

included Level A harassment in its authorization request.

This will be NMFS' third rule making for SURTASS LFA sonar operations under the MMPA. NMFS published the first rule effective from August 2002 through August 2007 on July 16, 2002 (67 FR 46712), and published the second rule effective from August 2007 through August 2012 on August 21, 2007 (72 FR 46846). For this third rule making, the Navy is proposing to conduct the same types of sonar activities in the proposed rule making as they have conducted over the past nine years in the previous two rule makings.

Specified Activities

The Navy proposes to deploy the system on a maximum of four U.S. Naval ships: the USNS ABLE, the USNS EFFECTIVE, the USNS IMPECCABLE and the USNS VICTORIOUS) in certain areas of the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian Oceans and the Mediterranean Sea. Nominal at-sea missions for each vessel using SURTASS LFA sonar would last up to 294 days, with 240 days of active sonar transmissions and 54 days of transit. The maximum number of actual transmission hours per vessel would not exceed 432 hours annually. The application describes the activity types, the equipment and platforms involved, and the duration and potential locations of the specified activities.

Included within a larger suite of proposed mitigation measures for marine mammals that potentially could be affected during SURTASS LFA sonar operations, the Navy proposes to restrict the use of SURTASS LFA sonar such that it will not operate in Arctic and Antarctic waters, and sound pressure levels (SPL) will not exceed 180 decibels (dB) re 1 μ Pa (rms) within 12 nautical miles of any coastline or within designated offshore biologically important areas for marine mammals.

Information Solicited

Interested persons may submit information, suggestions, and comments concerning the Navy's request (see ADDRESSES). NMFS will consider all information, suggestions, and comments related to the Navy's request and NMFS' potential development and implementation of regulations governing the incidental taking of marine mammals by the Navy's SURTASS LFA sonar activities.

Dated: August 24, 2011.

James H. Lecky,

*Director, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2011-22163 Filed 8-29-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Patent and Trademark Resource Centers Metrics

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 new 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 October 31, 2011.

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

- *E-mail:*

InformationCollection@uspto.gov.

Include "Patent and Trademark Resource Centers Metrics comment" in the subject line of the message.

- *Mail:* Susan K. Fawcett, Records Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information should be directed to the attention of Martha Sneed, Director, Public Search Services Division, Office of the Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1451, Alexandria, VA 22313-1451, by telephone at 703-756-1236, or by e-mail to *Martha.Sneed@uspto.gov*. Additional information about this collection is also available at <http://www.reginfo.gov> under "Information Collection Review."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The USPTO has undertaken a revitalization of the Patent and Trademark Depository Library Program to reflect the new 21st Century electronic approach to customer services. As a part of this revitalization, the name will change to Patent and Trademark Resource Center Program and the nationwide network of libraries will be known as Patent and Trademark Resource Centers (PTRCs). In addition, to enable the USPTO to more effectively train the PTRCs and the public to better use the tools and data available to them

and to ascertain what types of new and different services the PTRCs should offer, the USPTO is requiring the centers to provide metrics on the PTRC outreach services and use of the patent and trademark services.

Recognition as a PTRC is authorized under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 2(a)(2), which provides that the USPTO shall be responsible for disseminating to the public information with respect to patents and trademarks. In order to be designated as a PTRC, libraries must fulfill the following requirements: assist the public in the efficient use of patent and trademark information resources; provide free access to patent and trademark resources provided by the USPTO; provide metrics on the use of patent and trademark services provided by the member library as stipulated by the USPTO; provide metrics on outreach efforts conducted by the member library as stipulated by the USPTO; and send representatives to attend the USPTO-hosted PTRC training seminars.

Since the PTRC requirements stipulate that the participating libraries must submit information (metrics) in order to be designated as a PTRC, the USPTO is submitting this new information collection for review under the PRA. The information collected will enable the USPTO to more effectively train the PTRC staff who, in turn, provide assistance and training to public customers in the areas of patent and trademarks. As the PTRCs continue to move away from the physical distribution of hard copy information, the USPTO is interested in what types of new and different services the PTRC of the future should offer its customers. Collection of this information will enable the USPTO to more effectively service its current customers while planning for the future.

The USPTO has developed a worksheet to collect the metrics concerning the use of the patent and trademark services and the public outreach efforts from the libraries. On the USPTO's behalf, the metrics will be collected on a quarterly basis through a third-party vendor. The information will only be collected electronically. The PTRCs will be given a password to input their information.

II. Method of Collection

The metrics will be submitted electronically to the USPTO.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0651-00xx.

Form Number(s): N/A.

Type of Review: New information collection.

Affected Public: Non-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 81 libraries, for 324 responses per year. The USPTO estimates that there will be 81 libraries reporting their metrics once per quarter, for a total of 324 responses per year.

Estimated Time per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take the

public approximately 30 minutes (0.50 hours) to gather the necessary information, prepare the worksheet, and submit it to the USPTO.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 162 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Cost Burden: \$4,374. The USPTO expects that the information in this collection will be prepared by

librarians, at an estimated hourly rate of \$27. This is the mean hourly wage for librarians as reported in the 2009 Bureau of Labor Statistics. Therefore, the USPTO estimates that the respondent cost burden for this collection will be approximately \$4,374 per year.

Item	Estimated time for response (minutes)	Estimated annual responses	Estimated annual burden hours
PTRC Metric Worksheet	30	324	162
Totals	324	162

Estimated Total Annual Non-hour Respondent Cost Burden: \$0. There are no fees or capital start-up, maintenance, operation, or postage costs for this collection.

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, e.g., 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.

Dated: August 24, 2011.

Susan K. Fawcett,
Records Officer, USPTO, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Defense Acquisition Regulations System

Information Collection Requirement; Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Special Contracting Methods

AGENCY: Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), DoD announces the proposed extension of a public information collection requirement and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. DoD invites comments on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved this information collection requirement for use through December 31, 2011. DoD proposes that OMB extend its approval for three additional years.

DATES: DoD will consider all comments received by October 31, 2011.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by OMB Control Number 0704-0214, using any of the following methods:

- *Regulations.gov:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *E-mail:* dfars@osd.mil. Include OMB Control Number 0704-0214 in the subject line of the message.
- *Fax:* (703) 602-0350.
- *Mail:* Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Attn: Manuel Quinones, OUSD(AT&L)DPAP/DARS, 3060 Defense Pentagon, Room 3B855, Washington, DC 20301-3060.

Comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. To confirm receipt of your comment(s), please check <http://www.regulations.gov> approximately two to three days after submission to verify posting (except allow 30 days for posting of comments submitted by mail).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Manuel Quinones, (703) 602-8383. The information collection requirements addressed in this notice are available electronically on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/dars/dfarspgi/current/index.html>.

Paper copies are available from Manuel Quinones, OUSD(AT&L)DPAP/DARS, 3060 Defense Pentagon, Room 3B855, Washington, DC 20301-3060.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title and OMB Number: Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) Part 217, Special Contracting Methods, and related provisions and clauses at DFARS 252.217-7012, Liability and Insurance; DFARS 252.217-7026, Identification of Sources of Supply; and 252.217-7028, Over and Above Work; OMB Control Number 0704-0214.

Needs and Uses: DFARS Part 217 prescribes policies and procedures for acquiring supplies and services by special contracting methods. Contracting officers use the required information as follows:

The clause at DFARS 252.217-7012 is used in master agreements for repair and alteration of vessels. Contracting officers use the information required by paragraph (d) of the clause to determine that the contractor is adequately insured. This requirement supports prudent business practice, because it limits the Government's liability as a related party to the work the contractor performs. Contracting officers use the