

reappointed must completely update their nominations and provide a new background disclosure form (AD-755) to reaffirm their candidacy. Service as a task force member shall not constitute employment by, or the holding of an office of the United States for the purpose of Federal law.

A task force member shall serve for a term of 2 years. Task force members shall receive no compensation from NRCS for their service as task force members except as described below.

While away from home or regular place of business as a member of the task force, the member will be eligible for travel expenses paid by NRCS, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at the same rate as a person employed intermittently in the Government service, under Section 5703 of Title 5, United States Code.

Additional information about AAQTF is located on the Internet at <http://www.airquality.nrcs.usda.gov/AAQTF/>.

### Submitting Nominations

Nominations should be typed and include the following:

1. A brief summary of no more than two pages explaining the nominee's qualifications to serve on AAQTF;
2. Resume;
3. A completed copy of Form AD-755;
4. Any recent publications relative to air quality; and
5. Any letters of endorsement.

Nominations should be sent to Michele Laur at the address listed above and postmarked no later than August 4, 2008.

### Equal Opportunity Statement

To ensure that recommendations of the task force take into account the needs of underserved and diverse communities served by USDA, membership shall include, to the extent practicable, individuals representing minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

Signed in Washington, DC, on June 3, 2008.

**Arlen L. Lancaster,**

*Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service.*

[FR Doc. E8-13675 Filed 6-17-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-16-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

#### Applications for Duty-Free Entry of Scientific Instruments

Pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Educational, Scientific and Cultural

Materials Importation Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89-651, as amended by Pub. L. 106-36; 80 Stat. 897; 15 CFR part 301), we invite comments on the question of whether instruments of equivalent scientific value, for the purposes for which the instruments shown below are intended to be used, are being manufactured in the United States.

Comments must comply with 15 CFR 301.5(a)(3) and (4) of the regulations and be postmarked on or before (Insert date 20 days after publication in the **Federal Register**). Address written comments to Statutory Import Programs Staff, Room 2104, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230. Applications may be examined between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the U.S. Department of Commerce in Room 2104.

Docket Number: 08-026. Applicant: Howard Hughes Medical Institute, 4000 Jones Bridge Rd., Chevy Chase, MD 20815. Instrument: Electron Microscope, Model Tecnai Spirit T12BT. Manufacturer: FEI Company, Czech Republic. Intended Use: The instrument is intended to be used to examine all or portions of vertebrate and invertebrate organisms. The instrument will be a means of examination of samples for a wide range of studies. The overall objective is to examine these structures at high resolution. Application accepted by Commissioner of Customs: May 16, 2008.

Dated: June 5, 2008.

**Faye Robinson,**

*Director, Statutory Import Programs Staff.*

[FR Doc. E8-13393 Filed 6-17-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-DS-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Evaluation of State Coastal Management Programs and National Estuarine Research Reserves

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Ocean Service, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to Evaluate and Notice of Availability of Final Findings.

**SUMMARY:** The NOAA Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) announces its intent to evaluate the performance of the Hawaii Coastal Management Program, the Minnesota Coastal Management Program, the San Francisco (California) Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and the California State Coastal Conservancy.

The Coastal Zone Management Program evaluations will be conducted pursuant to section 312 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended (CZMA) and regulations at 15 CFR part 923, Subpart L. The CZMA requires continuing review of the performance of states with respect to coastal program implementation. Evaluation of Coastal Management Programs requires findings concerning the extent to which a state has met the national objectives, adhered to its Coastal Management Program document approved by the Secretary of Commerce, and adhered to the terms of financial assistance awards funded under the CZMA.

Each evaluation will include a site visit, consideration of public comments, and consultations with interested Federal, state, and local agencies and members of the public. A public meeting will be held as part of the site visit. Notice is hereby given of the dates of the site visits for the listed evaluations, and the dates, local times, and locations of the public meetings during the site visits.

**Dates and Times:** The Hawaii Coastal Management Program evaluation site visit will be held July 25–August 4, 2008. One public meeting will be held during the week. The public meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 30, 2008, at 7 p.m. at the Hilo State Office Building, Conference Rooms A, B, and C, 75 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawaii.

Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program evaluation site visit will be held August 4–8, 2008. One public meeting will be held during the week. The public meeting will be held on Monday, August 4, 2008, at 6 p.m. at the Lafayette Community Center, 3026 Minnesota Avenue, Duluth, Minnesota.

