Beginning with the survey year 2003, the Census Bureau plans to reduce the number of detailed industries for which the ASM estimates are published. Reducing the level of detail for which characteristics are estimated will allow the Census Bureau to focus resources on improving other aspects of the ASM program. We believe that this reduction in ASM detail will not have a substantial adverse impact upon the public. While some industry detail will be lost for ASM, similar data for some of the variables are available from other sources, such as County Business Patterns or programs of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The ASM is conducted as a mail-out/mail-back survey. No changes in the collection of information are planned as a result of this proposal.

Published estimates from the ASM are used by a variety of private business and trade associations. They provide various governmental agencies with a tool to evaluate economic policy and to measure progress toward established goals. For example, Bureau of Economic Analysis staff use data to develop nonresidential fixed investment components of gross private domestic investment in the gross domestic product. The Federal Reserve Board uses the data to estimate indexes of production, which are presented to the Board of Governors and have an impact on monetary policy.

Paperwork Reduction Act

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 requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), unless that collection of information displays a current valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. In accordance with the PRA, 44 U.S.C. chapter 35, the OMB approved the current ASM under OMB Control Number 0607–0449. The total burden hours associated with OMB Control Number 0607–0449 are 187,000 hours. We will provide copies of each form upon written request to the Director, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC 20233–0001.

Dated: May 19, 2004.

Charles Louis Kincannon,

Director, Bureau of the Census.

[FR Doc. 04–11763 Filed 5–24–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–07–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Case Western Reserve University, et al.; Notice of Consolidated Decision on Applications for Duty-Free Entry of Scientific Instruments

This is a decision consolidated pursuant to section 6(c) of the Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Materials Importation Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89–651, 80 Stat. 897; 15 CFR part 301). Related records can be viewed between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. in Suite 4100W, Franklin Court Building, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1099 14th Street, NW., Washington, DC.

Comments: None received. *Decision:* Approved. No instrument of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instruments described below, for such purposes as each is intended to be used, is being manufactured in the United States.

Docket Number: 03–053. *Applicant:* Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH 44106. *Instrument:* Scanning Near-Field Optical Microscope, Model ALPHASNOM. *Manufacturer:* WITEC, Germany. *Intended Use:* See notice at 69 FR 26074, May 11, 2004. *Reasons:* The foreign instrument provides: (1) The ability to perform tapping mode AFM imaging simultaneously with near field imaging, (2) > 200 nm bandwidth in the illuminating light source without having to change the near-field aperture and (3) performance of reflection mode confocal microscopy using a range of upper objectives. Advice received from: The National Institutes of Health, May 12, 2004.

Docket Number: 04–007. *Applicant:* Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, IL 60439. *Instrument:* UHV STM Microscope with cryostat. *Manufacturer:* Unisoku Scientific Instruments, Japan. *Intended Use:* See notice at 69 FR 26074, May 11, 2004. *Reasons:* The foreign instrument provides: (1) An operating temperature of 1.8 °K, (2) *in situ* surface cleaving, (3) double stage mechanical damping and (4) a magnetic field to 7.0 Tesla. Advice received from: The National Institute of Standards and Technology, May 17, 2004.

Docket Number: 04–008. *Applicant:* California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA 91125. *Instrument:* Dual Beam SEM/FIB System, Model Nova 600 Nanolab. *Manufacturer:* FEI Company, the Netherlands. *Intended Use:* See notice at 69 FR 26074, May 11, 2004. *Reasons:* The foreign instrument provides: (1) Operation in high and low vacuum, with high and low energy electrons, (2) ability to work with both thick and thin samples and (3) laser interferometer capability. Advice received from: Sandia National Laboratories, February 12, 2004 (comparable case).

Docket Number: 04–009. *Applicant:* University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80303. *Instrument:* Cryogenic Fabry-Perot Etalon Controller (accessory). *Manufacturer:* IC Optical Systems Ltd., United Kingdom. *Reasons:* This is a compatible accessory for an existing instrument purchased for use by the applicant. It is pertinent to the intended uses and we know of no domestic accessory which can be readily adapted to the previously imported foreign instrument.

The capabilities of each of the foreign instruments described above are pertinent to each applicant's intended purposes and we know of no other instrument or apparatus being manufactured in the United States which is of equivalent scientific value to any of the foreign instruments.

Gerald A. Zerdy,

Program Manager, Statutory Import Programs Staff.

[FR Doc. 04–11806 Filed 5–24–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

The Jackson Laboratory; Notice of Decision on Application for Duty-Free Entry of Electron Microscope

This decision is made pursuant to section 6(c) of the Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Materials Importation Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89–651, 80 Stat. 897; 15 CFR part 301). Related records can be viewed between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. in Suite 4100W, Franklin Court Building, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1099 14th Street, NW., Washington, DC.

Docket Number: 04–006. *Applicant*: The Jackson Laboratory, Bar Harbor, ME 04609. *Instrument*: Electron Microscope, Model JEM–1230 (HC). *Manufacturer*: JEOL Ltd., Japan. *Intended use*: See notice at 69 FR 26074, May 11, 2004. *Order Date*: December 30, 2003.

