authorization for the applicant to incidentally take, by harassment, small numbers of southern sea otters from November 1, 2014, to October 31, 2015. We anticipate no take by injury or death and include none in this proposed authorization, which would be for take by harassment only.

DATES: Comments and information must be received by October 30, 2014.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any one of the following methods:

1. *U.S. mail or hand-delivery:* Steve Henry, Field Supervisor, Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, 2493 Portola Road, Suite B, Ventura, CA 93003.
2. *Fax:* 805-644-3958, attention to Steve Henry, Field Supervisor.
3. *Electronic mail (email):* R8_SSO-IHA_Comment@fws.gov. Please include your name and U.S. mail address in your message.

Electronic copies of the incidental harassment authorization request, the Final Environmental Assessment (EA), and Marine Mammal Monitoring Plan may be obtained by writing to the address specified above, telephoning the contact listed in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, or visiting the Internet at <http://www.fws.gov/ventura/endangered/species/info/sso.html>.

Documents cited in this notice may also be viewed, by appointment, during regular business hours, at the aforementioned U.S. mail address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request copies of the application, the list of references used in this notice, and other supporting materials, contact Lilian Carswell at the address in **ADDRESSES**, or by email at Lilian_Carswell@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Sections 101(a)(5)(A) and (D) of the MMPA, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1371 (a)(5)(A) and (D)), authorize the Secretary of the Interior to allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of small numbers of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region, provided that we make certain findings and either issue regulations or, if the taking is limited to harassment, provide a notice of a proposed authorization to the public for review and comment.

We may grant authorization to incidentally take marine mammals if we find that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s) and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for subsistence uses. As part of the authorization process, we prescribe permissible methods of taking and other means of effecting the least practicable impact on the species or stock and its habitat, and requirements pertaining to the monitoring and reporting of such takings.

The term "take," as defined by the MMPA, means to harass, hunt, capture, or kill, or to attempt to harass, hunt, capture, or kill, any marine mammal. Harassment, as defined by the MMPA, means "any act of pursuit, torment, or annoyance which (i) has the potential to injure a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild [the MMPA calls this Level A harassment], or (ii) has the potential to disturb a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild by causing disruption of behavioral patterns, including, but not limited to, migration, breathing, nursing, breeding, feeding, or sheltering [the MMPA calls this Level B harassment]."

The terms "negligible impact," "small numbers," and "unmitigable adverse impact" are defined in 50 CFR 18.27, the Service's regulations governing take of small numbers of marine mammals incidental to specified activities. "Negligible impact" is defined as "an impact resulting from the specified activity that cannot be reasonably expected to, and is not reasonably likely to, adversely affect the species or stock through effects on annual rates of recruitment or survival." The term "small numbers" is also defined in the regulations, but we do not rely on that definition here, as it conflates the terms "small numbers" and "negligible impact," which we recognize as two separate and distinct requirements. Instead, in our small numbers determination, we evaluate whether the number of marine mammals likely to be taken is small relative to the size of the overall population. "Unmitigable adverse impact" is defined as "an impact resulting from the specified activity (1) that is likely to reduce the availability of the species to a level insufficient for a harvest to meet subsistence needs by (i) causing the marine mammals to abandon or avoid hunting areas, (ii) directly displacing subsistence users, or (iii) placing physical barriers between the marine mammals and the subsistence hunters; and (2) that cannot be sufficiently mitigated by other measures to increase