

Alliance; and (4) Steven Fosmark. An opportunity for public testimony was provided during the Council meeting. For more details on these EFP applications and to view copies of the applications, see the Pacific Council's website at [www.pcouncil.org](http://www.pcouncil.org) and browse the September 2008 Briefing Book. The Council recommended that NMFS consider issuing the following EFPs.

#### **Community Based Fishing Association EFP**

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) submitted a proposal for a 2009 EFP, along with their collaborators: City of Morro Bay Harbor Department; Port San Luis Commercial Fishermen's Association; Port San Luis Harbor District; California Department of Fish and Game; Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization, Inc.; and Environmental Defense. The primary purpose of the EFP is to test whether establishing a cooperatively managed, community based fishing association can provide economic and environmental performance benefits.

#### **Recreational Chilipepper EFP**

The California Recreational Fishing Alliance (RFA) and the Golden Gate Fishermen's Association submitted an application for a 2009 EFP. The primary purpose of the EFP is to do an area-based recreational fishing study to test if hook and line fishing gear can be used to access underutilized chilipepper rockfish seaward of the non-trawl RCA, while keeping bycatch of overfished species low.

#### **Recreational Yellowtail EFP**

The Oregon RFA submitted an application for a 2009 EFP. The primary purpose of the EFP is to test if recreational fishing gear, fitted with a long leader to keep gear up off the ocean floor, can be used to access underutilized yellowtail rockfish, while keeping bycatch of overfished species low.

#### **Commercial Chilipepper EFP**

Steven Fosmark submitted an application for a 2009 EFP. The primary purpose of the EFP is to test if a specific longline gear configuration can be used in the commercial fishery to target underutilized chilipepper rockfish, while keeping bycatch of overfished species low.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: March 23, 2009.

**Alan D. Risenhoover,**

*Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries,  
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. E9-6895 Filed 3-26-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

### **Patent and Trademark Office**

#### **Customer Panel Quality Survey**

**ACTION:** Proposed collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on this extension of a continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before May 26, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *E-mail:* [Susan.Fawcett@uspto.gov](mailto:Susan.Fawcett@uspto.gov).

Include "0651-0057 Customer Panel Quality Survey comment" in the subject line of the message.

- *Fax:* 571-273-0112, marked to the attention of Susan K. Fawcett.

- *Mail:* Susan K. Fawcett, Records Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Administrative Management Group, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

- *Federal e-Rulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information should be directed to the attention of Martin Rater, Management Analyst, Office of Patent Quality Assurance, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450; by telephone at 571-272-5966; or by e-mail at [martin.rater@uspto.gov](mailto:martin.rater@uspto.gov) with "Paperwork" in the subject line.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Abstract**

For over the past 10 years, the USPTO has used surveys to obtain customer feedback regarding the products, services, and related service standards of the USPTO. The USPTO used the data to measure how well the agency is meeting established customer service standards, to identify any disjoints between customer expectations and

USPTO performance, and to develop improvement strategies. Typically, these surveys ask customers to express their satisfaction with the USPTO's products and services based upon their interactions with the agency as a whole over a 12-month period.

In order to obtain further data concerning customer ratings of the USPTO's services, service standards, and performance, the USPTO developed the Customer Panel Quality Survey. This survey narrows the focus of customer satisfaction to examination quality and uses a longitudinal, rotating panel design to assess changes in customer perceptions and to identify key areas for examiner training and opportunities for improvement. The USPTO plans to survey patent agents, attorneys, and other individuals from large domestic corporations (including those with 500+ employees), small and medium-size businesses, universities and other non-profit research organizations, and independent inventors; however, the USPTO does not plan to survey foreign entities.

The USPTO will draw a random sample of these customers from their database. Due to the rotating panel design, some sample members will be surveyed twice in order to measure change over a period of time. Each year of the survey will include four waves of data collection.

The Customer Panel Quality Survey is a mail survey, although respondents can also complete the survey electronically on the Web. The content of both versions will be identical. A survey packet containing the questionnaire, a separate cover letter prepared by the Commissioner of Patents, a postage-paid, pre-addressed return envelope, and instructions for completing the survey electronically will be mailed to all sample members. A pre-notification letter, reminder/thank you postcards, and telephone calls will be used to encourage response from sample members.

