

The Act and Executive Order require the Secretary to initiate the process to designate the Reserve as a National Marine Sanctuary under the applicable provisions of section 303 and 304 of the NMSA (16 U.S.C. 1433 and 1434). Sections 303 and 304 provide specific procedures and requirements for designating a sanctuary, including requiring the preparation of an environmental impact statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Designation is an open, public process with numerous opportunities for public input. In designating and managing the sanctuary, the Secretary shall also consider the advice and recommendations of the Reserve/Sanctuary Advisory Council established in March, 2001, pursuant to the Act and Executive Order. As part of the process, NOAA shall, in consultation with the Governor of the State of Hawaii, determine whether State waters should be included as part of the sanctuary.

By this notice, NOAA, on behalf of the Secretary, announces the initiation of scoping for the proposed NWHI sanctuary designation. Scoping is the initial process intended to solicit information and comments on the range and significance of issues related to the designation and management of a Northwestern Hawaiian Islands National Marine Sanctuary. The results of this scoping process will assist NOAA in formulating alternatives for a draft management plan and draft environmental impact statement for the proposed designation.

NOAA encourages the public and interested parties to submit (via mail, e-mail, or fax) comments and to attend public scoping meetings, which will be held in April. Specific dates and locations for scoping meetings will be provided in separate notices at least 15 days before the first scoping meeting.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. Section 1431 *et seq.*, Pub.L. 106-513.

Dated: March 12, 2002.
(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog
Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program)

Jamison S. Hawkins,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management.
[FR Doc. 02-6470 Filed 3-15-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Notice of Availability of the Draft Reserve Operations Plan for the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve for Public Comment

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

ACTION: Notice; request for public comment.

SUMMARY: On December 4, 2000, and January 18, 2001, Executive Orders 13178 and 13196 (hereinafter Executive Order) were issued, establishing the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve (Reserve), pursuant to the National Marine Sanctuaries Amendments Act of 2000. The Reserve extends approximately 1200 nautical miles long and 100 nautical miles wide. Pursuant to the Executive Order, NOAA has prepared a draft Reserve Operations Plan, which provides a guide for management of the Reserve during a designation process that will consider the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands as a National Marine Sanctuary. This notice announces the availability of the draft Reserve Operations Plan for public review. After the close of the comment period, NOAA will consider the comments received and make necessary changes. A final Reserve Operations Plan is expected to be issued by Summer 2002.

DATES AND ADDRESSES: Comments on the draft Reserve Operations Plan must be received no later than May 17, 2002. Written comments may be sent to NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve, 6700 Kalaniana'ole Highway, #215, Honolulu, Hawaii 96825; faxed to (808) 397-2662; or emailed to nwhi@noaa.gov. Comments will be available for public review at the office address above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: "Aulani Wilhelm, (808) 397-2657, nwhi@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve (Reserve) was established by Executive Orders 13178 and 13196 (herein after Executive Order). Pursuant to the Executive Order, NOAA has prepared a draft Reserve Operations Plan, which provides a guide for management of the Reserve during a process that will consider the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands for designation as a National Marine Sanctuary. This notice announces the

availability of the draft Reserve Operations Plan for public review.

The Executive Order directs that the draft Reserve Operations Plan "shall be directed at priority issues and actions." The Executive Order also directs that the Reserve Operations Plan should address such issues as coordinated management among the agencies with relevant jurisdiction in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, clean up and prevention of marine debris, restoration of degraded or injured resources, research and education, enforcement and surveillance, identification and coordination with Native Hawaiian interests on cultural uses and locations, and designation of the Reserve as a National Marine Sanctuary.

In response to the Executive Order, NOS has prepared the draft Reserve Operations Plan, following templates used for the management plans of the National Marine Sanctuary Program. The document is composed of a set of function- and issue-oriented (as identified in the Executive Order) action plans, with supporting documentation. Each action plan focuses on strategies, and outlines what, who, why, when, and how different activities will be conducted. Following is a list of the action plans contained in the draft Reserve Operations Plan:

- **Operations:** includes interagency coordination, activity and area identification, Reserve/Sanctuary Advisory Council operations, development of fishing caps and permitting procedures, and infrastructure development;
- **Education:** encompasses all education, outreach, and interpretive projects;
- **Cultural Resources:** consists of all projects related to Native Hawaiian culture, uses, and locations;
- **Research and Monitoring:** contains all projects related to research and monitoring;
- **Mapping:** covers all projects related to developing charts and maps of the NWHI;
- **Restoration:** contains projects related to restoration;
- **Emergency Response and Damage Assessment:** covers projects related to contingency planning and response;
- **Marine Debris:** consists of projects related to the removal of marine debris from the NWHI;
- **Enforcement:** includes air and sea support for existing enforcement operations and expansion of a vessel monitoring system; and
- **Designation:** comprised of all projects related to the Sanctuary designation process.

