

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

[I.D. 071197C]

Marine Mammals; Scientific Research Permit (PHF# 875-1401)

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

ACTION: Receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. Christopher W. Clark, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14850, has applied in due form for a permit to take blue whales (*Balaenoptera musculus*) and fin whales (*Balaenoptera physalus*) for purposes of scientific research.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before August 18, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents, including a draft environmental assessment (EA) that examines the environmental consequences of issuing the requested permit, are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

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

Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, 501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 (310/980-4001).

Written data or views, or requests for a public hearing on this request, should be submitted to the Director, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

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.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit 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 fish and wildlife (50 CFR part 222.23).

The purpose of the proposed research is to study the effects of low-frequency

sound produced by the Navy's Surface Towed Array Surveillance System Low Frequency Active (SURTASS LFA) system on the behavior of blue and fin whales feeding in the Southern California Bight during September/October of 1997 and/or 1998.

Individuals of several other species of cetaceans and pinnipeds may be taken (i.e., by harassment or auditory temporary threshold shift) incidentally during the proposed experiments.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), a draft EA examining the environmental consequences of issuing the requested permit has been prepared. Based upon this draft EA, NMFS has preliminarily concluded that issuance of the requested permit will not have a significant effect on the human environment.

Dated: July 11, 1997.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 97-18805 Filed 7-16-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Office of the Secretary****Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**

ACTION: Notice.

The Department of Defense has submitted to OMB for clearance, the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Title, Associated Form, and OMB Number: Application for correction of Military Records Under the Provisions of Title 10 U.S.C., Section 1552; DD Form 149; OMB Number 0704-0003.

Type of Request: Reinstatement.

Number of Respondents: 31,425.

Responses Per Respondent: 1.

Annual Responses: 31,425.

Average Burden Per Response: 30 minutes.

Annual Burden Hours: 15,713.

Needs and Uses: Under 10 U.S.C. 1552, the Secretary of a Military Department may correct any military record within their Department when the Secretary considers it necessary to correct an error or remove an injustice. The DD Form 149, "Application for Correction of Military Records Under the Provisions of Title 10 U.S. Code, Section 1552," allows an applicant to

request correction of a military record. The form provides an avenue for active duty Service members and former Service personnel who believe an error is contained in their military records and/or they have suffered an injustice to request relief.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Frequency: On occasion.

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

OMB Desk Officer: Mr. Edward C. Springer.

Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to Mr. Springer at the Office of Management and Budget, Desk Officer for DoD, Room 10236, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

DoD Clearance Officer: Mr. Robert Cushing.

Written requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Cushing, WHS/DIOR, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302.

Dated: July 11, 1997.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 97-18779 Filed 7-16-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Office of the Secretary****Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**

AGENCY: Notice.

The Department of Defense has submitted to OMB for clearance, the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Title, Associated Form, and OMB Number: Application for Review of Discharge or Dismissal from the Armed Forces of the United States; DD Form 293; OMB Number 0704-0004.

Type of Request: Reinstatement.

Number of Respondents: 13,100.

Responses Per Respondent: 1

Annual Responses: 13,100.

Average Burden Per Response: 45 minutes.

Annual Burden Hours: 9,825.

Needs and Uses: Former members of the Armed Forces who received an administrative discharge have the right to appeal the characterization or reason for separation. Title 10 U.S.C., Section 1553 and Department of Defense Directive 1332.28, established a Board

of Review consisting of five members to review appeals of former members of the Armed Forces. The DD Form 293, "Application for Review of Discharge or Separation from the Armed Forces of the United States," provides the respondent a vehicle to present to the Board their reasons/justification for a discharge upgrade as well as providing the Services the basic data needed to process the appeal.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Frequency: On occasion.

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

OMB Desk Officer: Mr. Edward C. Springer.

Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to Mr. Springer at the Office of Management and Budget, Desk Officer for DoD, Room 10236, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

DoD Clearance Officer: Mr. Robert Cushing.

