

Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: August 19, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-22732 Filed 8-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce (DOC) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 USC Chapter 35).

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Title: Cooperative Charting Program.

Agency Form Number(s): NOAA Form 77-4 and 77-5.

OMB Approval Number: 0648-0022.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Burden: 45,000 hours.

Number of Respondents: 3,000 (multiple responses).

Avg. Hours Per Response: 3 hours.

Needs and Uses: The National Ocean Service (NOS) produces the official nautical charts of the United States. Of prime concern is the safe navigation on our nation's waterways, of both commercial and recreational vessels. NOS has partnered with the United States Power Squadrons and the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary to request that their members provide chart correction data since both nature forces and the activities of man cause periodic changes. The information is used by NOS cartographers to maintain and prepare new editions of its charts.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions, individuals.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: August 19, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-22733 Filed 8-25-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[Docket No. 980723189-8189-01]

RIN 0648-ZA46

Financial Assistance for a National Ocean Service Intern Program

AGENCY: Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Ocean Service (NOS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Ocean Service announces the availability of Federal Assistance to conduct an intern program. The need for wise stewardship of the coastal environment is increasing and with it a need to enlarge the pool of skilled environmental scientists and managers and at the same time increase the diversity of this pool. The National Ocean Service (NOS) recognizes that there is a shortage of skilled environmental scientists and managers who are aware of and utilize the techniques and technologies required by NOAA's stewardship programs and is trying to remedy the situation through an Intern program. The programmatic objective of this intern program is to provide unique opportunities for cooperative study, research, and development that would be of major benefit in advancing the number and diversity of skilled engineers, scientists, and managers in the environmental arena who are familiar with the techniques and technologies used by NOS. This solicitation is to find a partner to assist NOAA in cooperatively managing this intern program. This partner would be responsible for locating candidate Interns, assistance in their selection, and administration of the awards to the Interns. NOAA would identify the intern opportunities, assist in the final selection of the candidate interns, and provide space, technical

guidance and training to the Interns during their period of internship at government facilities. This program will start in FY99 using initial funding from FY98. It is anticipated that additional FY99 funds will be used to expand the program to increase the number of interns.

DATES: Applications must be received no later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Daylight Savings Time, October 9, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Applicants must submit one signed original plus two (2) copies of the application including all information required by the application kit. Applications must be mailed to: NOS Special Projects Office, ATTN: NOS Intern Program, ORCA1, 1305 East-West Highway 9th Floor, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Peter L. Grose, NOAA—ORCA1, 1305 East-West Highway 9th Floor, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301) 713-3000 x132.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Ocean Service (NOS) is expanding its institutional commitment to Coastal Stewardship. NOS also desires to continue its science and technology leadership with respect to addressing coastal environments and issues. NOS has identified several areas of interest that will be pursued in environmental management, research and development in the coastal zone, and mensuration of the environment which are necessary to support active stewardship. These areas include, but are not limited, to:

Integrated coastal zone management, resource protection and restoration, remote sensing of coastal and benthic habitats, shallow water and coastal mapping, geodesy, marine navigation, delineation of essential habitats, determination of environmental degradation and damage, habitat remediation, and applied research and development on environmental, economic, and demographic issues.

A primary objective of NOS is to plan and support active Stewardship of coastal and marine resources at a time of increased pressures on these resources and decreasing funds for programs. NOS does not have the staff nor resources to accomplish this objective in a closed bureaucracy. Thus, part of the strategy is to transfer NOS's technologies, techniques, and methods to the community-at-large, especially the next generation of resource scientists and managers both to increase their capability and to increase their

diversity. Many of NOS's programs and activities are unique and need to be transferred to the non-Federal community. An effective mechanism to affect this transfer is through the establishment of an Internship Program. This cooperative agreement between NOAA and the recipient will promote these objectives and establish the means to accomplish them in a manner beneficial to both NOAA and the recipient.

