

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or e-mail comments must be received on or before December 26, 2007.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)427-2521; and Southeast Region, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701; phone (727)824-5312; fax (727)824-5309.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application should be mailed to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301)427-2521, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period.

Comments may also be submitted by e-mail. The mailbox address for providing e-mail comments is NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line of the e-mail comment the following document identifier: File No. 10022.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrick Opay or Amy Hapeman, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR 222-226).

The purpose of the proposed research is to determine the significance of Florida's northwest coastal bays to sea turtle development. The applicant would assess sea turtle population abundance and composition, determine size classes, evaluate growth, identify seasonal movements, define overwintering behaviors, investigate developmental migration, and further assess affects of cold-stunning events on sea turtles in the area. The applicant requests authorization to conduct research off the northwest coast of Florida for 5 years. Researchers would capture up to 40 loggerhead, 600 green, and 110 Kemp's ridley sea turtles using

strike-net, set-net, or hand capture techniques. Animals would be weighed, measured, photographed, skin biopsied, flipper and Passive Integrated Transponder tagged, and released.

Dated: November 16, 2007.

P. Michael Payne,

Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. E7-22953 Filed 11-23-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[Docket No. 071018607-7707-02]

NOAA Cooperative Institutes (CIs): (1) Alaska and Related Arctic Regions Environmental Research and (2) Earth System Modeling for Climate Applications

AGENCY: Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; Correction.

SUMMARY: On October 24, 2007, the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) published a notice of availability of funds to establish two new NOAA cooperative institutes (CIs): (1) Alaska and Related Arctic Regions Environmental Research and (2) Earth System Modeling for Climate Applications (72, FR 60317). That notice contained a typographical error in the discussion under the heading "Earth System Modeling for Climate Applications CI." This notice corrects the error.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. John Cortinas, 1315 East West Highway, Room 11326, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910; telephone 301-734-1090. Facsimile: (301) 713-3515; e-mail: John.Cortinas@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Correction

The sixth sentence of the section entitled, "Earth System Modeling for Climate Applications CI" contained a typographical error. The sentence, "The proposed Alaska CI should possess outstanding capabilities to provide research under three themes: (1) Earth system modeling and analysis, (2) data assimilation, and (3) earth system modeling applications" is corrected to read, "The proposed Earth System Modeling CI should possess outstanding

capabilities to provide research under three themes: (1) Earth system modeling and analysis, (2) data assimilation, and (3) earth system modeling applications."

All other requirements and information listed in the original notice remain the same.

Classification: Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements.

The Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements contained in the **Federal Register** notice of December 30, 2004 (69 FR 78389) are applicable to this solicitation.

Limitation of Liability

Funding for years 2-5 of the Cooperative Institute is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. In no event will NOAA or the Department of Commerce be responsible for application preparation costs if these programs fail to receive funding or are cancelled because of other agency priorities. Publication of this announcement does not oblige NOAA to award any specific project or to obligate any available funds.

Paperwork Reduction Act

This notification involves collection of information requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act. The use of Standard Forms 424, 424A, 424B, and SF-LLL and CD-346 has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) respectively under control numbers 0348-0043, 0348-0044, 0348-0040, and 0348-0046 and 0605-0001. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the PRA unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

Executive Order 12866

It has been determined that this notice is not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

Executive Order 13132 (Federalism)

It has been determined that this notice does not contain policies with Federalism implications as that term is defined in Executive Order 13132.

Administrative Procedure Act/Regulatory Flexibility Act

Prior notice and an opportunity for public comment are not required by the Administrative Procedure Act or any other law for rules concerning public property, grants, benefits, and contracts (5 U.S.C. 553(a)(2)). Because notice and opportunity for comments are not

required pursuant to U.S.C. 553 or any other law, the analytical requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*) are inapplicable. Therefore, a regulatory flexibility analysis is not required and none has been prepared.

Dated: November 14, 2007.

Mark E. Brown,

Chief Financial Officer, Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 07-5828 Filed 11-23-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-KD-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XD16

Marine Mammals; File No. 782-1702

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS National Marine Mammal Laboratory, 7600 Sand Point Way, NE, Seattle, WA 98115-0070 has been issued an amendment to scientific research Permit No. 782-1702.

ADDRESSES: The amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)427-2521;

Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0700; phone (206)526-6150; fax (206)526-6426; and

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562)980-4001; fax (562)980-4018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tammy Adams or Kate Swails, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 10, 2007, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (72 FR 57524) that an amendment of Permit No. 782-1702 had been requested by the above-named organization. The requested amendment has been granted under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216).

The amended permit adds authorization to conduct additional activities on up to 20 adult harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*) annually in Washington and Oregon. These seals, excluding pregnant or lactating females, would receive gas anesthesia following capture, have stomach temperature transmitters inserted via stomach intubation, and have an external data logger attached externally. The purpose of the additional protocols is to augment current studies on harbor seal diet and abundance. This amendment would not result in capture or disturbance of marine mammals beyond those numbers already authorized by the subject permit, which was issued on September 16, 2003 (68 FR 58663).

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), a final determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Dated: November 19, 2007.

P. Michael Payne,

Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. E7-22954 Filed 11-23-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN: 0648-XD90

Caribbean Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The Caribbean Fishery Management Council (Council) and its Administrative Committee will hold meetings.

DATES: The meetings will be held on December 11-12, 2007. The Council will convene on Tuesday, December 11, 2007, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the Administrative Committee will meet from 5:15 p.m. to 6 p.m., on that same day. The Council will reconvene on Wednesday, December 12, 2007, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., approximately.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Marriott Frenchman's Reef & Morning Star Hotel, 5 Estate Bakkeroe, St. Thomas, U.S.V.I.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Caribbean Fishery Management Council, 268 Munoz Rivera Avenue, Suite 1108, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00918-1920; telephone: (787) 766-5926.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council will hold its 126th regular public meeting to discuss the items contained in the following agenda:

December 11, 2007 - 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Call to Order
Adoption of Agenda
Consideration of 125th Council Meeting Verbatim Transcription
Executive Director's Report
Nassau Grouper Initiative
Scoping Meetings Report - Graciela Garcia-Moliner
Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) Report - Barbara Kojis
MRIP - John Boreman
USVI Marine Debris Removal Project

December 11, 2007 - 5:15 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Administrative Committee Meeting
-AP/SSC/HAP Membership
-Budget 2007
-SOPPs Amendment
Other Business

December 12, 2007 - 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Caribbean HMS Regulatory Planning and Issues Discussion - Russell Dunn
Navassa Island
Enforcement Reports
-Puerto Rico
-U.S. Virgin Islands
-NOAA
-US Coast Guard
Administrative Committee
Recommendations
Meetings Attended by Council Members and Staff
Other Business
Next Council Meeting

The meetings are open to the public, and will be conducted in English. Fishers and other interested persons are invited to attend and participate with oral or written statements regarding agenda issues.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice 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 Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities.