

applicant. Reference checking is a necessary supplement to the evaluation of resumes and other descriptions of training and experience, and allows the selecting official to hire applicants with a strong history of performance. The questions on this form have been developed following the OPM, MSPB, and DOJ "Best Practice" guidelines for reference checking.

5. *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* An estimated 500 respondents will utilize the form, and it will take each respondent approximately 20 minutes to complete the form.

6. *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* The estimated annual public burden associated with this collection is 167 hours, which is equal to 500 (total # of annual responses) \* 20 minutes.

If additional information is required contact: Melody Braswell, Department Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice, Justice Management Division, Policy and Planning Staff, Two Constitution Square, 145 N Street NE, 3E.405A, Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: July 20, 2021.

**Melody Braswell,**

*Department Clearance Officer for PRA, U.S. Department of Justice.*

[FR Doc. 2021-15718 Filed 7-22-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-04-P

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Employment and Training Administration

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor's (DOL) Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is soliciting comments concerning a proposed extension for the authority to conduct the information collection request (ICR) titled, *Unemployment Insurance (UI) Title XII Advances and Voluntary Repayment Process*. This comment request is part of continuing Departmental efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA).

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all written comments received by September 21, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** A copy of this ICR with applicable supporting documentation,

including a description of the likely respondents, proposed frequency of response, and estimated total burden, may be obtained free by contacting Joe Williams by telephone at (202) 693-2928 (this is not a toll-free number), TTY 1-877-889-5617, (this is not toll-free number) or by email at [williams.joseph@dol.gov](mailto:williams.joseph@dol.gov).

Submit written comments about, or requests for a copy of, this ICR by mail or courier to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Unemployment Insurance, Room S-4524, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20210; by email: [williams.joseph@dol.gov](mailto:williams.joseph@dol.gov); or by Fax (202) 693-3975.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cynthia Greene by telephone at (202) 693-2724 (this is not a toll-free number) or by email at [Cynthia.greene.m@dol.gov](mailto:Cynthia.greene.m@dol.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** DOL, as part of continuing efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information before submitting them to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for final approval. This program helps to ensure requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements can be properly assessed.

Title XII, Section 1201, of the Social Security Act (SSA) provides for advances to states from the Federal Unemployment Account (FUA). The law further sets out specific requirements to be met by a state requesting an advance:

- The Governor, or designee, must apply for the advance;
- The application must cover a three-month period and the Secretary of Labor (Secretary) must be furnished with estimates of the amounts needed in each month of the three month period;
- The application must be made on such forms and shall contain such information and data (fiscal and otherwise) concerning the operation and administration of the state unemployment compensation law as the Secretary deems necessary or relevant to the performance of his or her duties under this title;
- The amount required by any state for the payment of compensation in any month shall be determined with due allowance for contingencies and taking

into account all other amounts that will be available in the state's unemployment fund for the payment of compensation in such month; and

- The term "compensation" means cash benefits payable to individuals with respect to their unemployment exclusive of expenses of administration.

Section 1202(a) of the SSA provides that the Governor of any state may at any time request that funds be transferred from the account of such state to the FUA in repayment of part or all of the balance of advances made to such state under Section 1201. These applications and repayments may be requested by an individual designated for that authority in writing by the Governor. Sections 1201 and 1202(a) of the SSA authorize this information collection.

This information collection is subject to the PRA. A Federal agency generally cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information, and the public is generally not required to respond to an information collection, unless it is approved by OMB under the PRA and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall generally be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information that does not display a valid Control Number. See 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6.

Interested parties are encouraged to provide comments to the contact shown in the **ADDRESSES** section. Comments must be written to receive consideration, and they will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval of the final ICR. In order to help ensure appropriate consideration, comments should mention OMB control number 1205-0199.

Submitted comments will also be a matter of public record for this ICR and posted on the internet, without redaction. DOL encourages commenters not to include personally identifiable information, confidential business data, or other sensitive statements/information in any comments.