Authority

Statutory authority for these awards is provided under 15 U.S.C. 1540 [Cooperative Agreements]; {"The Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, may enter into cooperative agreements and other financial agreements with any nonprofit organization to—

(1) Aid and promote scientific and educational activities to foster public understanding of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration or its programs; and

(2) Solicit private donations for the support of such activities."}

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA)

This NOS Intern Program is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under Number P11.480.

Program Description

The proposed cooperative program will be administered by the Recipient in response to intern opportunities offered by NOAA.

The recipient shall provide environmental Interns (Associates) to work on individual projects in response to internship opportunities established by the program offices within NOS. The Associates provided must be college students or recent graduates (Bachelors, Masters, Ph.D., JD), with a college degree in areas such as environmental science, earth science, environmental engineering, geodesy, chemistry, physics, oceanography, biology, fishery science, geography, resource economics, risk assessment, policy analysis, computer science, and law. Candidate associates must be U.S. citizens. There is not a fixed number of Internships per year under this program. The actual number will depend on opportunities and funding identified by offices within NOS. The minimum number will be one, the maximum may exceed 40.

Internships shall be located at Silver Spring, MD, Seattle, WA, and other NOS facilities as designated and Associates shall be required to relocate (if necessary) to such locations for the

duration of the internship. Some funds for relocation expenses may be available for selected internships. Associates will be provided individual assignments for each period of internship and on an as needed basis (per project). These projects shall be designed to provide learning experiences for the Associates that will make them competitive for employment opportunities in both the public and private sector and to transfer unique and specialized technologies or procedures from NOAA to the Public and Private sectors.

Under this Cooperative Agreement, the Recipient shall make extra effort in advertising and promoting these internships to Native Americans, Hispanic, African, Asian and other minorities (including women) at many levels so as to provide enhanced opportunities under NOAA's Diversity Plan.

Associates will work full time for a period of approximately three to twelve months. The actual duration will vary based on the specific objectives of each internship opportunity as determined by the Project Officer and Technical Advisor. Internships can be renewed, but shall not exceed 24 months for any individual Associate as either a single or multiple internships.

Final details for individual assignments shall be developed in consultation with the Project Officer or the individual Technical Advisor in accordance with the "Statement of Substantial Involvement between NOAA and the Recipient". In accordance with the substantial involvement clause, the Project Officer and the Technical Advisor shall be responsible for providing guidance on the specific tasks required for the satisfactory completion of the internship by the Associate. As part of the Internship, each Associate shall develop and carry out an individual research project that furthers the objectives of the program in to which he or she is assigned. These projects shall be developed under the direction of the Project Officer or Technical Advisor.

Description of the Intended Operation of the Intern Program for Each Internship

1. The technical advisor shall document the intern opportunity and include the following information:

(a) Name of the office offering the opportunity/Project.

(b) Name of the contact person in this office—(technical advisor), address, telephone & email address.

(c) Background of the Project—description of the project/program within which the internship is offered.

(d) Objectives of the Project relative to the Intern.

(e) Description of what the intern will do (duties).

(f) Description of the benefits to the intern from the internship (what training will occur, be offered, etc.).

(g) Minimum qualifications for the internship (major, courses, degree).

(h) Desired background of the Intern and special skills (e.g. diving certification) required, if any.

(i) Special conditions/requirements (overtime, sea duty, travel, etc.) [Funds to cover any additional costs incurred by these conditions must be included in the obligation].

(j) Desired starting date and duration of the opportunity.

(k) Stipend level (and relocation expense if available).

2. This description, along with an obligation of required funds (Stipend + benefits + travel + overhead + fees) in the form of a completed CD-435, will be transmitted to the Project officer.

3. The project officer shall review the documentation of the intern opportunity, and, if acceptable, shall implement an increment to the master grant and transmit the description of the Intern opportunity to the Recipient.

