

June 3 to discuss administrative details relating to committee business and program review, and for a report from the Director, Division of Extramural Activities, which will include a discussion of budgetary matters. Attendance by the public will be limited to space available.

In accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5, U.S.C. and sections 10(d) of Public Law 92-463, the meeting will be closed to the public for the review, discussion, and evaluation of individual grant applications and contract proposals from 9:30 a.m. on June 3 until adjournment on June 5. These applications, proposals, and the discussions could reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material and personal information concerning individuals associated with the applications and proposals, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Ms. Claudia Goad, Committee Management Officer, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Solar Building, Room 3C26, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20892, 301-496-7601, will provide a summary of the meeting and a roster of committee members upon request. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact Ms. Goad in advance of the meeting.

Dr. Kevin M. Callahan, Scientific Review Administrator, Allergy, Immunology, and Transplantation Research Committee, NIAID, NIH, Solar Building, Room 4C20, Bethesda, Maryland, telephone 301-496-8424, will provide substantive program information.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93-855, Immunology, Allergic and Immunologic Diseases Research, National Institutes of Health.)

Dated: April 28, 1998.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98-11930 Filed 5-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Prospective Grant of Exclusive License: Highly Informative Microsatellite Repeat Polymorphic DNA Markers

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, Public Health Service, DHHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is a notice, in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 209(c)(1) and 37 CFR 404.7(a)(1)(i), that the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services, is contemplating the grant of an exclusive license in the United States to practice the inventions embodied in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 07/799,828 (issued as Patent No. 5,378,602 on January 3, 1995), entitled "Twenty-Seven Highly Informative Microsatellite Repeat Polymorphic DNA Markers"; U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 07/922,723 (issued as Patent No. 5,369,004 on November 29, 1994), entitled "Five Highly Informative Microsatellite Repeat Polymorphic DNA Markers"; U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 07/952,277, entitled "Eleven Highly Informative Microsatellite Repeat Polymorphic DNA Markers"; U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/074,275 (issued as Patent No. 5,468,610 on November 21, 1995), entitled "Three Highly Informative Microsatellite Repeat Polymorphic DNA Markers"; and U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/480,366 (issued as Patent No. 5,721,100 on February 24, 1998), entitled, "Three Highly Informative Microsatellite Repeat Polymorphic DNA Markers" to Lifecodes Corporation, having a place of business in Stamford, Connecticut. The patent rights in these inventions have been assigned to the United States of America.

The field of use would be DNA profiling assays for detecting polymorphisms of forensic and medical samples including blood, semen, tissue hair, saliva, urine, and mixtures of body fluids.

DATES: Only written comments and/or applications for a license which are received by the NIH Office of Technology Transfer on or before July 6, 1998, will be considered.

ADDRESSES: Requests for a copy of the patents, patent application, inquiries, comments and other materials relating to the contemplated license should be directed to: Charles Maynard, M.P.H., Technology Licensing Specialist, Office of Technology Transfer, National

Institutes of Health, 6011 Executive Boulevard, Box 13, Rockville, MD 20852-3804; Telephone: (301) 496-7735, ext. 243; Facsimile: (301) 402-0220. Properly filed competing applications for a license filed in response to this notice will be treated as objections to the contemplated license. A signed Confidential Disclosure Agreement will be required to receive a copy of the patent application.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A novel group of microsatellite repeat polymorphic deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) markers is valuable for rapidly identifying and differentiating between individual human DNA sequences for forensic, genetic, and human DNA mapping studies. These nucleotides can also be used for paternity and prenatal screening, and genetic mapping. These new microsatellite DNA markers can be used as primers for rapid polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification of unique human DNA polymorphisms, which are naturally occurring mutations in DNA sequences that are often unique on the basis of as little as a single nucleotide sequence. Assays using these nucleotides are based on PCR and therefore need only small amounts of test DNA. The assays are easy to perform and relatively inexpensive and results can be obtained in less than 24 hours, compared with 3 or 4 days for other similar tests. Accordingly, the invention also relates to an improved PCR procedure and a PCR assay kit which comprise nucleotides according to the invention. The invention describes a method of the steps involved in extracting DNA from a sample to be tested, amplifying the extracted DNA and identifying the amplified extension products for each different sequence. Each different sequence is differentially labeled. The method is applicable to a wide variety of forensic and medical samples as stated above.