This is a voluntary survey and all responses will remain confidential. The collected data will not be linked to the respondent and contact information that is used for sampling purposes will be maintained in a separate file from the quantitative data. Respondents are not required to provide any identifying information such as their name, address, or Social Security Number. In order to access and complete the online survey, respondents will need to use the username, password, and survey ID number provided by the USPTO.

**II. Method of Collection**

By mail or electronically over the Internet if respondents choose to complete the survey online.

**III. Data**

OMB Number: 0651-0057.

Form Number(s): N/A.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; business or other for profit; not-for-profit institutions; Federal Government; and state, local, or Tribal Government.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 3,168 responses per year. Out of a sample size of 2,842 for each wave of data collection, the USPTO estimates that 792 completed surveys will be received. Each year of the survey will include four waves of data collection with an estimated 3,168 completed surveys received. Of this total, the USPTO estimates that 70% or 2,218 surveys will be returned by mail and that 30% or 950 surveys will be completed using the online option.

*Estimated Time per Response:* The USPTO estimates that it takes approximately 10 minutes (0.17 hours)

to complete either the paper or online version of this survey. This includes the time to gather the necessary information, complete the survey, and submit it to the USPTO.

*Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours:* 539 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Respondent Cost Burden:* \$167,090. The USPTO believes that patent attorneys will be responding to these surveys. Using the professional hourly rate of \$310 for attorneys in private firms, the USPTO estimates that the total respondent cost burden for this collection is \$167,090 per year.

Item	Estimated time for response	Estimated annual responses	Estimated annual burden hours
Customer Panel Quality Survey (paper) .....	10 minutes .....	2,218	377
Customer Panel Quality Survey (electronic) .....	10 minutes .....	950	162
Total .....	.....	3,168	539

*Estimated Total Annual Non-hour Respondent Cost Burden:* \$0. There are no capital start-up, maintenance, operation, or recordkeeping costs, nor are there any filing fees associated with this information collection. The USPTO covers the costs of all survey materials and provides postage-paid, pre-addressed return envelopes for the completed mail surveys.

**IV. Request for Comments**

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed 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 (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (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.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

**Susan K. Fawcett,**

Records Officer, USPTO, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Administrative Management Group.

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**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**Department of the Army**

**Army Educational Advisory Committee**

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (5 U.S.C., Appendix, as amended), the Sunshine in the Government Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended), and 41 CFR 102-3.150, the following meeting notice is announced:

*Name of Committee:* U.S. Army War College Subcommittee of the Army Education Advisory Committee.

*Date of Meeting:* April 15, 2009 and April 16, 2009.

*Place of Meeting:* U.S. Army War College, 122 Forbes Avenue, Carlisle, PA, Command Conference Room, Root Hall, Carlisle Barracks, PA 17013.

*Time of Meeting:* 10:15 a.m.-4 p.m., 15 April 2009. 8 a.m.-11:45 p.m., 16 April 2009.

*Proposed Agenda:* Receive information briefings; conduct discussions with the Commandant and staff and faculty; attend the Commandant's Lecture Series and key note speaker focused on technology and strategy, examine College charter to the Board that recommends the curriculum subcommittee consider a gap analysis approach to its process and findings; assess an overview and proposed growth of the International Fellows program, assess the College's approach to provide academic support through a .mil domain and considerations for a

.edu domain. Propose strategies and recommendations that will continue the momentum of Federal accreditation success and guarantee compliance with regional accreditation standards.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request advance approval or obtain further information, contact Colonel Scott Horton at 717-245-3907.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This meeting is open to the public. Interested persons may submit a written statement for consideration by the U.S. Army War College Subcommittee. Written statements should be no longer than two type-written pages and must address: the issue, discussion, and a recommended course of action.

Supporting documentation may also be included as needed to establish the appropriate historical context and to provide any necessary background information.

Individuals submitting a written statement must submit their statement to the Designated Federal Officer at U.S. Army War College, ATTN: Joint Education Office, 122 Forbes Avenue, Carlisle, PA 17013, at any point, however, if a written statement is not received at least 10 calendar days prior to the meeting, which is the subject of this notice, then it may not be provided to or considered by the U.S. Army War College Subcommittee until its next open meeting.

The Designated Federal Officer will review all timely submissions with the U.S. Army War College Subcommittee Chairperson, and ensure they are provided to members of the U.S. Army War College Subcommittee before the