The Reserve Operations Plan will provide a guide for management of the Reserve during a process that will consider the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands for designation as a National Marine Sanctuary. The designation process has been initiated (66 FR 5509). Information about the scoping process and its opportunities for public comment will be provided in a separate notice to the **Federal Register**.

Authority: Pub.L. 106-513; Executive Order 13178; and Executive Order 13196.

Dated: March 12, 2002.

Jamison S. Hawkins,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management.

[FR Doc. 02-6471 Filed 3-15-02; 8:45 am]

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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: 26 & 27 March 2002.

Time(s) of Meeting: 0900-1700, 26 March 2002, 0900-1300, 27 March 2002.

Place: SAIC.

1. The Acquisition and Technology Panel, Army Science Board FY02 Summer Study on "Affordability of the Objective Force" is holding a meeting on 26-27 March 2002. The meeting will be held at SAIC, 1710 SAIC Drive, McLean, VA. The meeting will begin at 0900hrs on the 26th and will end at approximately 1300hrs on the 27th. For further information, please contact Tom Conway—703-617-9438 or e-mail *Conway, Tom Civ AMCRDA01*.

Wayne Joyner,

Program Support Specialist, Army Science Board.

[FR Doc. 02-6341 Filed 3-15-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-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: 19 & 20 March 2002.

Time(s) of Meeting: 0830-1700, 19 March 2002, 0800-1600, 20 March 2002.

Place: Institute of Defense Analysis.

1. *Agenda:* The Operations and Training Panel, Army Science Board FY02 Summer Study on "Affordability of the Objective Force" is holding a meeting on 19-20 March 2002. The meeting will be held at the Institute for Defense Analysis' new building (4850 Mark Center Drive). The meeting will begin at 0830hrs on the 19th and will end at approximately 1600hrs on the 20th. For further information, please contact Maj. Coll S. Haddon—757-878-4694 or e-mail *HaddonC@atsc.army.mil*.

Wayne Joyner,

Program Support Specialist, Army Science Board.

[FR Doc. 02-6342 Filed 3-15-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-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: 18 & 19 March 2002.

Time(s) of Meeting: 0800-1700, 18 March 2002, 0800-1700, 19 March 2002.

Place: Logistics Management Institute.

1. *Agenda:* The Logistics Panel of the Army Science Board FY02 Summer Study on "Affordability of the Objective Force" is holding a meeting on 18-19 March 2002. The meeting will be held at the Logistics Management Institute. The meeting will begin at 0800hrs on the 18th and will end at approximately 1700hrs on the 19th. For further information, please contact Mike Hendricks—703-617-7048 or e-mail *Mike.hendricks@hqda.army.mil*.

Wayne Joyner,

Program Support Specialist, Army Science Board.

[FR Doc. 02-6343 Filed 3-15-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Army Science Board; Notice of Opening 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: 25 March 2002.

Time(s) of Meeting: 0800-1700.

Place: Institute for Defense Analysis.

1. *Agenda:* The Human Resources Panel of the Army Board FY02 Summer Study on "Affordability of the Objective Force" is holding a meeting on 25 March 2002. The meeting will be held at IDA, 4850 Mark Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22311. The meeting will begin at 0800hrs and will end at approximately 1700hrs. For further information, please contact Dale Brazale—703-845-6800 or e-mail *DTIINT@AOL.COM*.

Wayne Joyner,

Program Support Specialist, Army Science Board.

[FR Doc. 02-6344 Filed 3-15-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of proposed information collection requests.

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

DATES: An emergency review has been requested in accordance with the Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 3507 (j)), since public harm is reasonably likely to result if normal clearance procedures are followed. Approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has been requested by April 8, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Written comments regarding the emergency review should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Lauren Wittenberg, Desk Officer: Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW, Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or electronically mailed to