

behavioral changes falling within the MMPA definition of Level B harassment.

In light of the type of take expected and the relatively small numbers of affected pinnipeds, the action is expected to have no more than a negligible impact on the affected species or stocks of marine mammals. In addition, mitigation measures such as controlled vessel speed, course alteration, look-outs, ramp-ups, and power-downs when marine mammals are seen within defined ranges (see Mitigation) should further reduce short-term reactions to disturbance, and minimize any effects on hearing sensitivity.

ESA

NMFS issued a biological opinion regarding the effects of this action on ESA-listed species and critical habitat. That biological opinion concluded that this action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat. A copy of the Biological Opinion is available upon request (see ADDRESSES).

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

The NSF made a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) determination on October 2, 2003, based on information contained within its EA, that implementation of the subject action is not a major Federal action having significant effects on the environment within the meaning of Executive Order 12114. NSF determined therefore, that an environmental impact statement would not be prepared. On March 18, 2004 (69 FR 12832), NMFS noted that the NSF had prepared an EA for the Gulf of California surveys and made this EA available upon request. In accordance with NOAA Administrative Order 216-6 (Environmental Review Procedures for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act, May 20, 1999), NMFS has reviewed the information contained in NSF's EA and determined that the NSF EA accurately and completely describes the proposed action alternative, reasonable additional alternatives, and the potential impacts on marine mammals, endangered species, and other marine life that could be impacted by the preferred alternative and the other alternatives. Therefore, it is not necessary to issue a new EA, supplemental EA or an environmental impact statement for the issuance of an IHA to Scripps for this activity. Based on this review and analysis, NMFS is adopting the NSF EA under 40 CFR 1506.3 and has made its own FONSI. A

copy of the NSF EA and the NMFS FONSI for this activity is available upon request (see ADDRESSES).

Authorization

NMFS has issued an IHA to take marine mammals, by harassment, incidental to conducting seismic surveys in the Gulf of California to Scripps for a 1-year period, provided the mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements are undertaken.

Dated: May 28, 2004.

Laurie K. Allen,

*Director, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 04-12811 Filed 6-4-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice.

The Department of Defense has submitted to OMB for clearance, the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by July 7, 2004.

Title and OMB Number: Post-Election Survey of Overseas Citizens, Post-Election Survey of Local Election Officials; OMB Number 0704-0125.

Type of Request: Extension.

Number of Respondents: 2,343.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Annual Responses: 2,343.

Average Burden per Response: 10 minutes.

Average Burden Hours: 391 hours.

Needs and Uses: The information collection requirement is necessary to meet a requirement of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) of 1986 (42 U.S.C. 19073ff). UOCAVA requires a report to the President and Congress on the effectiveness of assistance under the Act, a statistical analysis of voter participation, and a description of State-Federal cooperation. UOCAVA requires the states to allow Uniformed Services personnel, their family members, and overseas citizens to use absentee registration procedures, and to vote by absentee ballot in general, special, primary, and runoff elections for Federal offices. The Act covers members of the Uniformed Services and the merchant marine to include the commissioned corps of the National

Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Public Health Service, and their eligible dependents, Federal civilian employees overseas, and overseas U.S. citizens not affiliated with the Federal government. The Federal Voting Assistance Program conducts the post-election survey on a statistically random basis to determine participation rates that are representative of all citizens covered by the Act, measure State-Federal cooperation, and evaluate the effectiveness of the overall absentee voting program. The information collected is used for overall program evaluation, management and improvement, and to compile the congressionally mandated report to the President and Congress.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; state, local or tribal government.

Frequency: Quadrennially.

Respondents Obligation: Voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: Ms. Jacqueline Zeiher. Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to Ms. Zeiher at the Office of Management and Budget, Desk Officer for DoD, Room 10236, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

DOD Clearance Officer: Mr. Robert Cushing. Written requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Cushing, WHS/ESCD/Information Management Division, 1225 South Clark Street, Suite 504, Arlington, VA 22202-4326.

Dated: May 28, 2004.

L.M. Bynum,

Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 04-12724 Filed 6-4-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary of Defense; Establishment of U.S. Army Amputee Patient Care Program Board

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Amputee Patient Care Program Board is being established in the public interest, and in accordance with the provisions of the "Federal Advisory Committee Act," title 5 U.S.C., appendix II.