DOL is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate 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;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, (e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses).

*Agency:* DOL–ETA.

*Type of Review:* Revision.

*Title of Collection:* Unemployment Insurance (UI) Title XII Advances and Voluntary Repayments Process.

*Form:* None.

*OMB Control Number:* 1205–0199.

*Affected Public:* State Workforce Agencies.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 19.

*Frequency:* Varies.

*Total Estimated Annual Responses:* 19.

*Estimated Average Time per Response:* 1 hour.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 19.

*Total Estimated Annual Other Cost Burden:* \$0.

(Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A))

**Suzan G. LeVine,**

*Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training, Labor.*

[FR Doc. 2021–15657 Filed 7–22–21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510–FW–P**

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice of permit applications received.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish a notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act in the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

**DATES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by August 23, 2021. This application may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Office of

Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22314.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Polly Penhale, ACA Permit Officer, at the above address, 703–292–7420, or [ACApermits@nsf.gov](mailto:ACApermits@nsf.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95–541, 45 CFR 670) as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, has developed regulations for the establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas a requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

### Application Details

*Permit Application:* 2022–003

1. *Applicant:* Dr. George Watters, Director, AMLR Program, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service, 8901 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla, CA 92037

*Activity for Which Permit is Requested:* Waste management permit. This permit application pertains to ship and shore-based research and logistic activities conducted by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Antarctic Marine Living Resources (AMLR) Program. The AMLR Program conducts research from a vessel platform in the Antarctic Peninsula region, collecting environmental, oceanographic, primary productivity, finfish, and prey data. Research is also conducted at two temporary field camps in the South Shetland Islands, Antarctica: Cape Shirreff and Copacabana. The scope of the application pertains to environmental and waste management issues resulting from proposed research, logistic and construction activities by the U.S. AMLR program between 2021 and 2026.

Ocean-based research activities will include the deployment of retrievable instrumentation. Instruments to be deployed include several long-range underwater gliders to measure environmental conditions and population densities, as well as up to 20 stationary moorings. Unoccupied Aerial Systems (UAS) will also be deployed from research vessels for surveying and censusing purposes. Deployment of all retrievable instrumentation will be performed by trained personnel associated with the research project.

Activities proposed at the Cape Shirreff field camp include the necessary construction of new temporary camp structures and the removal of previous temporary structures. Care will be taken to minimize environmental disturbance throughout construction and resulting structures are planned to occupy an approximate footprint similar to that of existing structures. Continuation of long-term research activities at the Cape Shirreff field camp will include deployment and maintenance of up to 30 autonomous cameras to assist in studies of avian breeding colonies, deployment of snow gauges and continued use of UAS for census surveying of surrounding fauna. Research activities proposed at the Copacabana field camp are similar to those at Cape Shirreff, including deployment of autonomous cameras and use of UAS for surveying purposes. All UAS pilots are licensed FAA remote aircraft pilots and care will be taken to follow all best practices for UAS operation in polar regions along with all appropriate safety measures.

Wastes and designated pollutants associated with typical field camp operations will be generated, released, stored, and removed at both camps. The field camps will release wastes to air in the form of emissions resulting from the combustion of gasoline, propane, and charcoal. Releases of wastes to water will be limited to greywater and human sewage only. Wastes and designated pollutants resulting from scientific research include materials used to mark animals and attach necessary instrumentation. Additional waste may be generated by construction activities at Cape Shirreff, but mitigation measures will be put in place to minimize the introduction of waste into the environment. For designated pollutants stored at field camps, strict protocols for storage and handling will be followed. All U.S. AMLR personnel will receive proper training on handling and management of designated pollutants prior to deployment.

*Location:* Cape Shirreff, Livingston Island; Copacabana, western shore of Admiralty Bay; Western Antarctic Peninsula.

*Dates of Permitted Activities:* October 1, 2021–July 31, 2026.

**Erika N. Davis,**

*Program Specialist, Office of Polar Programs.*

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**BILLING CODE 7555–01–P**