

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Courtney Smith or Carrie Hubbard, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

The applicant requests a five-year permit to conduct research that would assess the behavior, ecology, and movement patterns of cetaceans in the Gulf of Alaska with a focus on Southeast Alaska, particularly waters around Juneau. Fin (*Balaenoptera physalus*), humpback (*Megaptera novaeangliae*; range-wide including those from the endangered Mexico Distinct Population Segment), gray (*Eschrichtius robustus*), killer (*Orcinus orca*); minke (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*), and sperm (*Physeter macrocephalus*) whales, Dall's (*Hocoenoides dalli*) and harbor porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*), and Pacific white-sided dolphins (*Lagenorhynchus obliquidens*) will be taken during vessel and unmanned aerial surveys. Researchers will use the following methods on all or some of the above listed species: Observation, photographic identification, photogrammetry, passive acoustic recording, tagging (suction-cup), remote biopsy and other biological sampling (breath/exhaled air, fecal, swabbed and sloughed skin). Humpback and killer whales may be remote biopsy sampled. Acoustic disturbance from sonar for prey mapping may also occur. Steller sea lions (*Eumetopias jubatus*; Eastern and Western Distinct Population Segments) and harbor seals may be incidentally harassed during research activities.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an initial determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of the application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: September 26, 2018.

Julia Marie Harrison,
Chief, Permits and Conservation Division,
Office of Protected Resources, National
Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2018-21339 Filed 10-1-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Request for Nominations for the Interest Rate Benchmark Reform Subcommittee Under the Market Risk Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC or Commission) is requesting nominations for membership on the Interest Rate Benchmark Reform Subcommittee (Subcommittee) under the Market Risk Advisory Committee (MRAC). The MRAC is a discretionary advisory committee established by the Commission in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

DATES: The deadline for the submission of nominations is October 16, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Nominations should be emailed to MRAC_Submissions@cftc.gov or sent by hand delivery or courier to Alicia L. Lewis, MRAC Designated Federal Officer and Special Counsel to Commissioner Rostin Behnam, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20581. Please use the title "MRAC Interest Rate Benchmark Reform Subcommittee" for any nominations you submit.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alicia L. Lewis, MRAC Designated Federal Officer and Special Counsel to Commissioner Rostin Behnam at (202) 418-5862 or email: alewis@cftc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Subcommittee was established to provide reports and recommendations to the MRAC regarding ongoing efforts to transition U.S. dollar derivatives and related contracts to a risk-free reference rate—the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR)—and the impact of this transition on the derivatives markets. Topics and issues this Subcommittee may consider include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The treatment, under Title VII of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, of existing derivatives contracts that are amended

to include new fallback provisions or otherwise reference alternative risk-free rate benchmarks ("RFRs") such as SOFR and new derivatives contracts that reference RFRs; and

- Impact on liquidity in derivatives and related markets during the transition.

The Subcommittee will report directly to the MRAC and will not provide reports and/or recommendations directly to the Commission. The Subcommittee has no authority to make decisions on behalf of the MRAC, and no determination of fact or policy will be made by the Subcommittee on behalf of the Commission.

Subcommittee members will generally serve as representatives and provide advice reflecting the views of organizations and entities that constitute the structure of the derivatives and financial markets. The Subcommittee may also include regular government employees when doing so furthers its purpose. It is anticipated that the Subcommittee will hold at least three meetings per year. Subcommittee members serve at the pleasure of the Commission. In addition, Subcommittee members do not receive compensation or honoraria for their services, and they are not reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses.

The Subcommittee will include as members individuals who are members of the MRAC and other individuals. For these other individuals who are not serving on the MRAC currently, the Commission seeks nominations of individuals from a wide range of perspectives, including from industry, academia, the government, and public interest. To advise the MRAC effectively, Subcommittee members must have a high-level of expertise and experience with interest rate benchmarks; efforts to transition to an RFR; assessing the impact of such efforts on the derivatives and related markets; and the Commodity Exchange Act and Commission regulations thereunder. To the extent practicable, the Commission will strive to select members reflecting wide ethnic, racial, gender, and age representation.

