

specified in section 308(b)(2)(B) in selecting universities for this program, as long as the Department issues a **Federal Register** notice explaining the criteria used for the designation.

The Secretary has previously designated three other Centers: (1) University of Southern California—Center for Risks and Economic Analysis of Terrorism Events; (2) University of Minnesota—National Center for Food Protection and Defense; and (3) Texas A&M University—National Center for Foreign Animal and Zoonotic Disease Defense. The designation of only one of these Centers was noticed in the **Federal Register** due to the use of other criteria than established in section 308 of the HSA. See 68 FR 66842 (Nov. 28, 2003).

Criteria

In 2002, the National Research Council (NRC) issued a report entitled "Making the Nation Safer: The Role of Science and Technology in Countering Terrorism." In this report, the NRC recommended a number of substantive areas for research that could contribute to national security. Among other areas, the NRC report focused on how studying the phenomenon of terrorism from a social and behavioral perspective could help to interpret fragments of intelligence information, to broaden understanding of terrorists' modes of actions, and perhaps ultimately assist the Department in figuring out how to curtail such actions.

The Department agrees that research in these areas will contribute significantly to the Department's ability to identify, and select among, options for enhancing national security. The behavioral and social sciences can provide knowledge of and insights into the responses of individuals and organizations to the threat of terrorism and to terrorist events. Through such research and educational strategies, a broad base of understanding will likely develop leading to models for intervention of terrorist activities as well as resiliency strategies for the United States homeland society.

Solicitation of Interest and Designation

The DHS Centers are envisioned to be an integral and critical component of the new "homeland security complex" that will provide the Nation with a robust, dedicated and enduring capability that will enhance our ability to anticipate, prevent, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks. On July 6, 2004, DHS sought proposals from universities that wished to be designated as the DHS Center of Excellence on Behavioral and Social Aspects of Terrorism and Counter-

terrorism. The notice, made available on Federal Business Opportunities (<http://www.fedbizopps.gov/>) and <http://www.grants.gov/>, identified behavioral and social aspects of terrorism as one of the key areas of expertise needed by DHS. The focus of research and education will be in areas of the individual and social factors in persuasion and recruitment for participation in terrorist activities and development of intervention strategies, individual and group behaviors and dynamics, preparation and resilience of individuals and groups and cognition of information.

DHS received 27 proposals and evaluated them through a peer-review panel process that included scientific expertise from the federal government, peer-institutional faculty and the private sector. After analysis of the panel evaluations, six sites were chosen for further evaluation in the form of site visits. Based on this evaluation, the selection team recommended that the fourth Center of Excellence, specifically concentrating on behavioral and social aspects of terrorism, be sited at the University of Maryland.

The University of Maryland, with partners at the University of California at Los Angeles, the University of Colorado, the Monterey Institute of International Studies, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of South Carolina and a host of individual scientists from other numerous institutions, will conduct research and education on the subjects of behavioral and social aspects of terrorism and counter-terrorism. This site is particularly positioned to investigate the social and psychological impacts of terrorism. Through the engagement of its partners and a few of the scientists in the other established Centers of Excellence, the University of Maryland will embark on research and education concerning individual terrorists, the dynamics of terrorist organizations, and societal impact of terrorism on the United States. The goals of this research and education are to provide strategies for the disruption of terrorists and terrorist organizations and to embolden the resilience of United States citizens. Thus, these strategies embracing awareness and anticipation to response and recovery to terrorism and counter-terrorism will be examined.

Designation. Accordingly, the University of Maryland has been designated as a Homeland Security Center of Excellence on Behavioral and Social Aspects of Terrorism and Counter-terrorism pursuant to section 308 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended.

Dated: January 13, 2005.

Tom Ridge,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[USCG-2005-20114]

Chemical Transportation Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces meetings of Subcommittees of the Chemical Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) on the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 472 Standard, and on Hazardous Cargo Transportation Security (HCTS). The Subcommittee on the NFPA 472 Standard will meet to discuss the formation of a marine emergency responder chapter in NFPA 472, *Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents*. The Subcommittee on HCTS will meet to discuss security issues relating to the marine transportation of hazardous materials in bulk. These meetings will be open to the public.