4. Recipient shall advertise the available Intern position, and from those expressing an interest, pre-select a pool of 5-10 candidates based on the requirements of the internship, and submit this candidate list along with resumes of the candidates to the Project Officer and Technical advisor. This submittal shall occur within 30 calendar days of receipt of the request and documentation from the Grantor.

5. Within 14 days of receipt of the pool of candidates, the Technical Advisor shall notify the Project Officer of his/her ranking of the acceptable candidates. The Project Officer shall review the ranking, approve, and forward it to the Recipient. If no candidates are acceptable, the Recipient shall be requested to re-advertise the opportunity.

6. Upon selection of a candidate, the Recipient shall make arrangements with the selected candidate for employment and, in consultation with the Grantor, set a reporting date for the associate.

7. The Associate shall carry out the Internship.

Definitions

- *Associate*—Individual who will be provided with and perform internships under this cooperative agreement.

- *Project Officer*—The NOAA Project Officer is that individual specifically named by NOAA to manage this program.

• *Technical Advisor/Monitor*—The NOAA employee responsible for providing day-to-day guidance on the specific project(s) assigned to the associate and for the associate's individual development and progress.

• *Intern Opportunity/Project*—An opportunity for an internship which is documented and has funds obligated for its costs. In general, these opportunities will be assignments within existing NOS programs and ongoing projects and

not something created uniquely for this Agreement.

Anticipated Stipend Levels (per annum) and general background requirements of internships:

1. \$22,000 (\$10.58/hr)	2 full years of academic study.
2. \$25,000 (\$11.02/hr)	4 full years of academic study (BA, BS degree).
3. \$27,000 (\$12.98/hr)	4 years and superior academic standard (top 1/3, 2.9/4 GPA overall, & 3.5/4 GPA in Major).
4. \$32,000 (\$15.38/hr)	60 hrs Graduate level or Masters degree.
5. \$39,000 (\$18.75/hr)	All requirements for PhD met.

• Unless included in the Intern opportunity description, overtime is not anticipated. In the event that overtime is required, the duration of the internship shall be reduced or additional funds shall be obligated or Compensatory time shall be given in lieu of overtime to pay for it.

• In the event that an Associate terminates or is terminated (for cause), the Recipient shall make every opportunity to refill the internship and, if not practicable, credit the Grantor with the un-spent balance of the funds. These funds shall be used to supplement internships under the direction of the Project Officer.

Note: If the Associate is to be an "independent contractor" rather than an employee of the Recipient under the Cooperative Agreement, the stipend shall be adjusted to cover the additional required Self Employment fees.

Funding Availability

NOS funding for this Program will be a minimum of \$40,000 from FY98 funds to a maximum of \$1,500,000 during the first year. Additional follow-on years, up to a maximum of 2 without re-competition, may be funded to a maximum of \$1,500,000 per year. Each internship or group of internships, beyond the first, shall be funded as a separate amendment to the master agreement. There is no set timetable for announcement of Internships and they may occur throughout the year.

Matching Requirements

Cost sharing is not required for the internship program.

Type of Funding Instrument

The NOS Intern Program shall be awarded as a Cooperative Agreement since NOAA anticipates that there will be substantial involvement between NOS, the Recipient, and the Interns (after their selection).

Statement of Substantial Involvement Between NOAA and the Recipient

In carrying out the work program set forth in the project description, NOS and the Recipient agree to meet the

programmatic objective of this agreement as stated.* NOS involvement will consist of the following activities:

1. NOS will provide descriptions of available intern opportunities with required academic backgrounds and job skills.

2. NOS will participate in review and rating panels and will interview and make final selections from lists of eligible candidates that are provided by the Recipient.

3. NOS will provide a technical monitor to interact with each Associate who will be chosen to work on a given project. The technical monitor shall provide technical guidance and support to the Associate in developing the skills necessary to perform the work in the chosen environmental arena.

4. NOS shall provide liaison to interact with the Recipient and Senior Management on the progress of meeting the programmatic objectives of this Cooperative Agreement.

