

activity, and therefore not exempt, when such practices are conducted in association with efforts to establish for the first time (or when a previously established operation was abandoned) an agricultural silvicultural or ranching operation. In addition, deep-ripping and related activities are not exempt in circumstances where such practices would trigger the "recapture" provision of Section 404(f)(2):

(a) Deep-ripping to establish a farming operation at a site where a ranching or forestry operation was in place is a change in use of such a site. Deep-ripping and related activities that also have the effect of altering or removing the wetland hydrology of the site would trigger Section 404(f)(2) and such ripping would require a permit.

(b) Deep-ripping a site that has the effect of converting wetlands to non-waters would also trigger Section 404(f)(2) and such ripping would require a permit.

3. It is the agencies' experience that certain wetland types are particularly vulnerable to hydrological alteration as a result of deep-ripping and related activities. Depressional wetland systems such as prairie potholes, vernal pools and playas whose hydrology is critically dependent upon the presence of an impermeable or slowly permeable subsoil layer are particularly sensitive to disturbance or alteration of this subsoil layer. Based upon this experience, the agencies have concluded that, as a general matter, deep-ripping and similar practices, consistent with the descriptions above, conducted in prairie potholes, vernal pools, playas, and similar depressions wetlands destroy the hydrological integrity of these wetlands. In these circumstances, deep-ripping in prairie potholes, vernal pools, and playas is recaptured under Section 404(f)(2) and requires a permit under the Clean Water Act.

Robert H. Wayland III,  
*Director, Office of Wetlands, and Watersheds,*  
*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.*

Daniel R. Burns, P.E.,

*Chief, Operations, Construction and*  
*Readiness Division, Directorate of Civil*  
*Works, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**SUMMARY:** The Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before May 21, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and requests for copies of the proposed information collection requests should

be addressed to Patrick J. Sherrill, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651, or should be electronically mailed to the internet address *Pat—Sherrill@ed.gov*, or should be faxed to 202-708-9346.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Patrick J. Sherrill (202) 708-8196.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment at the address specified above. Copies of the requests are available from Patrick J. Sherrill at the address specified above.

The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: March 16, 1999.

**Joseph Schubart,**

*Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

### Office of Postsecondary Education

*Type of Review:* New.

*Title:* Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math/Science, and Veterans Upward Bound Programs Annual Performance Report.

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Affected Public:* Not-for-profit institutions; State, local or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Burden:*

Responses: 810.

Burden Hours: 4,680.

*Abstract:* Upward Bound grantees must annually submit this report so the Department can evaluate the performance of grantees prior to awarding continuation grants and to assess a grantee's prior experience at the end of each budget period. The Department will also aggregate the data to provide descriptive information impact.

This performance report replaces the EDGAR based collection the Department has been receiving.

### Office of the Under Secretary

*Type of Review:* New.

*Title:* Study of State Agency Activities Under Title I, Part D of Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as Amended.

*Frequency:* One-time only.

*Affected Public:* State, local or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:*

Responses: 100.

Burden Hours: 100.

*Abstract:* ED requires nationally representative information on the Title I, Part D, Subpart 1 program, as reauthorized by the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994, to develop a descriptive profile useful in ongoing program improvement efforts and in updating performance indicators for the program in compliance with the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993. ED will collect data from the universe of state agencies with administrative responsibility for the program through a mail survey. Respondent agencies will include State Educational Agencies, Departments of Corrections, Youth Services Agencies, Correctional School Districts, and other state agencies.

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