

193–411, and (3) enter your name and email address (required). After logging in to the webinar, you must use your telephone for the audio portion of the meeting by dialing this TOLL number (1) dial this TOLL number 1–415–655–0052, (2) enter the attendee phone audio access code 564–202–797, and (3) then enter your audio phone pin (shown after joining the webinar). **Note:** Technical Information and system requirements: PC-based attendees are required to use Windows® 7, Vista, or XP; Mac®-based attendees are required to use Mac OS® X 10.5 or newer; Mobile attendees are required to use iPhone®, iPad®, Android™ phone or Android tablet (See the <https://www.gotomeeting.com/webinar/ipad-iphone-android-webinar-apps>). You may send an email to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt at [Kris.Kleinschmidt@noaa.gov](mailto:Kris.Kleinschmidt@noaa.gov) or contact him at (503) 820–2280, extension 411 for technical assistance.

*Council address:* Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101, Portland, OR 97220.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Kit Dahl, Pacific Council; telephone: (503) 820–2422.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** At its September 2018 meeting, the Pacific Council decided to embark on the Climate and Communities Initiative pursuant to its Fishery Ecosystem Plan. The purpose of this initiative is to help the Pacific Council, its advisory bodies, and the public to better understand the effects of near-term climate shift and long-term climate change on our fish, fisheries, and fishing communities and identify ways in which the Council could incorporate such understanding into its decision-making. As a first step, the Council’s Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup is working with scientists at NMFS Northwest and Southwest Fisheries Science Centers to present a series of webinars to educate the Pacific Council, advisory bodies, and the interested public about current research and forecasts related to the effects of climate variability/change on the California Current Ecosystem.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the meeting agenda may be discussed, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this document and any issues arising after publication of this document that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of

the intent to take final action to address the emergency.

### Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt (503) 820–2411 at least 10 business days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: January 8, 2018.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

*Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2018–00378 Filed 1–10–18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Telecommunications and Information Administration

[Docket No. 180103005–8005–01]

**RIN 0660–XC040**

### Promoting Stakeholder Action Against Botnets and Other Automated Threats

**AGENCY:** National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice, request for public comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce (Department) is requesting comment on a draft Report about actions to address automated and distributed threats to the digital ecosystem as part of the activity directed by Executive Order 13800, “Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and Critical Infrastructure.” Through this Notice, the Department seeks broad input and feedback from all interested stakeholders—including private industry, academia, civil society, and other security experts—on this draft Report, its characterization of risks and the state of the ecosystem, the goals laid out, and the actions to further these goals.

**DATES:** Comments are due on or before 5 p.m. Eastern Time on February 12, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments may be submitted by email to [counter\\_botnet@list.commerce.gov](mailto:counter_botnet@list.commerce.gov). Written comments also may be submitted by mail to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Room 4725, Attn: Evelyn L. Remaley, Deputy Associate Administrator, Washington, DC 20230. For more detailed

instructions about submitting comments, see the “Instructions for Commenters” section of **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Megan Doscher, tel.: (202) 482–2503, email: [mdoscher@ntia.doc.gov](mailto:mdoscher@ntia.doc.gov), or Allan Friedman, tel.: (202) 482–4281, email: [afriedman@ntia.doc.gov](mailto:afriedman@ntia.doc.gov), National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Room 4725, Washington, DC 20230. Please direct media inquiries to NTIA’s Office of Public Affairs, (202) 482–7002, or at [press@ntia.doc.gov](mailto:press@ntia.doc.gov).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Background:* Executive Order 13800 on Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and Critical Infrastructure called for “resilience against botnets and other automated, distributed threats.”<sup>1</sup> The Order directed the Secretary of Commerce, together with the Secretary of Homeland Security, to “lead an open and transparent process to identify and promote action by appropriate stakeholders” with the goal of “dramatically reducing threats perpetrated by automated and distributed attacks (e.g., botnets).”<sup>2</sup>

The Departments of Commerce and Homeland Security worked jointly on this effort through three approaches—hosting a workshop, publishing a request for comment, and initiating an inquiry through the President’s National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee (NSTAC)—all aimed at gathering a broad range of input from experts and stakeholders, including private industry, academia, and civil society. The Departments worked in consultation with the Departments of Defense, Justice, and State, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the sector-specific agencies, the Federal Communications Commission, and Federal Trade Commission, as well as other interested agencies. These activities all contributed to the information gathering process for developing a draft Report.

The draft Report, published on January 5, 2018, and available at <https://www.ntia.doc.gov/report/2018/report-president-enhancing-resilience-internet-and-communications-ecosystem-against>, characterizes the status of the internet and communications ecosystem, and offers a positive vision of the future. The Departments determined that the opportunities and challenges in working toward

<sup>1</sup> Exec. Order 13800, 82 FR 22,391 (May 11, 2017).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

dramatically reducing threats from automated, distributed attacks can be summarized in six principal themes.

