

on or before March 23, 2007 will be considered.

**ADDRESSES:** Requests for a copy of the patent application, inquiries, comments and other materials relating to the contemplated license should be directed to: Michael A. Shmilovich, Esq., Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health, 6011 Executive Boulevard, Suite 325, Rockville, MD 20852-3804; Telephone: (301) 435-5019; Facsimile: (301) 402-0220; E-mail: [shmilovm@mail.nih.gov](mailto:shmilovm@mail.nih.gov). A signed confidentiality nondisclosure agreement will be required to receive copies of any patent applications that have not been published by the United States Patent and Trademark Office or the World Intellectual Property Organization.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The patents and patent applications intended for licensure disclose or cover the following:

**E-274-1998, "Chromatographic Separation Apparatus and Method," U.S. Patent No. 6,379,973**

This invention pertains to an apparatus and method for separating bio-molecules using a salt (e.g., ammonium sulfate) gradient applied in a spiral flow channel divided by a dialysis membrane. The channels are compartmentalized into upper and lower rotary discs spinning anti-clockwise to each other. Sample is introduced in a buffered solution into the lower channel flows in one direction while the salt flows in the other. The concentration of salt permeates the membrane and precipitates the large molecules on the other side. For example, proteins or polymers are precipitates sequentially in the channel and centrifugal forces the precipitate to the outer rim as it moves along the liquid stream.

**E-044-1993, "Variable-Position Cross-Axis Synchronous Coil Planet Centrifuge for Countercurrent Chromatography," U.S. Patent No. 6,379,973**

This device is a cross-axis synchronous flow-through coil planet centrifuge which provides changeability in the position of the coils relative to the axis of rotation of the centrifuge. The advantage of this feature is to allow adjustment of the centrifugal force operating on the coils to accommodate different types of separations. The coils are arranged in columns which are mounted to column holders that in turn can be engaged to the rotary frame of the centrifuge in position in which the column holders intersect and do not intersect the rotary frame axis. This

arrangement allows for larger coils which can hold between 200 ml and 800 ml of sample.

**E-148-2001, "Method and Apparatus for Countercurrent Chromatography," U.S. Patent Application No. 10/509,697 (WIPO publication 03/087807)**

This device and method is an improvement of the countercurrent chromatography devices described above. This patent pending device is a new spiral design capable of holding heavier solvent systems suitable for peptides and proteins (e.g., for natural products).

The prospective exclusive license will be royalty bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective exclusive license may be granted unless, within sixty (60) days from the date of this published notice, NIH receives written evidence and argument that establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

Properly filed competing applications for a license filed in response to this notice will be treated as objections to the contemplated license. Comments and objections submitted in response to this notice will not be made available for public inspection, and, to the extent permitted by law, will not be released under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

Dated: January 12, 2007.

**Steven M. Ferguson,**

*Director, Division of Technology Development and Transfer, Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health.*

[FR Doc. 07-253 Filed 1-19-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4140-01-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection: Comment Request

**ACTION:** 60-day notice of information collection under review; application for posthumous citizenship; form N-644. OMB control number 1615-0059.

The Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has submitted the following information collection request for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of

1995. The information collection is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for sixty days until March 23, 2007.

Written comments and suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, and especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time, should be directed to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), USCIS, Director, Regulatory Management Division, Clearance Office, 111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., 3rd Floor, Suite 3008, Washington, DC 20529. Comments may also be submitted to DHS via facsimile to 202-272-8352, or via e-mail at [rfs.regs@dhs.gov](mailto:rfs.regs@dhs.gov). When submitting comments by e-mail add the OMB Control Number 1615-0059 in the subject box.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the collection of information should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) 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 submission of responses.

### Overview of This Information Collection

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* Extension of a currently approved information collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Application for Posthumous Citizenship.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Homeland Security sponsoring the collection:* Form N-644, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: Individual or households. The information collected will be used to determine an applicant's

eligibility to request posthumous citizenship status for a decedent and to determine the decedent's eligibility for such status.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* 50 responses at 1 hour and 50 minutes (1.83 hours) per response.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* 92 annual burden hours.

