

application by October 30, 2024. 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 or ACApermits@nsf.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew Titmus, ACA Permit Officer, at the above address, 703-292-4479.

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 as requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

Application Details

Permit Application: 2025-014

1. *Applicant:* Dale Andersen, Carl Sagan Center, SETI Institute, 339 Bernardo Ave., Ste. 200, Mountain View, CA 94043.

Activity for Which Permit is Requested: Harmful Interference. The applicant requests an ACA permit for the disturbance of up to 10 nesting pairs of Snow Petrels (*Pagodroma nivea*) in association with activities associated with collections of sub-fossilized stomach-oil deposits. The deposits are used by geologists to date ice-sheet thinning, seabird occupation history, and sea ice changes. The applicant proposes to collect 2 deposits, which may result in the disturbance of 5-10 pairs of Snow Petrels.

Location: Untersee, Antarctica.

Dates of Permitted Activities: 15 October, 2024-15 December, 2024.

Permit Application: 2025-015

2. *Applicant:* Sarah Ruth, National Science Foundation, Office of Polar Programs, 2415 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria, VA 22314.

Activity for Which Permit is Requested: Enter Antarctic Specially Protected Area. The applicant seeks an Antarctic Conservation Act permit authorizing entry into Antarctic Specially Protected Areas (ASPAs) in association with oversight and management of U.S. Antarctic Program science projects. The applicant proposes to enter specific ASPAs as needed to

conduct site visits of various U.S. science teams working in those ASPAs. The applicant proposes to enter ASPAs on an as needed basis and would be accompanied within the ASPA at all times by the science project participants conducting work in that ASPA. No visits to ASPAs would occur if there is no U.S. Antarctic Program science project active in that ASPA.

Location: ASPA 106—Cape Hallett, Northern Victoria Land, Ross Sea; ASPA 113—Litchfield Island, Arthur Harbor, Anvers Island; ASPA 116—New College Valley; ASPA 121—Cape Royds, Ross Island; ASPA 124—Cape Crozier, Ross Island; ASPA 128—Western Shore of Admiralty Bay, King George Island; ASPA 131—Canada Glacier, Lake Fryxell, Taylor Valley; ASPA 137—Northwest White Island; ASPA 139—Biscoe Point, Anvers Island; ASPA 149—Cape Shirreff and San Telmo Island, Livingston Island, South Shetland Islands; ASPA 155—Cape Evans, Ross Island; ASPA 172—Lower Taylor Glacier and Blood Falls, McMurdo Dry Valleys, Victoria Land; ASPA 173—Cape Washington and Silverfish Bay, Terra Nova Bay, Ross Sea; ASPA 176—Rosenthal Islands, Anvers Island.

Dates of Permitted Activities: October 15, 2024–March 31, 2025.

Alina Pavao,

Administrative Assistant, Office of Polar Programs.

[FR Doc. 2024-22287 Filed 9-27-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Sunshine Act Meetings

The National Science Board hereby gives notice of the scheduling of a teleconference of the National Science Board/National Science Foundation Commission on Merit Review (MRX) for the transaction of National Science Board business pursuant to the NSF Act and the Government in the Sunshine Act.

TIME AND DATE: The MRX meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 3, 2024, from 3:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m. EDT.

PLACE: This meeting will be via videoconference through the National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22314.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: The agenda is: Commission Chair's remarks about the agenda; Discussion of Preliminary Implementation Suggestions; Vote for Approval of Preliminary

Implementation Suggestions; and Commission Chair's closing remarks.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Point of contact for this meeting is: Chris Blair, cblair@nsf.gov, 703/292-7000. Meeting information and updates may be found at www.nsf.gov/nsb.

Christopher Blair,

Executive Assistant to the National Science Board Office.

[FR Doc. 2024-22557 Filed 9-26-24; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Advisory Committee for Mathematical and Physical Sciences; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation (NSF) announces the following meeting:

Name and Committee Code: Advisory Committee for Mathematical and Physical Sciences (#66).

Date and Time: October 31, 2024: 10:00 a.m. to 5:10 p.m.; November 1, 2024: 9:20 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Place: NSF, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22314/Hybrid participation for AC Members, Presenters, Visitors, and Guests.

To attend the meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC) for Mathematical and Physical Sciences Directorate (MPS) in person, all visitors must contact the Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to arrange for a visitor's badge. Visitors must access NSF via the Visitor Center entry adjacent to the south building entrance on Eisenhower Avenue on the day of the meeting to pick up the visitor's badge. It is suggested that visitors allow time to pass through security screening.

To attend virtually, please use the link provided on the MPS AC website located at <http://www.nsf.gov/mps/advisory.jsp>.