DATES: The Subcommittee on the NFPA 472 Standard will meet on Tuesday, February 8, 2005, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Subcommittee on HCTS will meet on Wednesday, February 9, 2005, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Thursday, February 10, 2005, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. These meetings may close early if all business is finished. Written material and requests to make oral presentations should reach the Coast Guard on or before February 1, 2005. Requests to have a copy of your material distributed to each member of a Subcommittee should reach the Coast Guard on or before February 1, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Both the Subcommittees on the NFPA 472 Standard and on HCTS will meet at American Commercial Barge Line (ACBL) Company, 1701 E. Market St., Jeffersonville, IN, on the fifth floor. Send written material and requests to make oral presentations to Commander Robert J. Hennessy, Executive Director of CTAC, Commandant (G-MSO-3), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001. This notice is available on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Commander Robert J. Hennessy,

Executive Director of CTAC, or Ms. Sara Ju, Assistant to the Executive Director, telephone 202-267-1217, fax 202-267-4570.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of these meetings is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2.

Agenda of the NFPA 472 Subcommittee Meeting on Tuesday, February 8, 2005:

(1) Introduce Subcommittee members and attendees.

(2) Finish draft chapter for future incorporation into the NFPA 472 Standard, *Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents*.

Agenda of the Hazardous Cargo Transportation Security Subcommittee Meeting on February 9-10, 2005:

(1) Introduce Subcommittee members and attendees.

(2) Discuss status of Certain Dangerous Cargo list consolidation.

(3) Discuss the development of the HCTS Subcommittee's list of priorities to improve the implementation of the Maritime Transportation Security Act.

(4) Develop recommendations to improve the Declaration of Security forms.

(5) Discuss High Interest Vessel policy.

(6) Discuss vessel and facility exercises.

Procedural

These meetings are open to the public. Please note that the meetings may close early if all business is finished. At the discretion of the Chair, members of the public may make oral presentations during the meetings. If you would like to make an oral presentation at a meeting, please notify the Executive Director and submit written material on or before February 1, 2005. If you would like a copy of your material distributed to each member of a Subcommittee in advance of a meeting, please submit 25 copies to the Executive Director (*see ADDRESSES*) no later than February 1, 2005.

Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities, or to request special assistance at the meeting, telephone the Executive Director as soon as possible.

Dated: January 14, 2005.

Howard L. Hime,

Acting Director of Standards, Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Protection.

[FR Doc. 05-1230 Filed 1-21-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Open Meeting/Conference Call, Board of Visitors for the National Fire Academy

AGENCY: U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting via conference call.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 10 (a) (2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2, FEMA announces the following committee meeting:

Name: Board of Visitors (BOV) for the National Fire Academy.

Dates of Meeting: February 1, 2005.

Place: Building H, Room 300, National Emergency Training Center, Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Time: February 1, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Proposed Agenda: Review National Fire Academy Program Activities.

Supplementary Information: The meeting will be open to the public in the Emmitsburg commuting area with seating available on a first-come, first-served basis. The meeting is open to the public; however, teleconference lines are limited. Members of the general public who plan to participate in the meeting should contact the Office of the Superintendent, National Fire Academy, U.S. Fire Administration, 16825 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD 21727, (301) 447-1117, on or before January 28, 2004. Dial-in information will be provided to those wishing to participate via telephone.

Minutes of the meeting will be prepared and will be available for public viewing in the Office of the U.S. Fire Administrator, U.S. Fire Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727. Copies of the minutes will be available upon request within 60 days after the meeting.

Dated: January 12, 2005.

R. David Paulison,

U.S. Fire Administrator.

[FR Doc. 05-1247 Filed 1-21-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110-17-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of permit applications.

SUMMARY: The following applicants have applied for a scientific research permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ("we") solicits review and comment from the public, and from local, State and Federal agencies on the following permit request.

DATES: Comments on these permit applications must be received on or before February 23, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Written data or comments should be submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Chief, Endangered Species, Ecological Services, 911 NE. 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232-4181 (fax: 503-231-6243). Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when submitting comments. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the official administrative record and may be made available to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice to the address above (telephone: 503-231-2063). Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when requesting copies of documents.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Permit No.: TE-818627.

Applicant: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Corvallis, Oregon.

The permittee requests an amendment to take (capture, handle, mark, recapture, and release) the Borax Lake chub (*Gila boraxobius*) in conjunction with population studies in Harney County, Oregon, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No.: TE-097622.

Applicant: Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii.

The applicant requests an interstate commerce permit to send two dead specimens of the Hawaiian hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus semotus*) to a taxidermist with Kahle Studios, Jackson, Missouri. These specimens will be used for educational and scientific purposes to enhance the survival of the species.

We solicit public review and comment on these recovery permit applications.