

facilities, and administrative resources to accomplish the project; (4) Project Costs - This criterion evaluates the budget to determine if it is realistic and commensurate with the project needs and time-frame; and (5) Outreach, Education, and Community Involvement - NOAA assesses whether the project provides a focused and effective education and outreach strategy regarding NOAA's mission. Information on how these criteria are specifically applied in the context of Community-based Restoration Program application evaluation are described each year in the FFO, and are currently available for the Program for FY 2006 on www.grants.gov (funding opportunity number NMFS-HCPO-2006-2000334).

Funding Ranges

In 2005, the Restoration Center accepted proposals requesting between \$30,000 and \$250,000; typical restoration project awards range from \$50,000 to \$200,000. This represents an increase in upper and lower funding ranges for projects from earlier Program Guidelines. Funding at lower levels (<\$15,000) is no longer cost-effective due to increasing operational costs necessary to ensure environmental compliance; funding fewer projects at higher dollar amounts has also led to increases in Program efficiency.

Awards for establishing multi-year, National and Regional Habitat Restoration "umbrella" Partnerships, under which individual projects will be jointly reviewed and prioritized for funding, are anticipated to range between \$100,000 and \$2.0 million, with that range of funding anticipated to be provided to successful partnerships annually during a partnership's duration. Subsequent allocation of funding during the multi-year award period will be dependent on the satisfactory performance of the partner organization.

Project and Partnership solicitations (FFO's) will contain information on funding ranges, the weighting of NOAA's standard evaluation criteria, and additional factors that may be used by the selecting official to recommend a slate of projects to the Grants Management Division to receive awards. The number of awards and funding ranges to be made in FY 2006 and beyond will depend on the amount of funds appropriated to the Program annually by Congress.

Examples of Previously Funded Projects

The following examples are community-based restoration projects that have been funded with assistance from the Restoration Center. These

examples are only illustrative and are not intended to limit the scope of future proposals in any way.

Fish Ladder Construction

An impediment to fish passage was corrected through the design and construction of a step-pool fish ladder, which now allows native steelhead trout to reach their historic spawning grounds.

Invasive Plant Removal

A coalition of volunteer groups called "Pepper busters" worked to remove exotic Brazilian pepper plants and replant native shoreline vegetation.

Salt Marsh Restoration

An undersized culvert was replaced to increase the mean high water level in the restricted portion of a marsh and restore tidal flushing to 20 acres of salt marsh.

Oyster Reef Restoration

Oyster reef habitat was increased by reconstructing historic reefs and seeding them with hatchery-produced seed oysters grown in floating cages by students.

Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Restoration

An evaluation of the feasibility of using volunteer divers to restore seagrass was developed. A protocol was created to train volunteers in water quality monitoring and seagrass transplantation techniques.

Kelp Forest Restoration

Community dive groups were trained in kelp reforestation activities, including the preparation, planting and maintenance of kelp sites, documentation of growth patterns, and changes in marine life attracted to the newly planted kelp areas.

Wetland Plant Nursery

An innovative wetland nursery program was implemented in local high schools, where science and ecology classes build wetland nurseries on campus to grow salt marsh grasses for local restoration efforts.

Derelict Fishing Gear Removal

A pilot project consisted of developing protocols and conducting initial removal efforts. After surveying, locating, and mapping derelict fishing gear, a minimum of 11 tons of lost and abandoned fishing gear was removed by licensed and certified divers.

Nuisance Dam Removal

Two small stone dams blocked fish migration, and degraded water quality

and prey habitat conditions for anadromous fish. The dams, while only several feet high, also presented a public safety hazard. This project resulted in opening stream habitat to anadromous fish, restoring acres of tidal wetlands, and removal of a public safety hazard.

Riparian Habitat Restoration

Youth corps members were trained in the use of bioremediation and stabilization techniques to restore eroding riverbanks and improve habitat for salmon smolt and other fish species.

