

they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 12, 2003.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-6592 Filed 3-18-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 031403D]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Basic Requirements for All Marine Mammal Special Exception Permits to Take, Import and Export Marine Mammals, and for Maintaining a Captive Marine Mammal Inventory under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, the Fur Seal Act, and the Endangered Species Act.

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before May 19, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Amy Sloan or Ruth Johnson at 301-713-2289, or to Amy.Sloan@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The respondents will be applicants for and holders of scientific research and enhancement permits, commercial and educational photography permits, public display permits for captures and first-time imports, and Letter of Confirmation holders under the General

Authorization for Level B scientific research projects. The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), the Fur Seal Act (FSA) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA) prohibit the taking, import, and export of marine mammals with certain exceptions. Applicants desiring a permit or authorization to take, import, or export must provide certain information to be used as a basis for determining whether the proposed activity is consistent with the purposes, policies, and requirements of the MMPA, ESA, and/or FSA and if a permit or authorization should be issued. Permit holders and authorized researchers under the General Authorization are required to report periodically on activities conducted and species taken to ensure compliance with permit conditions and protection of the animals. This also updates information as necessary on any marine mammals held captive for purposes of maintaining the marine mammal inventory as required under the 1994 Amendments to the MMPA.

There is no overlap or duplication for marine mammal permit actions under the ESA as the marine mammal regulations (50 CFR 216.32 - 216.44) address requirements of both laws, and a single application and permit covers all requirements of both.

II. Method of Collection

Most application material is paper and written to respond to a required format. Some reports can be submitted electronically.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0084.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; business or other for-profit organizations; not-for-profit institutions; Federal Government; and State, Local, or Tribal Government. The majority of the affected public will be from the scientific research community, photographic journalists, and public display facilities. *Estimated Number of Respondents:* 493.

Estimated Time Per Response: 29 hours for an application for a scientific research or enhancement permit; 20 hours for an application for a public display permit; 10 hours for an application for a photography permit; 19 hours for a major amendment to a permit; 3 hours for a minor amendment to a permit or for a change to a General Authorization; 2 hours for a request to retain or transfer a rehabilitated marine mammal; 1 hour for a foreign government certification and comity statement for a public display export

request; 30 minutes for notification of a public display capture or import; 2 hours for a notification of and report on a public display capture; 30 minutes for an emergency transfer waiver of notifications; 30 minutes for an initial escape report; 1 hour for an one-week status report on an escape; 2 hours for a six-month status report on an escape; 12 hours for a scientific research/enhancement annual or final report; 2 hours for public display or photography permit annual or final report; 8 hours for a General Authorization annual or final report; 2 hours for a marine mammal inventory (1 hour for a transport notification, 30 minutes for a data sheet and a person/holder/facility sheet); and 2 hours for recordkeeping.

Estimated Total Annual Burden

Hours: 6,462.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$1,000.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 12, 2003.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 010203E]

Marine Mammals; File No. 1026-1671

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Belinda L. Rubinstein, New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston, MA 02110 has been issued a permit to take harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*), harp seals (*Phoca groenlandica*), gray seals (*Halichoerus grypus*), hooded seals (*Cystophora cristata*) and ringed seals (*Phoca hispida*) for purposes of scientific research.

ADDRESSES: The permit 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;

Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298; phone (978)281-9200; fax (978)281-9371; 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: Amy Sloan or Ruth Johnson, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 5, 2002, notice was published in the *Federal Register* (67 FR 50632) that a request for a scientific research permit to take harbor seals, harp seals, gray seals, hooded seals, and ringed seals had been submitted by the above-named individual. The requested permit has been issued 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).

Solitary seals will be captured, tagged, sampled (including tooth extraction, blubber biopsy, blood and milk collection, anal swabs and fecal samples), and released. In addition to taking wild animals, the applicant also requests authority to sample conspecifics held in rehabilitation facilities. Samples may be exported and re-imported for analyses. The purposes of the research are to study habitat utilization using satellite telemetry and flipper tagging, determine stock association, and monitor health of phocids along the east coast of the U.S., from Maine to Virginia.

Dated: March 11, 2003.

Stephen L. Leathery,

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

[FR Doc. 03-6594 Filed 3-18-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Strategic Advisory Group Meeting of the U.S. Strategic Command

AGENCY: USSTRATCOM, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of closed meeting.

SUMMARY: The Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) will meet in a closed session on April 24 and 25, 2003.

The mission of the SAG is to provide timely advice on scientific, technical, intelligence, and policy-related issues to the Commander, U.S. Strategic Command during the development of the Nation's war plans. Full development of the topics will require discussion of information classified in accordance with Executive Order 12958, dated April 17, 1995. Access to this information must be strictly limited to personnel having the requisite security clearances and specific need-to-know. Unauthorized disclosure of the information to be discussed at the SAG meeting could have exceptionally grave impact on national defense.

In accordance with section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C., Appendix 2), it has been determined that this SAG meeting concerns matters listed in 5 U.S.C., section 552b(c), and that, accordingly, this meeting will be closed.

DATES: April 24 and 25, 2003.

ADDRESSES: USSTRATCOM, 901 SAC Boulevard, Suite 1F7, Offutt Air Force Base, NE 68113-6030.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Connie Druskis, SAG, (402) 294-4102; Jerome Mahar, Joint Staff, (703) 614-6465.

Dated: March 10, 2003.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 03-6384 Filed 3-18-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before May 19, 2003.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, *e.g.* new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: March 13, 2003.

John Tressler,

Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Title: Report of Children with Disabilities Exiting Special Education During the School Year.

Frequency: Annually.