Written requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Cushing, WHS/DIOR, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302.

Dated: July 11, 1997.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 97-18782 Filed 7-16-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary of Defense

Department of Defense Wage Committee; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to the provisions of section 10 of Pub. L. 92-463, the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given that closed meetings of the Department of Defense Wage Committee will be held on August 5, 1997; August 12, 1997; August 19, 1997; and August 26, 1997; at 10:00 a.m. in Room A105, The Nash Building, 1400 Key Boulevard, Rosslyn, Virginia.

Under the provisions of section 10(d) of Pub. L. 92-463, the Department of Defense has determined that the meetings meet the criteria to close meetings to the public because the matters to be considered are related to internal rules and practices of the Department of Defense and the detailed wage data to be considered were obtained from officials of private establishments with a guarantee that the data will be held in confidence.

However, members of the public who may wish to do so are invited to submit material in writing to the chairman concerning matters believed to be deserving of the Committee's attention.

Additional information concerning the meetings may be obtained by writing to the Chairman, Department of Defense Wage Committee, 4000 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-4000.

Dated: July 11, 1997.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 97-18781 Filed 7-16-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Finding of No Significant Impact for the Defense Logistics Distribution Depot Restructuring

AGENCY: Defense Logistics Agency (DLA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: An environmental assessment on the consolidation of the DLA distribution management function was prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and the Council on Environmental Quality Guidelines (40 CFR Part 1500-1508). The environmental assessment concluded that there will be no significant impact on the environment and that preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement will not be necessary. Interested parties may submit comments to the address listed below for a 30-day period from the date of this notice.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 17 July 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ms. Kathy Stephens, Public Affairs Office (CAAV), Defense Logistics Agency, 8725 John J. Kingman Rd., Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060-6221, (703) 767-6200.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Reduced workload, budget reductions, and good management practice has compelled the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) to develop a strategy to restructure its distribution depot system while maintaining readiness and affordability of its services. As a designated Combat Support Agency, distribution of military equipment and supplies is one of DLA's primary business areas. A reliable and robust distribution system is critical to military readiness and sustainability, but it must be affordable. DLA has been reducing its distribution costs commensurate with the decline in

military force structure for several years and has significantly reduced many of the direct costs of operations. The proposed action is intended to adjust the management overhead and reduce overall distribution infrastructure to recognize the changing way in which DLA has to do business to provide its military customers responsive and affordable support.

An environmental assessment has been prepared to address the proposed restructuring, possible alternative approaches, and environmental consequences of the proposed action. This environmental assessment has been prepared by DLA in accordance with Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations and DLA implementing regulation 1000.22, Environmental Considerations in DLA Actions in the United States.

The proposed action concerns the consolidation of the defense distribution depot management function with a loss of management and support positions. The management function is currently exercised from two regional offices: Defense Distribution Region East located in New Cumberland, PA, and Defense Distribution Region West in Stockton, CA. The proposed action will consolidate the management function into a single Defense Distribution Center located at one of the two sites. The result of the action will be that the site not selected for the Defense Distribution Center will lose up to 500 employees and the selected site will experience a lesser decrease in staff.

The environmental assessment considered environmental and socioeconomic impacts of the alternatives to implement the proposed action and the no-action alternative. The conclusion of the assessment is that the consolidation of the distribution management is not considered a major action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment or requiring the development of an Environmental Impact Statement.

A public comment period regarding the environmental assessment will begin at the time of publication of this notice and will conclude 30 days following. Copies of the environmental assessment are available for inspection at the DLA Public Affairs Office and at the addresses listed below. Interested parties may also contact the DLA Public Affairs Office at commercial telephone (703) 767-6200.

Doug Imberi (ASCW-WP), Defense Distribution Region West, Office of Public Affairs, 700 East Roth Road, Bldg. S1, Stockton, CA 95296-0010, Tel: (209) 982-2839.