If you have additional comments, suggestions, or need a copy of the information collection instrument, please contact Richard A. Sloan, Director, Regulatory Management Division, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, 111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., 3rd Floor, Suite 3008, Washington, DC 20529; 202-272-8377.

Dated: January 17, 2007.

**Richard Sloan,**

*Director, Regulatory Management Division,  
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services,  
Department of Homeland Security.*

[FR Doc. E7-841 Filed 1-19-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4410-10-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent: preparation of a comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces the preparation of a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Environmental Assessment (EA) for Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). We intend to gather the information necessary for preparing the CCP and EA pursuant to the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. We are providing this notice to advise other Federal and State agencies and the public of our intention to conduct detailed planning on this refuge, and to obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to include in the environmental document.

We will involve the public through open houses, informational and technical meetings, and written comments. Special mailings, newspaper articles, and announcements will

provide information about opportunities for public involvement in the planning process.

**DATES:** We are planning stakeholders meetings and a public scoping meeting for February–March 2007 in Davis, West Virginia. For the public meetings, we will announce their locations, dates, and times at least 2 weeks in advance in special mailings, newspaper notices, and through personal contacts.

**ADDRESSES:** Canaan Valley NWR, HC 70, Box 200, Davis, West Virginia 26260, at 304-866-3858 (telephone); 304-866-3852 (FAX); Web site <http://www.fws.gov/canaanvalley> or <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/planning/>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bill Zinni, Refuge Planner, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 300 Westgate Center Drive, Hadley, Massachusetts 01035; 413-253-8522 (telephone); 413-253-8468 (FAX); [northeastplanning@fws.gov](mailto:northeastplanning@fws.gov) (e-mail), noting Canaan Valley NWR in the subject title.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee), we manage all lands in the National Wildlife Refuge System in accordance with an approved CCP. The plan guides management decisions and identifies refuge goals, long-range objectives, and strategies for achieving refuge purposes over a 15-year period.

Our planning process covers many elements, including wildlife and habitat management, visitor and recreational activities, cultural resource protection, and facilities and infrastructure. We will determine which existing or proposed uses of the refuge are appropriate and compatible. We will also conduct a wilderness review and a wild and scenic rivers evaluation to determine whether any areas on the refuge qualify for those Federal designations.

We encourage public input into the planning process. The comments we receive will help identify key issues and develop refuge goals and objectives for managing refuge resources and visitors. Additional opportunities for public participation will arise throughout the planning process, which we expect to complete in 2008. We have already begun collecting data to compile up-to-date information on refuge resources as a foundation for science-based resource decisions. We will prepare the EA in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321-4370d).

The 15,965-acre Canaan Valley NWR was established in 1994 to conserve and protect fish and wildlife resources, including endangered and threatened species, and the unique wetland and upland habitats of this high elevation valley. The refuge is located in Tucker County, West Virginia, and has an approved acquisition boundary of 24,000 acres. It includes the largest wetland complex in the State, and encompasses the headwaters of the Blackwater and Little Blackwater rivers. The refuge supports species of concern at both the Federal and State levels, including the Cheat Mountain salamander, West Virginia northern flying squirrel, Indiana bat, bald eagle, and others. Its dominant habitats include wet meadows, peatlands, shrub and forested swamps, beaver ponds and streams, northern hardwood forest, old fields and shrubland, and managed grassland.

Refuge visitors engage in wildlife observation and photography, environmental education, interpretation, hunting, and fishing. The refuge headquarters is located in the valley, just south of Davis, West Virginia.

Dated: December 8, 2006.

**Richard O. Bennett,**

*Acting Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Hadley, Massachusetts.*

[FR Doc. E7-792 Filed 1-19-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent: re-initiate preparation of a comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service, we, our) announces that we are re-initiating the preparation of a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Environmental Assessment (EA) for Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). Our original notice of intent to prepare a CCP was published in the **Federal Register** on June 11, 2002. At that time, we also held public scoping meetings. In June 2003, we announced through a special mailing that we were postponing work on the project due to a change in budget and staffing priorities.

We are preparing a CCP and EA pursuant to the National Wildlife Refuge