

calendar days following publication of this notice. Please follow the procedures set forth in Section 315.9 of EDA's final rule (71 FR 56704) for procedures for requesting a public hearing. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance official program number and title of the program under which these petitions are submitted is 11.313, Trade Adjustment Assistance.

Dated: November 21, 2006.

**William P. Kittredge,**

*Program Officer for TAA.*

[FR Doc. E6-20125 Filed 11-27-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-24-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

#### U.S. Electronic Education Fair for China

**AGENCY:** International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** U.S. accredited colleges and universities are invited to participate in the U.S. Electronic Education Fair For China by purchasing space on the initiative's Internet landing page.

**DATES:** We are extending the application window until 3 p.m. EST December 8, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** E-mail: Alex Feldman: [Alex.Feldman@mail.doc.gov](mailto:Alex.Feldman@mail.doc.gov). Amber Wesley: [Amber.Wesley@mail.doc.gov](mailto:Amber.Wesley@mail.doc.gov). Fax: 202-482-4821.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Alexander Feldman, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 3850. Tel: (202) 482-8243. Amber Wesley, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 3850. Tel: (202) 482-6357.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The U.S. Electronic Education Fair for China is a joint initiative between the U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. Department of State. The purpose of the initiative is to inform Chinese students who are interested in studying outside of China about the breadth and depth of the higher education opportunities available in the U.S. The initiative will have a three-pronged multimedia approach using television, the Internet and on-ground activities. Two, thirty minute TV programs will be produced in combination with a series of short, 3 minute programs, aired on local cable and national satellite TV stations throughout China all of which will drive viewers to the Internet landing page. DVDs distributed through education trade fairs and also through the 47

EducationUSA advisory centers throughout China will further this message.

Accredited U.S. Institutions are invited to purchase space on the Internet Landing page in order to provide information about their schools. Informational space will be available at a Gold or Silver level. Institutions purchasing at the Gold level, priced at \$8,000, will receive a banner-sized ad with their schools logo and name, which will link to their school Web site. Those who purchase at the Silver level, priced at \$3,000, will have their name listed on the site with a link to their institution Web site.

Dated: November 21, 2006.

**Alexander Feldman,**

*Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary for International Trade.*

[FR Doc. E6-20070 Filed 11-27-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-25-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Institute of Standards and Technology

#### Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology

**AGENCY:** National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, notice is hereby given that the Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology (VCAT), National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), will meet Tuesday, December 12, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Wednesday, December 13, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. The Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology is composed of fifteen members appointed by the Director of NIST who are eminent in such fields as business, research, new product development, engineering, labor, education, management consulting, environment, and international relations.

The purpose of this meeting is to review and make recommendations regarding general policy for the Institute, its organization, its budget, and its programs within the framework of applicable national policies as set forth by the President and the Congress. The theme of this meeting is NIST's role in the international arena in ten years. The agenda will include an update on NIST, an introduction and overview of NIST's international activities, and other presentations that focus on the

importance of NIST as a National Metrology Institute, NIST's evolving role for traceability of chemical and biological measurements, NIST's role in documentary standards, NIST's interactions with the American National Standards Institute and the International Organization for Standardization, and NIST's activities in Iraq. Two laboratory tours also will be featured. The meeting will conclude with an extended discussion on effectively implementing the NIST mission in a growing international marketplace. The agenda may change to accommodate Committee business. The final agenda will be posted on the NIST Web site at <http://www.nist.gov/director/vcat/agenda.htm>.

**DATES:** The meeting will convene on December 12 at 9 a.m. and will adjourn on December 13, 2006, at 11 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in the Employees Lounge, Administration Building, at NIST, Gaithersburg, Maryland. All visitors to the NIST site will have to pre-register to be admitted. Please submit your name, time of arrival, e-mail address and phone number to Carolyn Peters no later than Thursday, December 7, and she will provide you with instructions for admittance. Mrs. Peter's e-mail address is [carolyn.peters@nist.gov](mailto:carolyn.peters@nist.gov) and her phone number is (301) 975-5607.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Carolyn Peters, Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-1000, telephone number (301) 975-5607.

Dated: November 21, 2006.

