

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**International Trade Administration****North American Free-Trade Agreement, Article 1904 NAFTA Panel Reviews; Request for Panel Review**

AGENCY: NAFTA Secretariat, United States Section, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of first request for panel review.

SUMMARY: On September 1, 1998, U.S. Steel, LTV Steel Company, Inc., Bethlehem Steel Corp., National Steel Corporation, and Inland Steel Industries, Inc. (collectively) filed a First Request for Panel Review with the Canadian Section of the NAFTA Secretariat pursuant to Article 1904 of the North American Free Trade Agreement. Panel review was requested of the final order rescinding the injury finding made by the Canadian International Trade Tribunal, respecting Certain Cold-reduced Flat-rolled sheet Products of Carbon Steel (including high-strength low-alloy steel) Originating In or Exported from the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Italy, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. This determination was published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part I, Volume 132, No. 32, at page 2030, on August 8, 1998. The NAFTA Secretariat has assigned Case Number CDA-USA-98-1904-02 to this request.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James R. Holbein, United States Secretary, NAFTA Secretariat, Suite 2061, 14th and Constitution Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20230, (202) 482-5438.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Chapter 19 of the North American Free-Trade Agreement ("Agreement") establishes a mechanism to replace domestic judicial review of final determinations in antidumping and countervailing duty cases involving imports from a NAFTA country with review by independent binational panels. When a Request for Panel Review is filed, a panel is established to act in place of national courts to review expeditiously the final determination to determine whether it conforms with the antidumping or countervailing duty law of the country that made the determination.

Under Article 1904 of the Agreement, which came into force on January 1, 1994, the Government of the United States, the Government of Canada and the Government of Mexico established *Rules of Procedure for Article 1904*

Binational Panel Reviews ("Rules"). These Rules were published in the **Federal Register** on February 23, 1994 (59 FR 8686).

A first Request for Panel Review was filed with the Canadian Section of the NAFTA Secretariat, pursuant to Article 1904 of the Agreement, on September 1, 1998, requesting panel review of the order rescinding the injury finding described above.

The Rules provide that:

(a) A Party or interested person may challenge the final determination in whole or in part by filing a Complaint in accordance with Rule 39 within 30 days after the filing of the first Request for Panel Review (the deadline for filing a Complaint is October 1, 1998);

(b) A Party, investigating authority or interested person that does not file a Complaint but that intends to appear in support of any reviewable portion of the final determination may participate in the panel review by filing a Notice of Appearance in accordance with Rule 40 within 45 days after the filing of the first Request for Panel Review (the deadline for filing a Notice of Appearance is October 16, 1998); and

(c) The panel review shall be limited to the allegations of error of fact or law, including the jurisdiction of the investigating authority, that are set out in the Complaints filed in the panel review and the procedural and substantive defenses raised in the panel review.

Dated: September 8, 1998.

James R. Holbein,

United States Secretary, NAFTA Secretariat.
[FR Doc. 98-26313 Filed 9-30-98; 8:45 am]

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

[I.D. 071798B]

Marine Mammals; File No. 369-1440

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. Bruce R. Mate, Oregon State University, Newport, Oregon 97365-5296, has been issued a permit to take various species of large whales and opportunistically take by Level B harassment other species of marine mammals, for purposes of scientific research.

ADDRESSES: The permit and related documents are available for review

upon written request or by appointment (See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ruth Johnson or Sara Shapiro 301/713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 21, 1998, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 3093) that a request for a scientific research permit to take various species of large whales by tag and biopsy sample, and to opportunistically conduct level B harassment on other marine mammal species encountered during tagging activities, had been submitted by the above-named individual. The requested permit has been issued 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 (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered fish and wildlife (50 CFR parts 217-227), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

Permit No. 369-1440 was issued to the above named individual to satellite tag and biopsy sample seven species of large whales throughout the United States. No more than 24 of each species will be tagged/sampled in a year. NMFS prepared an Environmental Assessment of the authorized activities. The EA is available upon request.

Issuance of this permit, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such permit (1) was applied for in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species which is the subject of this permit, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Documents are available for review in the following locations:

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289);

Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668 Juneau, AK 99802 (907/586-7221);

Regional Administrator, Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way, NE, BIN C15700, Seattle, WA 98115 (206/526-6150);

Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 (562/980-4015);

Coordinator, Pacific Area Office, NMFS, 2570 Dole Street, Room 106, Honolulu, HI 96822-2396 (808/955-8831);

Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432 (813/570-5312); and

Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930, (978/281-9250).

Dated: September 18, 1998.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 98-26305 Filed 9-30-98; 8:45 am]

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CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Corporation for National and Community Service.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Corporation for National and Community Service (hereinafter the "Corporation"), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirement on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Corporation is soliciting comments concerning its proposed dissemination of its new National Service-Learning Leader Schools program application. This form is used as part of the standard application package to facilitate the identification and recognition of public and private high schools that have demonstrated exemplary practices in service-learning. The information provided will be used by the Corporation and its review panel of experts to evaluate a school's merit for recognition.

Copies of the information collection requests can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section by November 30, 1998.

The Corporation is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Corporation, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Propose ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Propose ways to 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 submissions of responses.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to the Corporation for National and Community Service Attn: Amy Cohen, Office of Learn and Serve America, 1201 New York Avenue, N.W., 8th floor, Washington, D.C. 20525.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Amy Cohen, (202) 606-5000, ext. 484.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

President Clinton introduced the idea of a national recognition program for schools that have incorporated service into the curriculum and the life of the school in his 1996 Pennsylvania State University commencement address. He challenged every American high school to make "service a part of its basic ethic." The President urged every high school to make service a part of its curriculum and charged the Corporation for National Service with the responsibility to design the National Service-Learning Leader Schools program to honor outstanding schools. With input from many perspectives in the education and service communities, the Corporation has designed the National Service-Learning Leader Schools program. The forms included in the application package are new and have not previously been used by the Corporation.

B. Current Action

The Corporation seeks approval of the National Service-Learning Leader Schools application package and forms. The application package and forms are necessary to carry out this national initiative. They will standardize the applications received from schools

across the country so the panel of expert reviewers receives standard information on the applicants. The forms will collect information about schools seeking recognition under this initiative. The information will be used in making decisions regarding which schools will be recognized, as well as for public awareness, educational and information purposes consistent with the Corporation's mission.

Type of Review: New approval.

Agency: Corporation for National and Community Service.

Title: National Service-Learning Leader Schools Program Application.

OMB Number: None.

Agency Number: None.

Affected Public: High schools that choose to seek recognition.

Total Respondents: Approximately 250.

Frequency: Annual.

Average Time Per Response: 6 hours.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 1,500 hours.

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): \$35,000 (250 applicants @ \$140 each: \$20 for copying, assembly, and mailing plus 6 hours per response @ \$20/hour).

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): None.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: September 25, 1998.

Kenneth L. Kloth,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 98-26262 Filed 9-30-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Air Force

Air Force A-76 Initiatives Cost Comparisons and Direct Conversions (As of July 1998)

Air Force is in the process of conducting the following A-76 initiatives. Cost comparisons are public-private competitions. Direct conversions are functions that may result in a conversion to contract without public competition. These initiatives were announced and in-progress as of July 1998, include the installation and state where the cost comparison is being performed, the total authorizations under study, public announcement date and solicitation (or anticipated) date. The following initiatives are in various stages of completion.