DNA identity testing has revolutionized the field of forensic analysis of biological materials. The forensic test compares the genetic material in biologic specimens from a crime scene to that taken from a suspect. DNA testing transforms the DNA found in blood, serum, or other tissue from a crime scene or an individual into a unique genetic profile. The profile may serve as a means of making a positive identification in a rape, murder, or other violent crime. A number of loci in this application may also be useful in identity testing by discerning a DNA pattern that is unique to an individual.

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 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.

Applications for a license in the exclusive field of use filed in response to this notice will be treated as objections to the grant of the contemplated licenses. 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: April 9, 1998.

Jack S. Spiegel,

Director, Division of Technology Development and Transfer, Office of Technology Transfer.

[FR Doc. 98-11933 Filed 5-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Availability of Draft Management Objectives for the Endangered Fishes of the Upper Colorado River for Review and Comment

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of document availability.

SUMMARY: The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces the availability for public review of Draft Interim Management Objectives for the Endangered Fishes of the Upper Colorado River and supporting draft document "Modeling population dynamics of Colorado squawfish, razorback sucker, and humpback chub: for management objective development." These interim management objectives serve as the first step in determining recovery goals by identifying approximate minimum population sizes for current and restored stocks of endangered fish in order to achieve recovery. The Service solicits review and comment from the public on this draft interim management objectives and supporting modeling document.

DATES: Comments on the draft management objectives must be received on or before June 4, 1998 to ensure they receive consideration by the Service.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to review the draft management objectives may

obtain a copy by contacting the Associate Manager Utah, Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 25486, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225. Written comments and materials regarding this plan should be sent to the Associate Manager Utah at the Denver address given above. Comments and materials received are available on request for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Larry Shanks, Fish and Wildlife Associate Manager (see **ADDRESSES** above), at telephone (303) 236-8154.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Restoring an endangered or threatened animal or plant to the point where it is again a secure, self-sustaining member of its ecosystem is a primary goal of the Service's endangered species program. To help guide the recovery effort of Upper Colorado River endangered fishes, the Recovery Implementation Program, with the Service as a participant, is determining interim management objectives to guide the development of recovery goals. This first step is to determine the necessary minimum numbers in a population of endangered Upper Colorado River fishes to maintain quantifiable genetic integrity. The interim management objective documents the methods used to determine effective population size, sex ratios and numbers of fish that would successfully contribute their genetics to the next spawning population.

Biologists have been charged with developing quantifiable recovery objectives that are scientifically based. Generally, there is a lack of sufficient information on species habitat needs, population genetics, and population demographics to establish sound quantifiable objectives. Where scientists have attempted to establish quantifiable objectives for recovery, they have tended to be relatively conservative. For these reasons, and others, quantifiable recovery objectives have never been established for endangered fish in the Upper Colorado River Basin.

In the Upper Basin, four endemic fish species are federally listed as endangered: Colorado squawfish (*Ptychocheilus lucius*), humpback chub (*Gila cypha*), razorback sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*), and bonytail (*Gila elegans*). The original draft recovery plan for Colorado squawfish written in 1978 called for the development of quantifiable recovery

objectives. Following the establishment of the Upper Basin Recovery Implementation Program in 1986, the need for quantification of objectives for each species was reiterated. The current recovery plans for all four endangered Colorado River fish, however, still call for the establishment of quantifiable objectives. Additionally, quantifiable management objectives are needed by the Upper Basin Recovery Implementation Program to evaluate actions taken to recover endangered fish in the Upper Basin.

The purpose of the draft document is to outline quantifiable interim management objectives for all Colorado River endangered fish and to describe how the interim management objectives were developed. Interim management objectives are based on a minimum genetic effective population size (N_e) and population demographic parameters described in the model developed by Crowl and Bouwes (1997). Their achievement is dependent upon a multitude of environmental conditions and management actions. The term "interim" is being used because they will require refinement at regular intervals as new information is obtained. The application of interim management objectives will be primarily within the Upper Basin Recovery Implementation Program to evaluate progress towards recovery of these endangered fish. In this light, the interim management objectives will provide a framework for prioritizing short-term actions needed for recovery and guidelines for obtaining the information needed to define quantifiable long-term recovery objectives.

Public Comments Solicited

The Service solicits written comments on the draft interim management objectives described above. All comments received by the date specified in the DATES section above will be considered prior to approval of the interim management objectives.

Authority

The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533(f).

Dated: April 24, 1998.

Terry Terrel,

Regional Director, Denver, Colorado.

[FR Doc. 98-11609 Filed 5-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M