

Research Support; 93.821, Cell Biology and Biophysics Research; 93.859, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Biological Chemistry Research; 93.862, Genetics and Developmental Biology Research; 93.88, Minority Access to Research Careers; 93.96, Special Minority Initiatives, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: August 27, 1998.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98-23954 Filed 9-3-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Center for Scientific Review; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meetings.

The meetings will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: Cell Development and Function Initial Review Group, Cellular Biology and Physiology Subcommittee 1.

Date: October 7-8, 1998.

Time: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Sheraton Reston Hotel, 11810 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, VA 20191.

Contact Person: Ramesh K. Nayak, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5146, MSC 7840, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1026.

Name of Committee: Biochemical Sciences Initial Review Group, Pathobiochemistry Study Section.

Date: October 8-9, 1998.

Time: 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Holiday Inn Georgetown, 2101 Wisconsin Ave, Washington, DC 20007.

Contact Person: Zakir Bengali, Center for Scientific Review, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5150, MSC 7842, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1742.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine,

93.306; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393-93.396, 93.837-93.844, 93.846-93.878, 93.892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: August 28, 1998.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98-23951 Filed 9-3-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4341-N-25]

Federal Property Suitable as Facilities To Assist the Homeless

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This Notice identifies unutilized, underutilized, excess, and surplus Federal property reviewed by HUD for suitability for possible use to assist the homeless.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 4, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mark Johnston, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Room 7256, 451 Seventh Street SW, Washington, DC 20410; telephone (202) 708-1226; TTY number for the hearing- and speech-impaired (202) 708-2565, (these telephone numbers are not toll-free), or call the toll-free Title V information line at 1-800-927-7588.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

In accordance with the December 12, 1998 court order in *National Coalition for the Homeless v. Veterans Administration*, No. 88-2503-OG (D.D.C.), HUD publishes a Notice, on a weekly basis, identifying unutilized, underutilized, excess and surplus Federal buildings and real property that HUD has reviewed for suitability for use to assist the homeless. Today's Notice is for the purpose of announcing that no additional properties have been determined suitable or unsuitable this week.

Dated: August 27, 1998.

Kenneth C. Williams,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Grant Programs.

[FR Doc. 98-23487 Filed 9-3-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-29-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of the Secretary

Alaska Land Managers Forum

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice is published in accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App. (1988) and 41 CFR 101-6.1015(b). The Department of the Interior hereby gives notice of a public meeting of the Alaska Land Managers Forum to be held on Friday, September 18, 1998, beginning at 9 a.m. It will take place in the meeting room of the McKinley Princess Lodge, mile 133.5 of the Parks Highway, adjacent to the Denali State Park, Alaska. This meeting will be held to receive and discuss work group reports on recreation and tourism, and to discuss the 1998 awards program. The agenda will also include several briefing items.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ronald B. McCoy at (907) 271-5485 or Sally Rue at (907) 465-4084.

Ronald B. McCoy,

Department of the Interior, Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-23857 Filed 9-3-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-RP-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

North American Wetlands Conservation Act: Request for Small Grants Proposals for 1999

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of request for proposals.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to advise the public that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is currently entertaining proposals that request match funding for wetland conservation projects under the Small Grants program. Projects must meet the purposes of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989, as amended. The Service will give funding priority to projects from new grant applicants with new partners, where the project ensures long-term conservation benefits. However, previous Act grantees are eligible to receive funding, and can compete successfully on the basis of strong project resource values.

DATES: Proposal must bear postmarks no later than Friday, December 4, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Address proposals to: North American Waterfowl and Wetlands

Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 110, Arlington, Virginia 22203, Attn: Small Grants Coordinator.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Keith A. Morehouse, Small Grants Coordinator, or the office secretary, North American Waterfowl and Wetlands Office, 703/358-1784; facsimile 703/358-2282.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the 1989 North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA), as amended, is to promote long-term conservation of North American wetland ecosystems and the waterfowl and other migratory birds, fish and wildlife that depend upon such habitat through partnerships. Principal conservation actions supported by NAWCA are acquisition, enhancement and restoration of wetlands and wetlands-associated habitat.