Type of Meeting: Open.

Contact Person: Catalina Achim, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Room E9335, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; Telephone: 703-292-2048.

Meeting Information: <http://www.nsf.gov/mps/advisory.jsp>.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice, recommendations, and counsel on major goals and policies pertaining to MPS programs and activities.

Agenda

Thursday, October 31, 2024

- Call to Order and Official Opening of the Meeting
- Approval of Minutes of the March 2024 MPS Meeting
- MPS Directorate Update
- Research Security
- CHIPS and Science Act requirement for NSF Investment in EPSCOR Jurisdictions
- Science Highlight
- The Report of the Committee of Visitors for the Division of Mathematical Sciences
- NSF Artificial Intelligence Institutes with MPS Participation
- Broader Impacts at Facilities
- Preparation for the Meeting with the NSF Director, Chief Science Officer, and Director's Chief of Staff on Day 2
- Closing Remarks and Adjourn for the Day

Friday, November 1, 2024

- Welcome and Overview of Agenda
- Science Highlight
- The Report of the Committee of Visitors for the Division of Chemistry
- The NSF Budget
- Discussion with the NSF Director, NSF Chief Science Officer, and NSF Director's Chief of Staff
- Closing Remarks and Adjourn

Dated: September 25, 2024.

Crystal Robinson,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024-22331 Filed 9-27-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**Notice of Permit Modification Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978**

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of permit modification request.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish a notice of requests to modify permits issued to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. This is the required notice of a requested permit modification.

DATES: Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by October 30, 2024. Permit applications 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: Andrew Titmus, ACA Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22314; 703-292-4479; or ACApermits@nsf.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541), 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 as requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

Description of Permit Modification Requested: The Foundation issued a permit (ACA 2023-004) to Steve Emslie on July 27, 2022. The issued permit allows for take and harmful interference associated with research examining ecological responses in diet and foraging behavior of the Adelie penguin (*Pygoscelis adeliae*) in Antarctica. The permit holder may collect up to 150 ancient and modern penguin tissues per year at active and abandoned penguin colonies in the Ross Sea region. The permit holder may enter ASPAs 104, 105, 106, 121, 124, 159, 161, and 165. A recent modification to this permit, dated June 25, 2024, permitted the applicant to also enter ASPA 178 in association with this research.

Now the applicant proposes a modification to the permit to collect small tissue samples from Weddell, Crabeater, Southern Elephant, and Leopard mummified seal carcasses in the Ross Sea Region. The applicant proposes to take up to 10 samples from each species. Mummies would be samples in the field, at their original location and samples weighing less than 15g would be taken from the mouth, lung, and anal area. Samples will undergo RNA analysis, radiocarbon dating, and any remaining tissue will be archived at the University of South Carolina. The applicant has a pending Marine Mammal Protection Act permit under consideration for this research.

Location: Ross Sea Region.

Dates: October 31, 2024–December 31, 2025.

Alina Pavao,

Administrative Assistant, Office of Polar Programs.

[FR Doc. 2024-22288 Filed 9-27-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT**Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee Virtual Public Meeting**

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: According to the provisions of section 10 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given that a virtual meeting of the Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, October 17, 2024. There will be no in-person gathering for this meeting.

DATES: The virtual meeting will be held on October 17, 2024, beginning at 10 a.m. (ET).

ADDRESSES: The meeting will convene virtually.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ana Paunoiu, 202-606-2858, or email pay_policy@opm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee is composed of a Chair, five representatives from labor unions holding exclusive bargaining rights for Federal prevailing rate employees, and five representatives from Federal agencies. Entitlement to membership on the Committee is provided for in 5 U.S.C. 5347.

The Committee's primary responsibility is to review the Prevailing Rate System and other matters pertinent to establishing prevailing rates under subchapter IV, chapter 53, 5 U.S.C., as amended, and from time to time advise the Office of Personnel Management.

Annually, the Chair compiles a report of pay issues discussed and concluded recommendations. These reports are available to the public. Reports for calendar years 2008 to 2023 are posted at <http://www.opm.gov/fprac>. Previous reports are also available, upon written request to the Committee.

The public is invited to submit material in writing to the Chair on Federal Wage System pay matters felt to be deserving of the Committee's attention. Additional information on these meetings may be obtained by contacting the Committee at Office of Personnel Management, Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee, Room 7H31, 1900 E Street NW, Washington, DC 20415, (202) 606-2858.

This meeting is open to the public, with an audio option for listening. This notice sets forth the participation guidelines for the meeting.

Meeting Agenda. The committee meets to discuss various agenda items