

PART 552—SOLICITATION PROVISIONS AND CONTRACT CLAUSES

2. Section 552.270-2 is revised to read as follows:

552.270-2 Historic Preference.

As prescribed in 570.602, insert the following provision:

Historic Preference October 2001

(a) The Government will give preference to offers of space in historic properties following this hierarchy of consideration:

(1) Historic properties within historic districts.

(2) Non-historic developed and non-historic undeveloped sites within historic districts.

(3) Historic properties outside of historic districts.

(b) Definitions. (1) *Determination of eligibility* means a decision by the Department of the Interior that a district, site, building, structure or object meets the National Register criteria for evaluation although the property is not formally listed in the National Register. (36 CFR 60.3(c))

(2) *Historic district* means a geographically definable area, urban or rural, possessing a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united by past events or aesthetically by plan or physical development. A district may also comprise individual elements separated geographically but linked by association or history. (36 CFR 60.3(d)) The historic district must be included in or be determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

(3) *Historic property* means any pre-historic or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in or been determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the Secretary of the Interior. (36 CFR 800.16(l))

(4) *National Register of Historic Places* means the National Register of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering and culture that the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to expand and maintain under the National Historic Preservation Act. (36 CFR 60.1)

(c) The offer of space must meet the terms and conditions of this solicitation. The Contracting Officer has discretion to accept alternatives to certain architectural characteristics and safety features defined elsewhere in this solicitation to maintain the historical

integrity of an historic building, such as high ceilings and wooden floors, or to maintain the integrity of an historic district, such as setbacks, floor-to-ceiling heights, and location and appearance of parking.

(d) When award will be based on the lowest price technically acceptable source selection process, the Government will give a price evaluation preference, based on the total annual square foot (ANSI/BOMA Office Area) cost to the Government, to historic properties as follows:

(1) First to suitable historic properties within historic districts, a 10 percent price preference.

(2) If no suitable historic property within an historic district is offered, or the 10 percent preference does not result in such property being the lowest price technically acceptable offer, the Government will give a 2.5 percent price preference to suitable non-historic developed or undeveloped sites within historic districts.

(3) If no suitable non-historic developed or undeveloped site within an historic district is offered, or the 2.5 percent preference does not result in such property being the lowest price technically acceptable offer, the Government will give a 10 percent price preference to suitable historic properties outside of historic districts.

(4) Finally, if no suitable historic property outside of historic districts is offered, no historic price preference will be given to any property offered.

(e) When award will be based on the best value tradeoff source selection process, which permits tradeoffs among price and non-price factors, the Government will give a price evaluation preference, based on the total annual square foot (ANSI/BOMA Office Area) cost to the Government, to historic properties as follows:

(1) First to suitable historic properties within historic districts, a 10 percent price preference.

(2) If no suitable historic property within a historic district is offered or remains in the competition, the Government will give a 2.5 percent price preference to suitable non-historic developed or undeveloped sites within historic districts.

(3) If no suitable non-historic developed or undeveloped site within an historic district is offered or remains in the competition, the Government will give a 10 percent price preference to suitable historic properties outside of historic districts.

(4) Finally, if no suitable historic property outside of historic districts is offered, no historic price preference will be given to any property offered.

(f) The Government will compute price evaluation preferences by reducing the price(s) of the offerors qualifying for a price evaluation preference by the applicable percentage provided in this provision. The price evaluation preference will be used for price evaluation purposes only. The Government will award a contract in the amount of the actual price(s) proposed by the successful offeror and accepted by the Government.

(g) To qualify for a price evaluation preference, offerors must provide satisfactory documentation in their offer that their property is qualifies as one of the following:

(1) An historic property within an historic district.

(2) A non-historic developed or undeveloped site within an historic district.

(3) An historic property outside of an historic district. (End of provision)

Dated: May 30, 2001.

David A. Drabkin,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Acquisition Policy.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Parts 222 and 223

[Docket No. 000320077-1177-02; I.D. 062501B]

RIN 0648-AN62

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Sea Turtle Conservation Requirements

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Proposed rule; correction.

SUMMARY: This document, filed October 1, 2001, and published in the **Federal Register** on October 2, 2001, has inadvertently published without a RIN. This correction corrects that omission.

DATES: Written comments will be accepted on or before November 19, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robert Hoffman (ph. 727-570-5312, fax 727-570-5517, e-mail Robert.Hoffman@noaa.gov), or Therese A. Conant (ph. 301-713-1401, fax 301-713-0376, e-mail Therese.Conant@noaa.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

This document, published at 66 FR 50148, October 2, 2001, inadvertently omitted the RIN.

