

Request for Panel Review (the deadline for filing a Notice of Appearance is January 6, 1997); and

(c) the panel review shall be limited to the allegations of error of fact or law, including the jurisdiction of the investigating authority, that are set out in the Complaints filed in the panel review and the procedural and substantive defenses raised in the panel review.

Dated: November 27, 1996.

James R. Holbein,

U.S. Secretary, NAFTA Secretariat.

[FR Doc. 96-31263 Filed 12-9-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-GT-M

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Alaska Region Permit Family of Forms; Proposed Collection; Comment Request

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 February 10, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Acting Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Patsy A. Bearden, F/AKO1, NOAA/NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668 (907-586-7228).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

I. Abstract

Fishermen wanting to fish in regulated fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska must apply for a Federal Fisheries Permit, a Federal Processor Permit, a High Seas Power Troller Permit, or an Experimental Fishing Permit. The issuance of a permit is an essential ingredient in the management of fishery resources. Identification of the participants, harvest gear types, descriptions of vessels or shoreside facilities, and

expected activity levels is needed to measure the consequences of management controls, and is an effective tool in the enforcement of other fishery regulations. Experience has shown that fines for violations of specific fishery regulations are not as effective as the threat of a permit revocation that would exclude the vessel from the fishery altogether. Experimental fishing provides information not otherwise available through research or commercial fishing operations.

II. Method of Collection

Each of the four permits is mandatory for certain fishery participants. A permit is obtained through completion of an application.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0206.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular Submission.

Affected Public: Individuals, Businesses and other for-profit (commercial fishermen, fish processors).

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,456.

Estimated Time Per Response: 20 minutes for Federal Fisheries Permits or Federal Processor Permits, 30 minutes for a High Seas Power Troller Permit in the Salmon Fishery, and 30 hours for an Experimental Fishing Permit.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 966 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0—no capital, operations, or maintenance costs are expected.

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: December 2, 1996.

Linda Engelmeier,

Acting Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 96-31259 Filed 12-9-96; 8:45 a.m.]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

[I.D. 112696A]

Incidental Take of Marine Mammals; Bottlenose Dolphins and Spotted Dolphins

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

ACTION: Notice of issuance of letters of authorization.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) as amended, and implementing regulations, notification is hereby given that 1-year letters of authorization to take bottlenose and spotted dolphins incidental to oil and gas structure removal activities were issued on December 4, 1996, to Ensearch Exploration Inc., 4849 Greenville Ave., Suite 1200, Dallas, Texas, 75206-4186; the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co., 1010 Milam Street, Houston, TX 77252; and the Stone Petroleum Corporation, P.O. Box 52807, Lafayette, LA 70505.

ADDRESSES: The applications and letters are available for review in the following offices: Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 and the Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive N, St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth R. Hollingshead, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 713-2055 or Charles Oravetz, Southeast Region (813) 570-5312.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Section 101(a)(5)(A) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) directs NMFS to allow, on request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of small numbers 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 regulations are issued. Under the MMPA, the term "taking" means to harass, hunt, capture, or kill or to attempt to harass, hunt, capture or kill marine mammals.

Permission may be granted for periods up to 5 years if NMFS finds, after notification and opportunity for public comment, that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s) of marine mammals and will