1. *Automated, distributed attacks are a global problem.* The majority of the compromised devices in recent botnets have been geographically located outside the United States. Increasing the resilience of the internet and communications ecosystem against these threats will require coordinated action with international partners.

2. *Effective tools exist, but are not widely used.* The tools, processes, and practices required to significantly enhance the resilience of the internet and communications ecosystem are widely available, if imperfect, and are routinely applied in selected market sectors. However, they are not part of common practices for product development and deployment in many other sectors for a variety of reasons, including (but not limited to) lack of awareness, cost avoidance, insufficient technical expertise, and lack of market incentives.

3. *Products should be secured during all stages of the lifecycle.* Devices that are vulnerable at time of deployment, lack facilities to patch vulnerabilities after discovery, or remain in service after vendor support ends make assembling automated, distributed threats far too easy.

4. *Education and awareness is needed.* Knowledge gaps in home and enterprise customers, product developers, manufacturers, and infrastructure operators impede the deployment of the tools, processes, and practices that would make the ecosystem more resilient.

5. *Market incentives are misaligned.* Perceived market incentives do not align with the goal of “dramatically reducing threats perpetrated by automated and distributed attacks.” Market incentives motivate product developers, manufacturers, and vendors to minimize cost and time to market, rather than to build in security or offer efficient security updates. There has to be a better balance between security and convenience when developing products.

6. *Automated, distributed attacks are an ecosystem-wide challenge.* No single stakeholder community can address the problem in isolation.

The Report lays out five complementary and mutually supportive goals that would dramatically reduce the threat of automated, distributed attacks and improve the resilience of the ecosystem. They are:

1. Identify a clear pathway toward an adaptable, sustainable, and secure technology marketplace;

2. Promote innovation in the infrastructure for dynamic adaptation to evolving threats;

3. Promote innovation at the edge of the network to prevent, detect, and mitigate bad behavior;

4. Build coalitions between the security, infrastructure, and operational technology communities domestically and around the world; and

5. Increase awareness and education across the ecosystem.

For each goal, the report suggests supporting activities to be taken by both government and private sector actors. With this Request for Comment, the Department is asking for a response to the issues and goals raised by the draft Report, as well as the proposed approach, current initiatives, and next steps. Following the completion of the comment period, the Department will host a workshop to discuss substantive comments and the way forward for the Report. The workshop will be held February 28–March 1, 2018 at the National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence (NCCoE). Additional information regarding the workshop, including logistics and registration information, is available at <https://csrc.nist.gov/Events/2018/second-botnet-workshop>.

Information obtained through this Request for Comment, the NCCoE-hosted workshop, and other stakeholder interactions will be considered for incorporation into the final version of the Report. The final Report is due to the President on May 11, 2018.

#### Request for Comment

The goal of this Request for Comment is to solicit feedback on the draft Report, its characterization of the challenges, and proposed actions. The Department invites comment on the full range of issues that may be presented by this inquiry, including issues that are not specifically raised in the following questions. Respondents are invited to respond to some or all of the questions below:

1. *The Ecosystem:* Is the Report’s characterization of risks and the state of the current internet and communications ecosystem accurate and/or complete? Are there technical details, innovations, policy approaches, or implementation barriers that warrant new or further consideration?

2. *Goals:* Are the Report’s stated goals appropriate for achieving a more resilient ecosystem? Do the actions support the relevant goals? In aggregate, are the actions sufficient to significantly advance the goals?

3. *Stakeholder Roles:* How can specific actions be refined for efficacy

and achievability? What actors, inside the Federal government, in the private sector, and across the global community, can be instrumental in the successful accomplishment of these activities? Who should play a leadership role; and where and how? What stakeholders are key to particular successes?

4. *Road map:* What information can help the government and stakeholders delineate a road map for achieving these goals? How should implementation be phased to optimize resources and commitments? Which actions are of highest priority, or offer opportunities for near term progress? Which actions depend on the completion of other actions? Are there known barriers that may inhibit progress on specific actions?

5. *Incentives:* What policies, innovations, standards, best practices, governance approaches, or other activities can promote market-based solutions to the challenges and goals discussed in the report? Are there specific incentive ideas beyond the market-based approaches discussed in the report (e.g., procurement, multistakeholder policy development, R&D, best practices, and adoption & awareness efforts) that demand new consideration or exploration?

6. *Further Activities:* What additional specific actions can improve the resilience of the internet and communications ecosystem? What partners can drive success for these activities?

7. *Metrics:* How should we evaluate progress against the stated goals?

*Instructions for Commenters:* The Department invites comment on the full range of issues that may be presented by this inquiry, including issues that are not specifically raised in the above questions. Commenters are encouraged to address any or all of the above questions. Comments that contain references to studies, research, and other empirical data that are not widely available should include copies of the referenced materials with the submitted comments.