Eligibility Criteria

This solicitation is open to any Non-Profit organization.

Award Period

The initial Master Agreement shall be for a period of one (1) year. This agreement may be renewed annually for up to 2 continuation years with the mutual consent of both parties. NOAA shall consider continued funding for the project upon: (a) satisfactory progress toward the stated agreement goals, and the determination by NOAA that the continuation of the program would be in the best interest of the Government; and (b) availability of funds. The annual awards must have scopes of work that can easily be separated into annual increments of meaningful work which represent solid accomplishments if prospective funding is not made

* Summary Section: "The programmatic objective of this intern program is to provide unique opportunities for cooperative study, research, and development that would be of major benefit in advancing the number and diversity of skilled engineers, scientists, and managers in the environmental arena who are familiar with the techniques and technologies used by NOS."

available to the applicant. This submission in no way obligates NOAA to extend this agreement, nor is this paragraph to be interpreted as a promise that future funds will be available.

Indirect Costs

Funds to support the NOS Intern program shall be given directly to the Recipient. Administrative or indirect costs shall be negotiated as part of the Master Agreement award and shall be based on and paid on a per Internship basis. These costs may be fixed, time dependent, Intern stipend dependent, or a combination as proposed by the Recipient. The total dollar amount of the indirect costs proposed in an application under this program must not exceed the indirect cost rate negotiated and approved by a cognizant Federal agency prior to the proposed effective date of the award or 100 percent of the total proposed direct costs dollar amount in the application, whichever is less.

Stipend levels, and benefits may be adjusted for COLA for each continuation year.

Application Requirements

Each Prospective Recipient shall submit a package containing completed:

1. SF-424 (including SF-424A & SF-424B),
2. A budget with necessary supporting details. This budget should be based on a hypothetical intern opportunity at a stipend level of \$25,000 per year, with an allowance for required field trip travel of \$2,000, and a relocation allowance of \$500. Because it is anticipated that this agreement will be extended to include additional internships beyond the first, supporting information should be included to determine the full cost to the government of additional internships which may have any of the suggested stipend levels, have durations ranging 3 to 12 months, and be with or without relocation or travel allowances. This information should also contain details on what services and benefits are included (i.e. sick leave, tax withholding, insurance, etc.) and their

estimated cost to interns; as well as, what, if any, allowances are made for vacation leave and/or sick leave. Holidays observed by the office hosting the intern will be considered paid holidays.

3. Curriculum Vitae for each Principal Investigator and critical senior staff assigned to the program,

4. Copy of a current approved Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement,

5. CD-511 "Certifications Regarding * * *

6. SF-LLL "Disclosure of Lobbying" (blocks 1-10 & 16)

7. Statement of Work (narrative description of the proposed activity, objectives and milestones). This Statement of Work shall include:

(a) A description of the Intern Program, how they would implement it and conduct its operation. Alternatives and variations with regard to the timing of items 4 and 5 within the "Description of the Intended Operation of the Intern Program for each Internship" detailed above may be proposed.

(b) Proposed method of advertising for and pre-screening candidate Interns.

(c) Proposed relationship between the prospective Recipient and Selected Interns, with descriptions of services offered (e.g. tax withholding) and benefits available (e.g. health insurance, workman's compensation, etc.) to the Interns.

(d) Past history of the prospective Recipient in operating similar programs.

8. Proof of Status for First Time Eligible Non-Profit Applicants.

Application Forms and Kit

An application kit containing all required application forms and certifications is available by calling David L. Litton at NOAA Grants Management Division (301) 713-0946.

Project Funding Priorities

Responsiveness of the application to the programmatic objectives of the Intern program as noted in the Summary section and restated in the Type of Funding Instrument section above.

