

## PART 673—ANTARCTIC NON-GOVERNMENTAL EXPEDITIONS

### Sec.

- 673.1 Purpose of regulations.
- 673.2 Scope.
- 673.3 Definitions.
- 673.4 Environmental protection information.
- 673.5 Emergency response plan.

AUTHORITY: 16 U.S.C. 2401 *et. seq.*

SOURCE: 66 FR 42451, Aug. 13, 2001, unless otherwise noted.

### § 673.1 Purpose of regulations.

The purpose of the regulations in this part is to implement the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Public Law 95-541, as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, Public Law 104-227, and Article 15 of the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty done at Madrid on October 4, 1991. Specifically, this part requires that all non-governmental expeditions, for which advance notice by the United States is required under the Antarctic Treaty, who use non-flagged vessels ensure that the vessel owner or operator has an appropriate emergency response plan. This part is also designed to ensure that expedition members are informed of their environmental protection obligations under the Antarctic Conservation Act.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 3145-0180)

### § 673.2 Scope.

The requirements in this part apply to non-governmental expeditions to or within Antarctica for which the United States is required to give advance notice under Paragraph (5) of Article VII of the Antarctic Treaty.

### § 673.3 Definitions.

In this part:

*Antarctica* means the area south of 60 degrees south latitude.

*Expedition* means an activity undertaken by one or more non-governmental persons organized within or proceeding from the United States to or within Antarctica for which advance notification is required under Para-

graph 5 of Article VII of the Antarctic Treaty.

*Person* has the meaning given that term in section 1 of title 1, United States Code, and includes any person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States except that the term does not include any department, agency, or other instrumentality of the Federal Government.

### § 673.4 Environmental protection information.

(a) Any person who organizes a non-governmental expedition to Antarctica and who does business in the United States shall notify expedition members of the environmental protection obligations of the Antarctic Conservation Act.

(b) The National Science Foundation's Office of Polar Programs may prepare for publication and distribution explanation of the prohibited acts set forth in the Antarctic Conservation Act, as well as other appropriate educational material for tour operators, their clients, and employees. Such material provided to tour operators for distribution to their passengers and crew shall be disseminated prior to or during travel to the Antarctic.

### § 673.5 Emergency response plan.

Any person organizing a non-governmental expedition to or within Antarctica who is transporting passengers aboard a non-U.S. flagged vessel shall ensure that:

(a) The vessel owner's or operator's shipboard oil pollution emergency plan, prepared and maintained according to Regulation 26 of Annex I of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (MARPOL 73/78), has provisions for prompt and effective response action to such emergencies as might arise in the performance of the vessel's activities in Antarctica. Any emergency response plan which satisfies the requirements contained in 33 CFR 151.26 of the U.S. Coast Guard regulations will also satisfy the requirements of this paragraph. If the vessel owner or operator does not have a shipboard oil pollution emergency plan, a

## National Science Foundation

## § 674.5

separate plan for prompt and effective response action is required.

(b) The vessel owner or operator agrees to take all reasonable measures to implement the plan for a prompt and effective response action in the event of an emergency, taking into account considerations of risk to human life and safety.

### PART 674—ANTARCTIC METEORITES

Sec.

674.1 Purpose of regulations.

674.2 Scope and applicability.

674.3 Definitions.

674.4 Restrictions on collection of meteorites in Antarctica.

674.5 Requirements for collection, handling, documentation and curation of Antarctic meteorites.

674.6 Submission of information to NSF.

674.7 Exception for serendipitous finds.

AUTHORITY: 16 U.S.C. 2401 *et seq.*

SOURCE: 68 FR 15379, Mar. 31, 2003, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 674.1 Purpose of regulations.

The purpose of the regulations in this part is to implement the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, (16 U.S.C 2401 *et seq.*), and Article 7 of the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty done at Madrid on October 4, 1991. Specifically, this part is designed to ensure meteorites in Antarctica will be collected for scientific research purposes only and that U.S. expedition organizers to Antarctica who plan to collect meteorites in Antarctica will ensure that any specimens collected will be properly collected, handled, documented and curated to preserve their scientific value.

#### § 674.2 Scope and applicability.

This part applies to any person who collects meteorites in Antarctica. The requirements of § 674.5 apply to any person organizing an expedition to or within Antarctica for which the United States is required to give advance notice under Paragraph (5) of Article VII of the Antarctic Treaty where one of the purposes of the expedition is to collect meteorites in Antarctica. The requirements in this part only apply to

the collection of meteorites in Antarctica after April 30, 2003.

#### § 674.3 Definitions.

In this part:

*Antarctica* means the area south of 60 degrees south latitude.

*Expedition* means an activity undertaken by one or more persons organized within or proceeding from the United States to or within Antarctica for which advance notification is required under Paragraph 5 of Article VII of the Antarctic Treaty.

*Incremental cost* is the extra cost involved in sharing the samples with other researchers. It does not include the initial cost of collecting the meteorites in Antarctica or the cost of maintaining the samples in a curatorial facility.

*Person* has the meaning given that term in section 1 of title 1, United States Code, and includes any person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

#### § 674.4 Restrictions on collection of meteorites in Antarctica.

No person may collect meteorites in Antarctica for other than scientific research purposes.

#### § 674.5 Requirements for collection, handling, documentation, and curation of Antarctic meteorites.

(a) Any person organizing an expedition to or within Antarctica, where one of the purposes of the expedition is to collect meteorites in Antarctica, shall ensure that the meteorites will be properly collected, documented, handled, and curated to preserve their scientific value. Curation includes making specimens available to bona fide scientific researchers on a timely basis, in accordance with specified procedures.

(b) Expedition organizers described in paragraph (a) of this section shall develop and implement written procedures for the collection, documentation, and curation of specimens which include the following components:

(1) *Handling requirements.* Handling procedures shall ensure that the specimens are properly labeled and handled to minimize the potential for contamination from the point of collection to