Comments submitted by email should be machine-readable and should not be copy-protected. Responders should include the name of the person or organization filing the comment, which will facilitate agency follow up for clarity as necessary, as well as a page number on each page of their submissions. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted on the NTIA website, <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/>, without change. All personal identifying information (for example, name,

address) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit confidential business information or otherwise sensitive or protected information. The Department will also accept anonymous comments.

Dated: January 5, 2018.

**David J. Redl,**

*Assistant Secretary for Communication and Information, National Telecommunications and Information Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2018-00322 Filed 1-10-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-60-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### Board of Regents, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences; Notice of Federal Advisory Committee Meeting

**AGENCY:** Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense.

**ACTION:** Notice of Federal Advisory Committee meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Defense (DoD) is publishing this notice to announce that the following Federal Advisory Committee meeting of the Board of Regents, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences will take place.

**DATES:** Tuesday, February 6, 2018; open to the public from 8:00 a.m. to 10:05 a.m. Closed session will occur from approximately 10:10 a.m. to 10:40 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, 4301 Jones Bridge Road, Everett Alvarez Jr. Board of Regents Room (D3001), Bethesda, Maryland 20814.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jennifer Nuetzi James, 301-295-3066 (Voice), 301-295-1960 (Facsimile), [jennifer.nuetzi-james@usuhs.edu](mailto:jennifer.nuetzi-james@usuhs.edu) (Email). Mailing address is 4301 Jones Bridge Road, A1020, Bethesda, Maryland 20814. Website: <https://www.usuhs.edu/vpe/bor>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This meeting is being held under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of 1972 (5 U.S.C., Appendix, as amended), the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended), and 41 CFR 102-3.140 and 102-3.150.

*Purpose of the Meeting:* The purpose of the meeting is to provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Defense, through the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, on academic and administrative matters

critical to the full accreditation and successful operation of USU. These actions are necessary for USU to pursue its mission, which is to educate, train and comprehensively prepare uniformed services health professionals, officers, scientists and leaders to support the Military and Public Health Systems, the National Security and National Defense Strategies of the United States, and the readiness of our Uniformed Services.

*Agenda:* The actions scheduled to occur include the review of the minutes from the Board meeting held on November 3, 2017; recommendations regarding the awarding of associate, baccalaureate and post-baccalaureate degrees; recommendations regarding the approval of faculty appointments and promotions; and recommendations regarding award nominations. The USU President will provide a report on recent actions affecting academic and operational aspects of USU. Member reports will include an Academics Summary consisting of reports from the Dean of the F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine, Dean of the Daniel K. Inouye Graduate School of Nursing, Executive Dean of the Postgraduate Dental College, Dean of the College of Allied Health Sciences, Director of the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute and the President of the USU Faculty Senate. Member Reports will also include a Finance and Administration Summary consisting of reports from the Senior Vice President, Southern Region; Senior Vice President, Western Region; Commander, USU Brigade; and the President and CEO of the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine. There will be reports from the USU Vice President for Research and the USU Vice President for Finance and Administration. A closed session will be held, after the open session, to discuss active investigations and personnel actions.

*Meeting Accessibility:* Pursuant to Federal statutes and regulations (5 U.S.C., Appendix, 5 U.S.C. 552b, and 41 CFR 102-3.140 through 102-3.165) and the availability of space, the meeting is open to the public from 8:00 a.m. to 10:05 a.m. Seating is on a first-come basis. Members of the public wishing to attend the meeting should contact Jennifer Nuetzi James no later than five business days prior to the meeting, at the address and phone number noted in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(2, 5-7), the Department of Defense has determined that the portion of the meeting from 10:10 a.m. to 10:40 a.m. shall be closed to the public. The Under

Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), in consultation with the Office of the Department of Defense General Counsel, has determined in writing that this portion of the Board's meeting will be closed as the discussion will disclose sensitive personnel information, will include matters that relate solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of the agency, will involve allegations of a person having committed a crime or censuring an individual, and may disclose investigatory records compiled for law enforcement purposes.

*Written Statements:* Pursuant to section 10(a)(3) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 and 41 CFR 102-3.140, the public or interested organizations may submit written comments to the Board about its approved agenda pertaining to this meeting or at any time regarding the Board's mission. Individuals submitting a written statement must submit their statement to the Designated Federal Officer at the address listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. Written statements that do not pertain to a scheduled meeting of the Board may be submitted at any time. However, if individual comments pertain to a specific topic being discussed at the planned meeting, then these statements must be received at least 5 calendar days prior to the meeting, otherwise, the comments may not be provided to or considered by the Board until a later date. The Designated Federal Officer will compile all timely submissions with the Board's Chair and ensure such submissions are provided to Board Members before the meeting.

Dated: January 8, 2018.

**Aaron Siegel,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 2018-00335 Filed 1-10-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5001-06-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Oak Ridge Reservation

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Oak Ridge Reservation. The Federal Advisory Committee Act requires that public notice of this meeting be announced in the **Federal Register**.