

approval for this information collection activity.

Bureau Form Number: None.

Frequency of Collection: Once.

Description of Respondents: NPS concessioners, and, in the case of appeals of preferred offeror determinations, offerors in response to concession prospectuses.

Total Annual Responses: 758.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 3,276.

Send comments on (1) the need for the collection of information for the performance of the functions of the agency; (2) the accuracy of the agency's burden estimates; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the information collection burden on respondents, such as use of automated means of collection of the information. Please refer to OMB control number 1024-0231 in all correspondence. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record. Copies of the information collection can be obtained from Cynthia L. Orlando, Concession Program Manager, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW., (2410), Washington, DC 20240.

Dated: October 30, 2003.

Leonard E. Stowe,

Acting NPS Information Collection Clearance Officer, Washington Administrative Program Center.

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BILLING CODE 4312-53-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

60-Day Notice of Intention To Request Clearance of Collection of Information; Opportunity for Public Comment

AGENCY: Department of the Interior, National Park Service.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: NPS requests comments on extending and modifying two existing NPS information collection instruments that are processed by the existing, Internet-based Research Permit and Reporting System. One information collection instrument, the Application for a Scientific Research and Collecting Permit, is used by applicants to apply to parks for scientific research and collecting permits for natural or social science activities that require permits. The other instrument, the Investigator's

Annual Report, is used by permittees to submit their required annual progress reports. NPS will use the information you submit in response to this notice to assist its decision-making regarding whether or not to request extension of, and to make modifications to, the two collections of information administered through the existing Research Permit and Reporting System. Once NPS develops and adopts any modifications that may be appropriate, NPS currently expects to submit a request for an extension of the existing, but slightly modified, collection of information package to OMB with a request that OMB approve the package and assign an OMB clearance number to the two collection of information forms that are part of this system.

	Estimated numbers of	
	Responses	Burden hours
Research Permit and Reporting System	6,000	4,875

Under provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and 5 CFR Part 1320, Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements, the National Park Service is soliciting comments on the need for gathering the information in the two collections of information being considered for modification and extension. The NPS also is asking for comments on the practical utility of the information being gathered; the validity and accuracy of the reporting burden hour estimate; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden to respondents, including use of automated information collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

You may obtain copies of the existing application form, annual reporting form, and related guidance and explanatory material from the NPS Research Permit and Reporting System Web site at: <http://science.nature.nps.gov/research>. You also may obtain copies of the documents and additional information from the source identified below.

If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments by any one of several methods. Although you may mail comments to the postal address given here, due to delays caused by processing of mail you may wish to use a different method. You may send your comments by facsimile to the fax number given below. You may instead comment via the Internet to the e-mail address given here (Please submit e-mail comments as an attached ASCII or

MSWord file and avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Please also include "Attn: NPS Research Permit and Reporting System" and your name and return address in your e-mail message. If you would like, but do not receive, a confirmation from the system that we have received your e-mail message, contact us directly at the phone number given here). Finally, you may hand-deliver comments to the address given below.

Our practice is to make comments, including respondent names and addresses (business or home, whatever we receive), available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety. We will not consider anonymous comments.

DATES: Public comments will be accepted on or before 60 days from the date this notice is published in the **Federal Register**.

Send Comments To: Dr. John G. Dennis. By mail: Natural Resources (3127 MIB), National Park Service, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240. By hand delivery: Natural Resources (11th floor), National Park Service, 1201 Eye Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005. By fax: 202-371-2131. By e-mail: researchcoll@nps.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. John G. Dennis. Voice: 202-513-7174 Fax: 202-371-2131; E-mail: researchcoll@nps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: National Park Service Research Permit and Reporting System.

Bureau Form Number: Application for a Scientific Research and Collecting Permit: 10-741; Investigator's Annual Report: 10-226.

OMB Number: 1024-0236.

Expiration Date: 4/30/2004.

Type of Request: Revision of a previously approved collection.

Description of Need: The currently approved information collection responds to the statutory requirement