

regulatory authority to permit the discharge of dredged or fill material into wetlands and other waters of the United States. The guidelines pursuant to Section 404(b) of the act require that impacts to the aquatic environment be avoided and minimized to the extent practicable.

In determining whether to issue a permit, the Corps must consider the 404(b)(1) guidelines, a public interest review and must also comply with other requirements including, but not limited to: The Endangered Species Act; the National Environmental Policy Act; the Coastal Zone Management Act; the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation Management Act; section 401 of the Clean Water Act; and other applicable Federal laws. Modifying land for new uses may also involve zoning, land use planning, water management, and other regulatory/planning requirements at the local, commonwealth, and Federal level.

Issues. The EIS will consider impacts on protected species, health, conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands (and other aquatic resources), historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people, and other issues identified through scoping, public involvement, and interagency coordination.

Scoping: The PRHTA has conducted numerous citizen involvement activities and have held several meetings with representatives of concerned Federal, State, and local agencies. At this time, there are no plans for a public scoping meeting, if the Corps holds a public scoping meeting, it will be announced. In addition Federal, state and local agencies, as well as interested private organizations and individuals are strongly encouraged to suggest additional alternatives for consideration and otherwise submit comments on the scope of the draft EIS.

Public Involvement: We invite the participation of affected Federal, state, and local agencies, and other interested private organizations and individuals by submitting written comments to the contact information provided in this notice.

Coordination: The proposed action is being coordinated with a number of Federal, Commonwealth, and local agencies including but not limited to the following: U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Coast Guard, Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources, Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board, Puerto Rico Planning Board, Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office, and other agencies as identified in scoping, public involvement, and agency coordination.

Other Environmental Review and Consultation: The proposed action would involve evaluation for compliance with guidelines pursuant to section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act, public interest review, application for Water Quality Certification pursuant to section 401 of the Clean Water Act, and determination of Coastal Zone Management Act consistency.

Draft EIS Preparation: We estimate that the DEIS will be available to the public on or about January 15, 2004.

Luz D. Ortiz,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before September 19, 2003.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type

of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: July 15, 2003.

Angela C. Arrington,

Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of Postsecondary Education

Type of Review: New.

Title: Annual Performance Report for the Gaining Early Awareness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) Program.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions; State, local or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 316.

Burden Hours: 11,060.

Abstract: The purpose of this information collection is accountability for program implementation and student outcomes for the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP). The information collected enables the U.S. Department of Education to demonstrate its progress in meeting the GEAR UP performance objectives as reflected in the indicators.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 2294. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651 or to the e-mail address vivian_reese@ed.gov. Requests may also