The joint San Francisco (California) Bay Conservation and Development Commission and the California State Coastal Conservancy evaluation site visit will be held September 22–26, 2008. One public meeting will be held during the week. The public meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 23, 2008, at 7 p.m. at the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, McAteer-Petris Conference Room, 50 California Street, San Francisco, California.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of states' most recent performance reports, as well as OCRM's evaluation notification and supplemental information request letters to the states, are available upon request from OCRM. Written comments from interested parties regarding these Programs are encouraged and will be accepted until 15 days after the public

meeting held for a Program. Please direct written comments to Kate Barba, Chief, National Policy and Evaluation Division, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS/NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, 10th Floor, N/ORM7, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910. When the evaluation is completed, OCRM will place a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing the availability of the Final Evaluation Findings.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given of the availability of the final evaluation findings for the Ohio Coastal Management Program (CMP). Section 312 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (CZMA), as amended, requires a continuing review of the performance of coastal states with respect to approval of CMPs.

The state of Ohio was found to be implementing and enforcing its federally approved coastal management programs addressing the national coastal management objectives identified in CZMA Section 303(2)(A)–(K), and adhering to the programmatic terms of its financial assistance awards.

A copy of these final evaluation findings may be obtained upon written request from: Kate Barba, Chief, National Policy and Evaluation Division, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS/NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, 10th Floor, N/ORM7, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, or [Kate.Barba@noaa.gov](mailto:Kate.Barba@noaa.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kate Barba, Chief, National Policy and Evaluation Division, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS/NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, 10th Floor, N/ORM7, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, (301) 563–1182.

Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog 11.419, Coastal Zone Management Program Administration.

Dated: June 12, 2008.

**David M. Kennedy,**

*Director, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

[FR Doc. E8–13747 Filed 6–17–08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–08–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648–XH04**

#### Incidental Takes of Marine Mammals During Specified Activities; Rat Population Eradication at Rat Island, AK

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

**ACTION:** Notice; proposed incidental take authorization; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS has received an application from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for an Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) to take small numbers of marine mammals, by harassment, incidental to the eradication of rat populations at Rat Island, AK. Pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), NMFS is requesting comments on its proposed IHA for these activities.

**DATES:** Comments and information must be received no later than July 18, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments on the application should be addressed to Michael Payne, Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910–3225. The mailbox address for providing email comments is [PR1.0648-XD79@noaa.gov](mailto:PR1.0648-XD79@noaa.gov). Comments sent via e-mail, including all attachments, must not exceed a 10-megabyte file size.

A copy of the application containing a list of the references used in this document may be obtained by writing to the address specified above, telephoning the contact listed below (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**), or visiting the internet at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/permits/incidental.htm>.

Documents cited in this notice may be viewed, by appointment, during regular business hours, at the aforementioned address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Howard Goldstein or Ken Hollingshead, NMFS, (301) 713–2289.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

Sections 101(a)(5)(A) and (D) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) direct the Secretary of Commerce to allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a

specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region if certain findings are made and either regulations are issued or, if the taking is limited to harassment, a notice of a proposed authorization is provided to the public for review.

Authorization shall be granted if NMFS finds that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s) and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for certain subsistence uses, and if the permissible methods of taking and requirements pertaining to the mitigation, monitoring and reporting of such takings are set forth. NMFS has defined “negligible impact” in 50 CFR 216.103 as “...an impact resulting from the specified activity that cannot be reasonably expected to, and is not reasonably likely to, adversely affect the species or stock through effects on annual rates of recruitment or survival.”

Section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA established an expedited process by which citizens of the United States can apply for an authorization to incidentally take small numbers of marine mammals by harassment. Except with respect to certain activities not pertinent here, the MMPA defines “harassment” as:

any act of pursuit, torment, or annoyance which (i) has the potential to injure a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild [Level A harassment]; or (ii) has the potential to disturb a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild by causing disruption of behavioral patterns, including, but not limited to, migration, breathing, nursing, breeding, feeding, or sheltering [Level B harassment].

Section 101(a)(5)(D) establishes a 45-day time limit for NMFS review of an application followed by a 30-day public notice and comment period on any proposed authorizations for the incidental harassment of marine mammals. Within 45 days of the close of the comment period, NMFS must either issue or deny issuance of the authorization.

#### Summary of Request

On February 29, 2008, NMFS received a letter from the USFWS, requesting issuance of a proposed IHA. The requested IHA would authorize the take, by harassment, of small numbers of Steller sea lions (*Eumetopias jubatus*), and Pacific harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina richardsi*), incidental to rat population eradication and bait application operations. Operations will be conducted on foot, by watercraft (boat), and by aircraft (helicopter) by a field crew.