

We considered the addition of five days of in-water pile driving work at the same location and time, involving the same size and type of piles and conducted by the same means (*i.e.*, vibratory hammer), and determined that the addition of this activity remains within the scope of analysis provided by the Navy's EA and considered in our adoption memorandum and FONSI. Therefore, we do not need to conduct additional analysis under NEPA.

Authorization

As a result of these determinations, we have issued an IHA to the Navy for conducting the described pier maintenance activities in Sinclair Inlet, from December 1, 2015, through November 30, 2016, provided the previously described mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements are incorporated.

Dated: November 20, 2015.

Perry F. Gayaldo,

Deputy Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2015-30125 Filed 11-25-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XE315

Endangered Species; File Nos. 19331 and 19642

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of applications.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Harold Brundage [Responsible Party], Environmental Research and Consulting, Inc.; 126 Bancroft Rd; Kennett Square, PA 19348, has applied in due form for a permit [File No. 19331] to take shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*) and Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus*) for purposes of conducting scientific research; and that Jason Kahn [Responsible Party], NOAA Fisheries, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, has applied in due form for a permit to take shortnose sturgeon and Atlantic sturgeon for purposes of scientific research.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before December 28, 2015.

ADDRESSES: The applications and related documents are available for

review by selecting "Records Open for Public Comment" from the "Features" box on the Applications and Permits for Protected Species (APPS) home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting either File No. 19331 or File No. 19642 from the list of available applications.

These documents are also available upon written request or by appointment in the Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301) 427-8401; fax (301) 713-0376.

Written comments on these applications should be submitted to the Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, at the address listed above. Comments may also be submitted by facsimile to (301) 713-0376, or by email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Please include the File No. in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request to the Chief, Permits and Conservation Division at the address listed above. The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on either of these applications would be appropriate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Malcolm Mohead or Rosa L. González, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permits are 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 parts 222-226).

File No. 19331: The applicant proposes to combine and continue similar shortnose and Atlantic sturgeon research currently authorized in the Delaware River and Estuary by Permit No 14604 (expiring on April 19, 2016) and Permit No. 16438 (expiring on April 5, 2017), respectively. At issuance of Permit No. 19331, both of the former permits would be terminated. The applicant's new objectives would be to characterize Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon habitat use in the lower Delaware River (between rkm 0 to rkm 245), studying the relative abundance, recruitment, temporal-spatial distributions, and reproduction, as well as assessing the potential for entrainment and impingement of various life stages of Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon at the intakes of selected industrial sites on the Delaware River. The permit would be valid for five years from the date of issuance.

File No. 19642: The applicant has proposed two studies to study Atlantic

and shortnose sturgeon in the Chesapeake Bay and other river systems of the Atlantic coast. The primary objective of Study No. 1 would be discovering and quantifying new populations of Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon in the York, Rappahannock, Potomac, and Susquehanna Rivers, and other Chesapeake Bay tributaries of Virginia and Maryland. Researchers would also attempt to monitor spawning activity, movement, and habitat use of individuals of these populations through telemetry and side-scan sonar technology. In Study No. 2, researchers would opportunistically sample Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon legally captured under ESA incidental take permits or incidental take statements authorized by NMFS in other actions. Goals would be to track coastal movements of both species in mixed marine stocks. The permit would be valid for five years from the date of issuance.

Dated: November 23, 2015.

Julia Harrison,

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

[FR Doc. 2015-30133 Filed 11-25-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Technical Information Service

National Technical Information Service Advisory Board Meeting

AGENCY: National Technical Information Service, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the next meeting of the National Technical Information Service Advisory Board (the Advisory Board), which advises the Secretary of Commerce and the Director of the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) on policies and operations of the Service.

DATES: The Advisory Board will meet on Monday, December 7, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. to approximately 2:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The Advisory Board will be held in Room 116 of the NTIS Facility at 5301 Shawnee Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22312. Please note admittance instructions under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Bruce Borzino, (703) 605-6405, bborzino@ntis.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NTIS Advisory Board is established by section 3704b(c) of title 15 of the United States

Code. The charter has been filed in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.).

The meeting will focus on a review of NTIS data mission and strategic direction. A final agenda and summary of the proceedings will be posted at NTIS Web site as soon as they are available (<http://www.ntis.gov/about/advisorybd.aspx>).

The NTIS Facility is a secure one. Accordingly persons wishing to attend should call the NTIS Visitors Center, (703) 605-6040, to arrange for admission no later than Thursday, December 3, 2015. If there are sufficient expressions of interest, up to one-half hour will be reserved for public comments during the session. Questions from the public will not be considered by the Board but any person who wishes to submit a written question for the Board's consideration should mail or email it to the NTIS Visitor Center, bookstore@ntis.gov, Subject: NTIS Advisory Board, not later than Thursday, December 3, 2015.

Dated: November 23, 2015.

Bruce Borzino,
Director.

[FR Doc. 2015-30198 Filed 11-25-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Digital Economy Board of Advisors, Establishment and Call for Nominations

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

ACTION: Notice of establishment and call for nominations to serve on the Digital Economy Board of Advisors.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information announces the establishment of the Digital Economy Board of Advisors on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce. The Board will advise and provide recommendations to the Secretary, through the Assistant Secretary, on a broad range of issues concerning the digital economy and Internet policy. This Notice also requests nominations of individuals for membership on the Board.

DATES: Nominations should be submitted electronically using the online nomination form on or before December 23, 2015, at midnight Eastern Standard Time.

ADDRESSES: Applicants should submit nominations electronically, with the information specified below, using the online nomination form located at www.ntia.doc.gov/digital-economy.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Evelyn Remaley, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), at (202) 482-3821 or DEBA@ntia.doc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.) and the National Telecommunications & Information Administration's authorizing statute, 47 U.S.C. 904(b), the Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information (Assistant Secretary) announces the establishment of the Digital Economy Board of Advisors (the Board) on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce. The Board is established under the direction of the Secretary and with the concurrence of the General Services Administration.

I. Background

Economic prosperity is increasingly tied to the digital economy, which is a key driver of jobs, business creation, and innovation. Indeed, virtually every modern company relies on the Internet to grow and thrive. As a result, the Department of Commerce (Department) has made technology and Internet policy a top priority, investing resources to address the challenges and opportunities businesses face in a global economy.

On November 9, 2015, the Secretary of Commerce unveiled the Department's new Digital Economy Agenda, which will help businesses and consumers realize the potential of the digital economy to advance growth and opportunity. The Agenda focuses on four key objectives: promoting a free and open Internet worldwide; promoting trust online; ensuring access for workers, families, and companies; and promoting innovation. To support the Agenda, the Secretary has directed the creation of a Digital Economy Board of Advisors to enable the Department to have a mechanism for receiving regular advice from leaders in industry, academia, and civil society. The Secretary determined that the establishment of the Board is necessary and serves the public interest.

II. Description of Duties

The Board's primary duty will be to provide independent advice and recommendations to the Secretary, through the Assistant Secretary, on a broad range of policy issues impacting the digital economy. The Board will serve as a centralized forum for

gathering consensus input from a wide range of stakeholders and experts. The Board's mission is to provide advice in furtherance of increasing domestic prosperity, improving education, and facilitating participation in political and cultural life through the application and expansion of digital technologies.

The Board's advice will focus on ensuring that the Internet continues to thrive as an engine of growth, innovation, and free expression. In carrying out its duties, the Board's activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Gathering information and providing an analysis of challenges related to the global free flow of information on the Internet, including policies that could restrict cross-border information flows;
- Providing advice on other policy matters that impact the digital economy, such as expanding broadband capacity, enhancing cybersecurity, protecting privacy, and examining the role of intermediaries;
- Promoting the development of new digital technologies, and
- Analyzing the impact of the Internet on job growth and the economy as a whole.

The Department will use the advice provided by the Board to inform its decision-making process and advance Administration goals.

III. Board Structure and Composition

The Board will be comprised of no fewer than five (5) and no more than 30 members, including the Chair(s). The Secretary will appoint members of the Board for two-year terms. Members will serve at the Secretary's pleasure and discretion and may be reappointed for additional terms. The Assistant Secretary, with input from the Secretary, will appoint one or more members to serve as Chair or Co-Chairs. The Chair(s) will serve at the pleasure and discretion of the Assistant Secretary. The Board will meet approximately quarterly, or as determined by the DFO.

The Board will consist of leaders in industry and civil society who are prominent experts in their fields and recognized for their professional achievements. The Secretary will appoint objective members and ensure balanced representation. Membership is voluntary and, thus, members will not receive compensation for their time or reimbursement for travel or per diem expenses.

Members of the Board will be appointed as Special Government Employees (SGEs). See <http://www.oge.gov/Topics/Selected->