

that a modification of Permit No. 1295, issued June 4, 2001 (66 FR 29934), had been requested by the above-named organization. The requested modification has been granted 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 modification authorizes the NEFSC (1) to conduct research designed to develop and test methods to reduce incidental bycatch of sea turtles that occurs in a commercial pound net fishery (2) to sample sea turtles captured during research designed to develop and test methods to reduce incidental bycatch of these species that occurs in scallop drag fisheries, and (3) to sample sea turtles captured during the NEFSC's biennial shark longline surveys. The modification would authorize an additional take of 113 loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*), 2 green (*Chelonia mydas*), 40 Kemp's Ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*) and 2 leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) sea turtles annually during the remaining 2 years of the existing permit. The research will be conducted in the shelf waters of the Atlantic Ocean from Florida to the Gulf of Maine. Up to 2 loggerhead and 3 Kemp's Ridley sea turtle interactions are expected to result in lethal takes annually.

Issuance of this modification, as required by the ESA was based on a finding that such permit (1) was applied for in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species which is the subject of this permit, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: May 6, 2004.

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 042804A]

Endangered Species; File No. 1245

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit modification.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that J. David Whitaker, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 12559, Charleston, South Carolina 29422–2559, has been issued a modification to scientific research Permit No. 1245.

ADDRESSES: The modification 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)713–0376; and,

Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702–2432; phone (727)570–5301; fax (727)570–5320.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Jefferies or Carrie Hubard, (301)713–2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 13, 2003, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (68 FR 64320) that modification of Permit No. 1245, issued May 19, 2000 (65 FR 36666), had been requested by the above-named individual. The requested modification has been granted 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).

Permit No. 1245 authorizes the permit holder to capture, handle, flipper and PIT tag, blood and tissue sample, perform ultrasound and release 350 loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*), 50 Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*), 10 green (*Chelonia mydas*), 5 hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) and 3 leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) turtles along the Southeast United States coastline. The modification will authorize the researchers to satellite tag 9 loggerhead turtles and acoustic tag 24 loggerhead turtles in order to begin to determine feeding site fidelity and migratory patterns of juvenile loggerhead sea turtles along the South Carolina coastline. This modification will be authorized for the duration of the Permit which expires on October 31, 2005.

Issuance of this modification, as required by the ESA was based on a finding that such permit (1) was applied for in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species which is the subject of this permit, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: May 6, 2004.

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

[FR Doc. 04–10786 Filed 5–11–04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Technology Administration

National Medal of Technology Nomination Evaluation Committee, Notice of Charter Renewal; Renewal of the President's National Medal of Technology Nomination Evaluation Committee Charter

AGENCY: Technology Administration,
Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of the renewal of the National Medal of Technology Nomination Evaluation Committee Charter.

SUMMARY: Please note that the Secretary of Commerce, with the concurrence of the General Services Administration, has renewed the Charter for the National Medal of Technology Nomination Evaluation Committee on April 12, 2004. It has been determined that the Committee is necessary and in the public interest.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mildred Porter, Director and Designated Federal Official, National Medal of Technology, Technology Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW., Herbert C. Hoover Building, Room 4843, Washington, DC 20230, phone: 202/482–5572; e-mail: NMT@technology.gov.

Dated: May 3, 2004.

Mildred Porter,
Director and Designated Federal Official,
National Medal of Technology.

[FR Doc. 04–10712 Filed 5–11–04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Technology Administration

RIN 0692–AA08

National Medal of Technology's Call for Nominations 2005

AGENCY: Technology Administration,
Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Announcement: call for nominations for the National Medal of Technology 2005.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce's Technology Administration