Correction

Accordingly, the RIN is corrected to read as set forth above.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1531-1544; and 16 U.S.C. 742a *et seq.*, unless otherwise noted.

Dated: October 15, 2001.

William T. Hogarth,

Assistant Administrator of Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 01-26455 Filed 10-18-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 223

[Docket No.010723187-1241-02, I.D. 061101I]

RIN 0648-AP33

Threatened Fish and Wildlife; Status Review of the Gulf of Maine/Bay of Fundy Population of Harbor Porpoise under the Endangered Species Act (ESA)

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of final determination and response to comments; notice of availability of final harbor porpoise status review; removal from candidate species list.

SUMMARY: The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has completed a status review of the Gulf of Maine/Bay of Fundy (GOM/BOF) stock of harbor porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*). Based on analysis of the best scientific and commercial data available, as required by the Endangered Species Act (ESA), NMFS determined that listing this stock of harbor porpoise as threatened or endangered is not warranted at this time. In addition, based on the current status of the GOM/BOF stock, NMFS is removing this stock from the ESA candidate species list. This notice also announces the availability of the final status review.

DATES: This determination was made on September 28, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the final report of the status review can be obtained from: NMFS, Marine Mammal Division, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD

20910; or NMFS, Northeast Region, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Emily Hanson, Office of Protected Resources, 301-713-2322 ext. 101; or Kim Thounhurst, Northeast Region, 978-281-9138. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Access

The final report of the status review on the GOM/BOF population of harbor porpoise is accessible by the Internet at <http://www.nero.nmfs.gov/porptrp/>.

Background

On August 2, 2001 (66 FR 40176), NMFS published a draft review of the biological status of the Gulf of Maine/Bay of Fundy (GOM/BOF) harbor porpoise stock. In the draft status review, NMFS made the preliminary determination that listing the GOM/BOF stock as threatened under the ESA was not warranted and that NMFS intended to remove the GOM/BOF harbor porpoise stock from the ESA candidate species list. In a status review completed in 1999 (64 FR 465, January 5, 1999), NMFS determined that listing the GOM/BOF population of harbor porpoise as threatened under the ESA was not warranted. NMFS also published a notice retaining the population on the ESA candidate species list to continue to monitor the species status and the results of implementation of the Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Plan (HPTRP)(64 FR 480, January 5, 1999). The 1999 status review notice and the August 2001 draft status review notice also provided information on the background of ESA actions involving the GOM/BOF population of harbor porpoise, reviewed available scientific and commercial fishery information affecting the species, evaluated the status of the species according to criteria listed in the ESA, and described regulatory mechanisms in place to address harbor porpoise mortality and serious injury incidental to commercial fishing activities.

After consideration of the draft status review and public comments received, NMFS has determined not to list the harbor porpoise as threatened or endangered under the ESA and to remove the species from the ESA candidate species list. No significant

changes have been made to the final report of the status review since publication of the draft in the **Federal Register** on August 2, 2001. The final status review is available to the public as a separate document. See **ADDRESSES** or information on Electronic Access in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice for information on obtaining a copy of the final status review.

Comments and Responses

A summary of the comments on the status review and NMFS responses follows.

Comments on the Need for Listing

Comment 1: Three commenters supported NMFS' decision not to list harbor porpoise as threatened or endangered under the ESA.

Response: No information has been received since the publication of the draft status review to change NMFS' preliminary determination that listing is not warranted at this time.

Comments on the Status of Harbor Porpoise

Comment 2: One commenter, citing various potential negative biases in the mortality estimate, stated that actual mortality of harbor porpoise is likely to be higher than the annual estimated average mortality presented in the draft status review.

Response: NMFS recognizes that mortality estimates contain uncertainties. However, the estimates of mortality in U.S. and Canadian waters presented in the draft status review are the best available estimates. Additionally, these uncertainties are incorporated into the population viability analysis, as discussed in the draft status review, which predicted no chance of extinction in 100 years. These mortality estimates are reviewed and updated annually in NMFS Marine Mammal Stock Assessment Reports. The draft revised stock assessment for harbor porpoise, including mortality data from 1999 and 2000, is expected to be reviewed by the Atlantic Marine Mammal Scientific Review Group in November of 2001. The draft estimates will also be made available for public review and comment in the 2002 Stock Assessment Reports.

Comment 3: One commenter stated that NMFS must undertake the research recommended by the take reduction team to: (1) determine whether pingers were functioning on both sides of an actual take; and (2) randomly test net strings to determine the proportion of functioning versus deployed pingers.