In 1996, the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Council) initiated a Small Grants program with an allocation of \$250,000 per year. The objective of this program is to promote long-term wetlands conservation activities through encouraging participation by new grantees and partners who may not otherwise be able to compete in the regular grants program. It is also hoped that successful participants in the Small Grants program will be encouraged to participate in the NAWCA-based Standard Grants program. The Small Grants program became fully operational in 1998 with an allocation of \$500,000. Over the first three years of the program, about 275 proposals requesting a total of approximately \$8.3 million competed for funding. Ultimately, 34 projects were funded. For 1999, with the approval of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, the Council has again made the Small Grants program operational at a base level of \$500,000.

To be considered for funding in the 1999 cycle, proposals must have a grant request no greater than \$50,000. All wetland conservation proposals are accepted that meet the requirements of the Act. However, considering appropriate proposal resource values, funding priority is given to projects from new grant applicants (individuals or organizations who have never received a NAWCA grant) with new partners, where the project ensures long-term conservation benefits. As suggested by the former, this does not preclude former NAWCA grant recipients from receiving Small Grants funding; ultimately, project resource

value is the critical factor in deciding which projects receive funding.

In addition, proposals must represent on-the-ground projects, and any overhead in the project budget must constitute 10 percent or less of the grant amount. The anticipated magnitude of wetlands and wildlife resources benefits that will result from project execution is an important factor in proposal evaluation, and there should be a reasonable balance between acreages of wetlands and wetlands-associated uplands.

Please keep in mind that NAWCA and matching funds may only be applied to wetlands acquisition, creation, enhancement, and/or restoration; they may not be applied to signage, displays, trails or other educational features, materials and equipment, even though the goal of the project may ultimately be to support wetland conservation education curricula. Projects oriented toward education are not ordinarily eligible for NAWCA funding because education is not a primary purpose of the Act. However, useful project outcomes can include educational benefits resulting from conservation actions. Research is also not a primary purpose of the Act, and research proposals are not considered for funding.

Even though requiring less total information than those submitted for the regular grants program, Small Grant proposals must have clear explanations and meet the basic purposes given above and the 1:1 or greater non-Federal matching requirements of the NAWCA. Small Grants projects must also be consistent with Council guidelines, objectives and policies. All non-Federal matching funds and proposed expenditures of grant funds must be consistent with Appendix A of the Small Grants instructions, "Eligibility Requirements for Match of NAWCA Grant and Non-Federal Funds." All applicants must submit a completed Standard Form 424, Application For Federal Assistance. Small Grants Instructional Booklets contain forms and instructions for the Standard Form 424; booklets are available at the address provided or by E-mail, as explained later in this notice.

Small Grants proposals may be submitted prior to the due date but must bear postmarks no later than Friday, December 4, 1998. Address submitted proposals as follows: North American Waterfowl and Wetlands Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 110, Arlington, VA 22203. Attn: Small Grants Coordinator.

It is essential that applicants submit complete grant request packages to the

North American Waterfowl and Wetlands Office (NAWWO), including *all* of the documentation of partners (partner letters) with funding pledge amounts. Information on funding in partner letters, i.e., amounts and description regarding use, must correspond with budget amounts in the budget table and any figures provided in the narrative.

With the volume of proposals received, the NAWWO is not able to contact proposal sources to verify and/or request supplemental data and/or materials. Thus, those proposals lacking required information or containing conflicting information are subject to being declared ineligible and not further considered for funding.

For more information, and/or to request the Small Grants instructional booklet, call the NAWWO office secretary at (703) 358-1784, facsimile (703) 358-2282, or send E-mail to R9ARW_NAWWO@MAIL.FWS.GOV. Small Grant application instructions are also available by E-mail, upon request.

In conclusion, the Service requires that upon arrival in the NAWWO, proposal packages must be complete with regard to the information requested, in the format requested, and on time.

The Service has submitted information collection requirements to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. On August 24, 1998, OMB gave an emergency approval for this information collection requirement and assigned it approval number 1018-0100. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The information collection solicited: is necessary to gain a benefit in the form of a grant, as determined by the North American Wetlands Conservation Council and the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission; is necessary to determine the eligibility and relative value of wetlands projects; results in an approximate paperwork burden of 80 hours per application; and does not carry a premise of confidentiality. The information collections in this program will not be part of a system of records covered by the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552(a)).

Dated: August 28, 1998.

John G. Rogers,

Deputy Director, Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 98-23844 Filed 9-3-98; 8:45 am]

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