**James E. Hill,**

*Acting Deputy Director.*

[FR Doc. E6-20105 Filed 11-27-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-13-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 111706B]

#### Endangered Species; File No. 1448

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

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance of permit modification.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Northeast Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), 166 Water Street, Room 211, Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543-1097, [Responsible Party: Nancy

Thompson], has been issued a modification to scientific research Permit No. 1448.

**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)427-2521; and

Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298; phone (978)281-9300; fax (978)281-9394.

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On September 27, 2006, notice was published in the *Federal Register* (71 FR 56478) that a modification of Permit No. 1448, issued January 9, 2004 (69 FR 3332), 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 to biopsy sample up to 50 of the Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*) sea turtles greater than 25 cm total carapace length that the holder is currently authorized to handle and biologically sample under the existing permit. This research will help confirm observer identifications of sea turtles made by collaborating NOAA researchers for animals that have been already incidentally captured in legal commercial fisheries operating in state waters and the Exclusive Economic Zone in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean.

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

Dated: November 21, 2006.

**P. Michael Payne,**

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

[FR Doc. E6-20168 Filed 11-27-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 101106E]

**Endangered and Threatened Species; Recovery Plan for the Hawaiian Monk Seal**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) announces the availability for public review of the draft revised Recovery Plan (Plan) for the Hawaiian monk seal (*Monachus schauinslandi*). NMFS is soliciting review and comment on the Plan from the public and all interested parties, and will consider and address all substantive comments received during the comment period.

**DATES:** Comments on the draft Plan must be received by close of business on January 29, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- Mail: Send comments to Chris Yates, Assistant Regional Administrator, Protected Resources Division, Pacific Islands Regional Office, NMFS, Attn: Michelle Yuen, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814.

- E-mail: [hmsplan@noaa.gov](mailto:hmsplan@noaa.gov). Include in the subject line the following document identifier: Hawaiian Monk Seal Recovery Plan. E-mail comments, with or without attachments, are limited to 5 megabytes.

Interested persons may obtain the Plan for review from the above address or on-line from the NMFS Pacific Islands Region Office website: <http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov/pir/>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michelle Yuen (808-944-2243), e-mail: [michelle.yuen@noaa.gov](mailto:michelle.yuen@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for the conservation and recovery of species listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). The ESA requires that recovery plans incorporate (1) objective, measurable criteria that, when met, would result in a determination that the species is no longer threatened or endangered; (2) site-specific management actions necessary to

achieve the plan's goals; and (3) estimates of the time required and costs to implement recovery actions. The ESA requires the development of recovery plans for listed species unless such a plan would not promote the recovery of a particular species. NMFS's goal is to restore the endangered Hawaiian monk seal (*Monachus schauinslandi*) population to the point where they are again secure, self-sustaining members of their ecosystem and no longer need the protections of the ESA. NMFS will consider all substantive comments and information presented during the public comment period in the course of finalizing this Recovery Plan.

The Hawaiian monk seal has the distinction of being the only endangered marine mammal species whose entire range, historical and current, lies within the United States of America. The majority of the population of Hawaiian monk seals now occupies the northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) with six main breeding sub-populations. The species is also found in lower numbers in the main Hawaiian Islands (MHI), where the population size and range both appear to be expanding. The Hawaiian monk seal was listed as a threatened species under the ESA on November 23, 1976 (41 FR 51612). On April 30, 1986 (51 FR 16047), critical habitat was designated at all beach areas, lagoon waters, and ocean waters out to a depth of 10 fathoms around Kure Atoll, Midway, Pearl and Hermes Reef, Lisianski Island, Laysan Island, Gardner Pinnacles, French Frigate Shoals, Necker Island and Nihoa Island; critical habitat was extended to include Maro Reef and waters around all habitat out to the 20-fathom isobath on May 26, 1988. The best estimate of the total population size in 2005 is 1,252 seals.

This current revised plan was written by the Hawaiian Monk Seal Recovery Team at the request of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries to promote the conservation of the Hawaiian monk seal. The recovery team includes experts on marine mammals from the private sector, academia, and government, as well as experts on endangered species conservation. The goals and objectives of the Plan can be achieved only if a long-term commitment is made to support the actions recommended in the Plan.

The Recovery Plan contains: (1) a comprehensive review of the Hawaiian monk seal population distribution, life history, and habitat use, (2) a threats assessment, (3) conservation efforts, (4) biological and recovery criteria for downlisting and delisting, (4) actions necessary for the recovery of the species, and (5) an implementation