The Board shall serve in an advisory capacity to broaden the scope of vision for the U.S. Army Amputee Patient Care Program. The Board will make such suggestions for the improvement of the program as it deems necessary. The Board will consist of nine members

selected on a standardized basis for their preeminence in the field of amputee patient care. The Board will include members familiar with aspects of patient care, psychosocial issues, and family issues. Members will also be chosen who have broad experience in areas which impact on quality improvement in amputee patient care such as education and training. The Board shall meet at least twice each year to monitor the amputee patient care programs and services and insure effective organizational planning. The Board will also ensure that through the collaboration of a multi-disciplinary team, the U.S. Army Amputee Patient Care Program is providing world-renowned amputee care, assisting their patients as they return to the highest levels of physical, psychological, and emotional well being.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Ms. Jennifer Spaeth, DoD Committee Management Officer, 703-588-8151.

Dated: May 28, 2004.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 04-12725 Filed 6-4-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary; Defense Science Board

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of Advisory Committee Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Defense Science Board Task Force on Employment of the National Ignition Facility (NIF) will meet in closed session on June 21-22, 2004, at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. This Task Force will review the experimental program under development for the National Ignition Facility. NIF is a key component of the National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA's) Stockpile Stewardship Program to maintain the nuclear weapons stockpile without nuclear testing. The NIF is a 192-beam laser designed to achieve fusion ignition and produce high-energy-density condition approaching those of nuclear weapons. NNSA and the high-energy-density physics community have developed a plan for activation and early use of NIF which includes a goal to demonstrate ignition by 2010 and also supports high priority, non-ignition experiments required for stockpile stewardship. In this assessment, the task force will assess the proposed ignition

and "non-ignition" high-energy-density experimental programs at NIF. Review the overall balance and priority of activities within the proposed plan and the degree to which the proposed program of NIF experiments supports the near and long term goals of stockpile stewardship and the overall NIF mission. Assess the potential for NIF to support the design and development of new weapons. Focus on the extent to which major stakeholders in NIF are effectively integrated into the plan.

The mission of the Defense Science Board is to advise the Secretary of Defense and the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisitions, Technology & Logistics on scientific and technical matters as they affect the perceived needs of the Department of Defense. At these meetings, the Defense Science Board Task Force will assess the proposed ignition and "non-ignition" high-energy-density experimental programs at NIF. Review the overall balance and priority of activities within the proposed plan and the degree to which the proposed program of NIF experiments supports the near and long term goals of stockpile stewardship and the overall NIF mission. Assess the potential for NIF to support the design and development of new weapons. Focus on the extent to which major stakeholders in NIF are effectively integrated into the plan.

In accordance with Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Pub. L. No. 92-463, as amended (5 U.S.C. app. II), it has been determined that these Defense Science Board Task Force meetings concern matters listed in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1) and (4) and that, accordingly, these meetings will be closed to the public.

Dated: May 28, 2004.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 04-12726 Filed 6-4-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Army Science Board; Notice of Open Meeting

In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), announcement is made of the following Committee Meeting:

Name of Committee: Army Science Board (ASB).

Date(s) of Meeting: 10 & 11 June 2004.

Time(s) of Meeting: 0800-1700, 10 June 2004; and 0800-1700, 11 June 2004.

Place: Hilton Hotel, Crystal City, VA.

1. *Agenda:* The Army Science Board FY04 Summer Studies, Force Balance and FCS Urban Operations are holding a plenary meeting on the 10th & 11th of June 2004. The meeting will be held at the Hilton Hotel in Crystal City, VA. The meeting will begin at 0800 hrs on the 10th and will end at approximately 1700 hrs on the 11th. For further information regarding Force Balance, please contact LTC Al Alkee @ (703)-601-0676 or e-mail @Alvin.Klee@ocar.army.pentagon.mil. For FCS Urban Operations, please contact MAJ Al Visconti @ (865) 574-8798 or e-mail @viscontiaj@ornl.gov.

Wayne Joyner,

Program Support Specialist, Army Science Board.

[FR Doc. 04-12802 Filed 6-4-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

[Recommendation 2004-1]

Oversight of Complex, High-Hazard Nuclear Operations

AGENCY: Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

ACTION: Notice, recommendation.

SUMMARY: The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board has unanimously approved Recommendation 2004-1, for DOE to consider. Recommendation 2004-1 deals with Oversight of Complex, High-Hazard Nuclear Operations.

DATES: Comments, data, views, or arguments concerning the recommendation are due on or before July 7, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Send comments, data, views, or arguments concerning this recommendation to: Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, 625 Indiana Avenue, NW., Suite 700, Washington, DC 20004-2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth M. Pusateri or Andrew L. Thibadeau at the address above or telephone (202) 694-7000.

Dated: June 1, 2004.

John T. Conway,
Chairman.

[Recommendation 2004-1]

Oversight of Complex, High-Hazard Nuclear Operations

Dated: May 21, 2004.

Background

In furtherance of its statutory duty to oversee the Department of Energy's