The Commission invites the submission of nominations for Subcommittee membership. Each nomination submission should include the proposed member's name, title, organization affiliation and address, email address and telephone number, as well as information that supports the individual's qualifications to serve on the Subcommittee. The submission should also include the name, email address and telephone number of the person nominating the proposed

Subcommittee member. Self-nominations are acceptable.

Submission of a nomination is not a guarantee of selection as a member of the Subcommittee. As noted in the MRAC's Membership Balance Plan, the Commission seeks to ensure that the membership of a subcommittee is balanced relative to the particular issues addressed by the subcommittee in question. The Commission will identify members for the Subcommittee based on Commissioners' and Commission staff professional knowledge of ongoing efforts to transition to SOFR, consultation with knowledgeable persons outside the CFTC, and requests to be represented received from organizations. The office of the Commissioner primarily responsible for the MRAC and the Subcommittee plays a primary, but not exclusive, role in this process and makes recommendations regarding membership to the Commission. The Commission, by vote, authorizes members to serve on MRAC subcommittees.

(Authority: 5 U.S.C. App. II)

Dated: September 27, 2018.

Robert Sidman,

Deputy Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2018-21408 Filed 10-1-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-P

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; AmeriCorps Member Application

AGENCY: Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS).

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, CNCS is proposing to renew an information collection.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the individual and office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section by December 3, 2018.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by the title of the information collection activity, by any of the following methods:

(1) *By mail sent to:* Corporation for National and Community Service, AmeriCorps State & National; ATTN: Erin Dahlin, Deputy Chief of Program Operations, 250 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20525.

(2) By hand delivery or by courier to the CNCS mailroom at the mail address given in paragraph (1) above, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, except federal holidays.

(3) Electronically through www.regulations.gov.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TTY-TDD) may call 1-800-833-3722 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

Comments submitted in response to this notice may be made available to the public through regulations.gov. For this reason, please do not include in your comments information of a confidential nature, such as sensitive personal information or proprietary information. If you send an email comment, your email address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the internet. Please note that responses to this public comment request containing any routine notice about the confidentiality of the communication will be treated as public comment that may be made available to the public notwithstanding the inclusion of the routine notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Erin Dahlin, 202-606-6931 or EDahlin@cns.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection: AmeriCorps Member Application.

OMB Control Number: 3045-0054.

Type of Review: Renewal.

Respondents/Affected Public: Individuals.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 250,000.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 281,250.

Abstract: Currently, CNCS is soliciting comments concerning its proposed renewal of the AmeriCorps Member Application Form. Applicants will respond to the questions included in this ICR in order to apply to serve as AmeriCorps members. CNCS also seeks to continue using the currently approved information collection until the revised information collection is approved by OMB. The currently approved information collection is due to expire on December 31, 2018.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have

practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information. Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; to develop, acquire, install and utilize technology and systems for the purpose of collecting, validating and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; to train personnel and to be able to respond to a collection of information, to search data sources, to complete and review the collection of information; and to transmit or otherwise disclose the information. All written comments will be available for public inspection on regulations.gov.

Dated: September 25, 2018.

Erin Dahlin,

Deputy Chief of Program Operations.

[FR Doc. 2018-21376 Filed 10-1-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6050-28-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Arbitration Panel Decisions Under the Randolph-Sheppard Act

AGENCY: Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice lists arbitration panel decisions under the Randolph-Sheppard Act issued in January, February, and March 2018. This notice also lists any older decisions that the Department has made publicly available in accessible electronic format during that period. All decisions are available on the Department's website and by request.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donald Brinson, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Room 5045, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-2800. Telephone: (202) 245-7310. Email: donald.brinson@ed.gov. If you use a