Comments: None received. *Decision*: Approved. No instrument of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instrument, for such purposes as the instrument is intended to be used, was being manufactured in the United States at the time the instrument was ordered. *Reasons*: The foreign instrument is a conventional transmission electron

microscope (CTEM) and is intended for research or scientific educational uses requiring a CTEM. We know of no CTEM, or any other instrument suited to these purposes, which was being manufactured in the United States either at the time of order of the instrument or at the time of receipt of the application by U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Gerald A. Zerdy,

Program Manager, Statutory Import Programs Staff.

[FR Doc. 04–11807 Filed 5–24–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Environmental Impact Statement for the Monterey Bay Aquarium Institute Application To Install a Cabled Observatory Within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Notice of Scoping Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Sanctuary Program (NMSP), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS; notice of public scoping meeting; request for public comments.

SUMMARY: NOAA announces its intention to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) for the proposed Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) installation of an advanced cabled observatory on the seafloor within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS). The proposed scientific research project, known as the Monterey Accelerated Research System (MARS), is comprised of one science node on 51 kilometers (km) of submarine cable. The Federal action at issue would be the NMSP's issuance of a MBNMS permit to authorize the conduct of this activity.

The EIS will be prepared in cooperation with the California State Lands Commission, which issued a Notice of Preparation on May 21, 2004, regarding its internet to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The EIS prepared under this notice will be combined with the EIR and a joint EIR/EIS will be published.

DATES: Written comments on the scope of the EIS, suggested alternatives and potential impacts must be received on or before June 24, 2004. Two public scoping meetings to inform interested parties of the proposed action and to receive public comments on the scope of the EIS are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, June 9, 2004—4 p.m.

Wednesday, June 9, 2004—6:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to Deirdre Hall, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, 299 Foam Street, Monterey, CA 93940. Comments may be submitted by fax at (831) 647–4250 or by e-mail at: *deirdre.hall@noaa.gov.* Comments received will be available for public inspection at the above address.

Copies of the application materials may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by contacting Deirdre Hall at (831) 647–4207. For directions to the public scoping meeting, contact the MBNMS office at (831) 647–4201.

The public meetings will be held at the Moss Landing Marine Laboratory, 8272 Moss Landing Road, Moss Landing, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William J. Douros, MBNMS Superintendent at (831) 647–4201 or by e-mail at *William.Douros@noaa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Proposed Action

The proposed action is MBARI's installation of approximately 51 kilometers of 28 mm wide submarine cable and a science node at the end of the cable, all within the boundaries of the MBNMS. The Federal action at issue would be the NMSP's issuance of a MBNMS permit to authorize the conduct of this activity. The cable route extends from Moss Landing (Monterey Bay, California) towards the northwest, to the north of the Monterey Canyon, and along the continental margin to the southeastern part of the Smooth Ridge. The applicant, Monterey Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI), proposes this scientific research project under the title of Monterey Accelerated Research System (MARS) cabled observatory.

Project Objectives

The purpose of the MARS project is to design and install an advanced-technology cabled observatory that will provide power and high-bandwidth communications to instruments sited at critical areas of science interest in State and federal waters of Monterey Bay. The site chosen in Monterey Bay's Smooth Ridge will enable important science experiments and science observations to be undertaken, as well as serve as the test bed for a state-of-the-art regional scale cabled observatory (NEPTUNE), currently one component of the National Science Foundation Ocean Observatories Initiative. NEPTUNE is a regional scale cabled observatory that the NSF plans to construct in 2006 off the coast of Washington. MARS will provide an advance opportunity to look at the operations, management, outreach activities, and costs involved with NEPTUNE on a smaller scale, and allow adjustments where necessary.

Specific Project Objectives are to:

- Test aspects of the regional cabled observatory (NEPTUNE) technology, both for the initial design of the system and during the lifetime of the project.
- Test methods for education and outreach in partnership with the Monterey Bay Aquarium, which enjoys a world-class reputation for its innovative programs in public education.
- Test deep-water remotely operated vehicle (ROV) procedures that will later be used for installing and servicing instruments on NEPTUNE.
- Serve as an instrument test bed to verify the performance of new instrumentation under development prior to being deployed on NEPTUNE.
- Provide power and high bandwidth real time communications to a broadband seismic observatory located on the west side of the San Gregorio fault line.
- Provide power and high bandwidth communications to instrumentation that will (a) allow long term in situ studies of chemosynthetic biological communities on Smooth Ridge, (b) be located in the active upper canyon enabling better understanding of canyon mass wasting events, (c) enable long term monitoring of spatial and temporal variability in parameters such as temperature and chlorophyll associated with phenomena such as El Niño that can significantly affect fishery stocks, and (d) enable studies of carbon transport from the region of primary production in the upper ocean to benthic communities.

Need for Project Location

MARS would be located in Monterey Bay offshore the MBARI facilities at Moss Landing, Monterey County, California. MBARI has indicated that Monterey Bay is needed because:

- Moss Landing is within easy year round access to deep water due to its location at the head of Monterey Canyon, and its mild climate. The MARS observatory must be located in deep water to test both the NEPTUNE technology and to develop the ROV procedures needed to operate deep-water cabled observatories.
- MBARI has two ships equipped with ROVs berthed at Moss Landing,