Diadromous Fish Habitat Restoration

Highly functional salmonid and wildlife habitat was restored with the cooperation of private landowners by opening silted enclosures along a slough to provide refuge for juvenile salmonids during the winter flood flows.

Dated: August 19, 2005.

William T. Hogarth,

*Assistant Administrator for Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 05-16844 Filed 8-23-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Information Collection; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Corporation for National and Community Service.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Corporation for National and Community Service (hereinafter the "Corporation"), has submitted a public information collection request (ICR) entitled AmeriCorps*VISTA Progress Report to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13, (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). Copies of this ICR, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by calling the Corporation for National and Community Service, Ms. Carol Rogers at (202) 606-6815 or e-mail at crogers@cns.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TTY-TDD) may call (202) 565-2799 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted, identified by the title of the information collection activity, to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: Ms. Katherine Astrich, OMB Desk Officer for the Corporation for National and Community Service, by any of the following two methods

within 30 days from this date of publication in this **Federal Register**:

(1) By fax to: (202) 395-6974, Attention Ms. Katherine Astrich, OMB Desk Officer for the Corporation for National and Community Service; and

(2) Electronically by e-mail to: Katherine_T._Astrich@omb.eop.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The OMB 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 submission of responses.

Comments: A 60-day comment Notice was published in the **Federal Register** on March 3, 2005. This comment period ended May 2, 2005 and resulted in no comments being received.

Description: The Corporation requests reinstatement, with changes, of its AmeriCorps*VISTA Project Progress Report which reflects the Corporation's intention to modify selected sections of the collection instrument to reflect changes in data considered "core reporting" information to meet a variety of needs, including modification of data elements, including adding new data elements as needed to ensure information collection captures appropriate data for the Corporation's required performance measurement and other reporting.

The Project Progress Report (PPR) was designed to assure that AmeriCorps*VISTA sponsors address and fulfill legislated program purposes, meet agency program management and grant requirements, and assess progress toward work plan objectives agreed upon in the granting of the memorandum of agreement.

Further, the reinstatement of the previously used PPR will: (a) Enhance data elements collected via this information collection tool; (b) migrate the paper version of the form to the

Corporation's electronic grants management system, eGrants; and (c) establish reporting periods consistent with the Corporation's integrated grants management and reporting policies.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently-approved collection.

Agency: Corporation for National and Community Service.

Title: AmeriCorps*VISTA Project Progress Report.

OMB Number: 3045-0043.

Agency Number: None.

Affected Public: AmeriCorps*VISTA sponsoring organizations, site supervisors, and members.

Total Respondents: 1300.

Frequency: Quarterly.

Average Time Per Response: 14.7 hours.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 19,110 hours per submission. Total annual burden assuming quarterly submission is 74,440 hours.

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): None.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): None.

Dated: August 18, 2005.

Howard Turner,

*Acting Director, AmeriCorps*VISTA.*

[FR Doc. 05-16765 Filed 8-23-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6050-SS-P

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 pre-clearance 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. Sec. 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 Application Instructions for State Commissions. These applications are

used by current and prospective grantees to apply for funds to support AmeriCorps States and Territories Competitive, Education Award Program, and Formula Grants.

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

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the individual and office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section by October 24, 2005.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by the title of the information collection activity, by any of the following methods:

(1) By mail sent to: Amy Borgstrom, Associate Director for Policy, AmeriCorps State and National, 1201 New York Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20525.

(2) By hand delivery or by courier to the Corporation's mailroom at Room 8410 at the mail address given in paragraph (1) above, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

(3) By fax to: (202) 606-3476, Attention Amy Borgstrom, Associate Director for Policy, AmeriCorps State and National.

(4) Electronically through the Corporation's e-mail address system: aborgstrom@cns.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Amy Borgstrom, (202) 606-6930, or by e-mail at aborgstrom@cns.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Corporation is particularly interested in comments that:

- 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;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are expected to respond, including 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).

Background: Since the President's Call to Service, many Americans have expressed a renewed desire to serve their country by volunteering in their