Evaluation Criteria

The proposals from prospective Recipients will be evaluated on the submitted application to conduct the proposed Intern Program. The evaluation shall be weighted as indicated:

1. Costs for operating the proposed Intern Program. (15%)

2. Description of the program, how they would implement it, conduct its operation and proposed time lines for filling internships. (25%)

3. Proposed relationship between the prospective Recipient and Selected Interns, with descriptions of services offered and benefits available to the Interns relative to their cost to the Grantor, Recipient, and Intern. (15%)

4. Proposed method for advertising for and pre-screening candidate Interns. (20%)

5. Past history of the prospective Recipient in operating similar programs and qualifications of proposed senior staff. (25%)

Selection Procedures

Each application will receive an independent, objective review by a panel qualified to evaluate the applications submitted. The Independent Review Panel, consisting of at least three individuals in addition to the Selecting Official (NOS Federal Program Officer), will review, evaluate, and rank all applications based on the criteria stated above. The final decision on award will be based upon the numerical ranking and a determination by the Selecting Official that the Recipient's application meets the Project Funding Priorities.

Other Requirements

Interns Status Under Tort Claims Act

NOAA shall acknowledge that the Associates are performing research and will be under the general guidance of NOAA, and for legal purposes shall be considered student volunteers. (Under the 5 U.S.C. 311, a student volunteer is not a Federal employee for any purpose other than injury compensation and laws related to Tort Claims Act.)

Travel Expenses of Selected Interns

NOAA shall provide travel and transportation for Associates assigned to NOAA projects requiring field work as documented in the description of the Intern Opportunity. Associates shall complete Recipient's travel expenses report form for each trip and the NOAA project supervisor shall sign the form to acknowledge the trip. Travel advances for Associates shall be available from the Recipient as needed. All travel and transportation required for field work shall be in accordance with Federal Travel Regulations governing official travel. Associates shall be responsible for arranging and paying their own transportation to the NOAA duty location unless funds are specifically identified in the Internship description.

Restrictions

Interns will not be used to replace NOAA employees formerly employed under the Office of Personnel Management student appointing

authorities, to replace temporary or term appointments, or to replace or fill-in for full or part-time NOAA positions vacated by the Voluntary Separation Program or Reduction in Force. Participants will not be selected or used to perform personal services. Nothing shall create the appearance that the participant is being used in a personal services manner. This would circumvent the civil service laws and reflect negatively on NOAA staff using this participant in this manner. The relationship between the Recipient and Interns is up to the Recipient. The Recipient may be the Intern's employer or it may choose to award the Interns stipends or grants. In any case, the Recipient is responsible for payment, discipline, leave approval, termination, etc. for each Intern. Nothing in this agreement or its supplements shall be deemed to create an employer-employee relationship between the NOAA and an Intern. Former NOAA employees (including students) are not eligible for this program within two years of employment at NOAA.

(1) Federal Policies and Procedures

Recipients and subrecipients are subject to all Federal laws and Federal and DOC policies, regulations, and procedures applicable to Federal financial assistance awards.

(2) Past Performance

Unsatisfactory performance under prior Federal awards may result in an application not being considered for funding.

(3) Preaward Activities

If applicants incur any costs prior to an award being made, they do so solely at their own risk of not being reimbursed by the Government. Notwithstanding any verbal or written assurance that may have been received, there is no obligation on the part of DOC to cover preaward costs.

(4) No Obligation for Future Funding

If an application is selected for funding, DOC has no obligation to provide any additional future funding in connection with the award. Renewal of an award to increase funding or extend the period of performance is at the total discretion of DOC.

(5) Delinquent Federal Debts

No award of Federal funds shall be made to an applicant who has an outstanding delinquent Federal debt until either:

i. The delinquent account is paid in full,

ii. A negotiated repayment schedule is established and at least one payment is received, or

iii. Other arrangements satisfactory to DOC are made.

(6) Name Check Review

All non-profit applicants are subject to a name check review process. Name checks are intended to reveal if any key individuals associated with the applicant have been convicted of or are presently facing criminal charges such as fraud, theft, perjury, or other matters which significantly reflect on the applicant's management honesty or financial integrity.

(7) Primary Applicant Certifications

All primary applicants must submit a completed form CD-511, "Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-free Workplace Requirements and Lobbying," and the following explanations are hereby provided:

i. *Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension.* Prospective participants (as defined at 15 CFR part 26, Section 105) are subject to 15 CFR part 26, "Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension" and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies;

ii. *Drug-Free Workplace.* Recipients (as defined at 15 CFR part 26, section 605) are subject to 15 CFR part 26, Subpart F, "Government requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)" and related section of the certification form prescribed above applies;

iii. *Anti-Lobbying.* Persons (as defined at 15 CFR part 26, section 105) are subject to the lobbying provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1352, "Limitations on use of appropriated funds to influence certain Federal contracting and financial transactions," and the lobbying section of the certification form prescribed above applies to applications/bids for grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts for more than \$100,000, and loans and loan guarantees for more than \$150,000, or the single family maximum mortgage limit for affected programs, whichever is greater; and

iv. *Anti-Lobbying Disclosures.* Any applicant that has paid or will pay for lobbying using any funds must submit an SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," as required under 15 CFR part 28, Appendix B.

(8) Lower Tier Certifications.

Recipient shall require applicants/subidders for subgrants, contracts, subcontracts or other lower tier covered transactions at any tier under the award to submit, if applicable, a completed

form CD-512, "Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transactions and Lobbying" and disclosure form SF-LLL

"Disclosure of Lobbying Activities." Form CD-512 is intended for the use of recipient and should not be transmitted to DOC. SF-LLL submitted by any tier recipient or subrecipient should be submitted to DOC in accordance with the instructions contained in the award document.

(9) False Statements.

A False statement on an application is grounds for denial or termination of funds and grounds for possible punishment by a fine or imprisonment as provided in 18 U.S.C. 1001.

(10) Intergovernmental Review.

Applications under this program are not subject to executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs."

(11) Paperwork Reduction

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection of information displays a current valid OMB control number. This Notice involves collections of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act, which have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under OMB Control Numbers 0348-0043, 0348-0044, 0348-0040 and 0348-0046.

(12) Executive Order 12866

It was determined that this notice was not significant under Executive Order 12866.

Captain Evelyn J. Fields,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management.

[FR Doc. 98-22777 Filed 8-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-JT-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 082098C]

Federal Investment Task Force; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Sustainable Fisheries Act (SFA) requires the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) to establish a task force to study the role of the Federal Government in subsidizing fleet capacity and influencing capital investment in fisheries. The Federal Investment Task Force will hold its fifth meeting on August 31 - September 2, 1998, in Baltimore, MD.

DATES: The meeting of the task force will be held August 31 - September 2, 1998. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Inner Harbor, 301 W. Lombard St., Baltimore, MD, telephone (410) 685-3500.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Reisenweber, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, (301) 713-2363; fax: (301) 713-1875; email: john.reisenweber@noaa.gov; or Matteo Milazzo, (301) 713-2276.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Meeting Dates

August 31, 1998, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Task Force will review the draft buyback paper presented at the previous meeting. The Task Force will also review the data collected on the FOG/FFP Program.

August 31, 1998, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Task Force will hear public input regarding the Federal Investment Study. The public is encouraged to comment on the general scope and concept of the study, as well as the effect of Federal programs on the capacity and capitalization of fishing fleets.

September 1, 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The Task Force will discuss and review the draft capacity paper. The Task Force will also discuss and review the draft report on the CCF program.

September 2, 1998, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Task Force will discuss other government programs/policies as they relate to capacity and capitalization in the nation's fisheries. These programs will include: Wallop-Breaux, Saltonstall-Kennedy, Sea Grant, USDA Marketing and Promotion, and the Jones Act. In addition, the regional reports will also be discussed.

The Task Force will also determine the subjects and topics to be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to those with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to John