

Sincerely,  
Stuart W. Katzke,  
Chief, Computer Security Division,  
Information Technology Laboratory NIST.

Louis F. Giles,  
Chief, Information Assurance Partnerships  
Evaluations, and Knowledge Management  
NSA.

cc: S. Wakid, Director, Information  
Technology Laboratory, NIST M. Jacobs,  
Deputy Director Information Systems  
Security, NSA

[FR Doc. 99-3718 Filed 2-16-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-M

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 020899B]

#### Marine Mammals; File No. 772#69-03

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

**ACTION:** Issuance of permit amendment.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that  
the Southwest Fisheries Science Center,  
National Marine Fisheries Service, 8604  
La Jolla shores Drive, La Jolla, CA 92038  
has been issued an amendment to  
scientific research Permit No. 1024 (File  
No. 772#69).

**ADDRESSES:** The amendment and related  
documents are available for review  
upon written request or by appointment  
in the following office(s):

Permits and Documentation Division,  
Office of Protected Resources, NMFS,  
1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705,  
Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-  
2289);

Regional Administrator, Southwest  
Region, National Marine Fisheries  
Service, NOAA, 501 West Ocean Blvd.,  
Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213  
(562/980-4001).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sara  
Shapiro or Ruth Johnson, 301/713-2289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On  
January 5, 1999, notice was published in  
the **Federal Register** (64 FR 483) that an  
amendment of Permit No. 1024, issued  
December 30, 1996 (62 FR 1875), had  
been requested by the above-named  
organization. The requested amendment  
has been granted under the authority of  
the Marine Mammal Protection Act of  
1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et*  
*seq.*), the provisions of § 216.39 of the  
Regulations Governing the Taking and  
Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR  
part 216), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966,  
as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

Permit No. 1024 authorizes the permit  
holder to conduct level B harassment  
activities [*i.e.* censuses] on, capture,  
handle, and release Antarctic pinnipeds  
in the South Shetland Islands,  
Antarctica. The holder is now  
authorized to increase the number of  
Antarctic fur seal (*Arctocephalus*  
*gazella*) pups and juveniles to be  
captured and handled for oxygen  
consumption and developmental  
physiology studies. The Holder will  
conduct these activities at Cape Shirreff  
on Livingston Island, Antarctica.

Dated: February 11, 1999.

**E. Ruth Johnson,**

*Acting Chief, Permits and Documentation  
Division, Office of Protected Resources,  
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 99-3848 Filed 2-16-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Air Force

#### Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement To Convert Two F-15 Formal Training Units to F-22 Units at Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida

The United States Congress has  
determined the need exists to phase the  
older F-15 aircraft out of the primary air  
superiority role. The F-22 "Raptor" has  
been chosen as the replacement aircraft  
to fulfill future combat air superiority  
requirements. Therefore, the United  
States Air Force (USAF) is announcing  
its intent to prepare an Environmental  
Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the  
potential environmental impacts of  
converting two of the three existing  
formal training units (FTUs) at Tyndall  
Air Force Base (AFB), Florida from F-  
15s to F-22s. This action will be known  
as the F-22 Conversion EIS.

Tyndall AFB currently supports  
training for the majority of USAF F-15  
air-to-air pilots. It currently supports 87  
aircraft, three FTUs, and 4,600 support  
personnel. In addition, it supports 1,625  
additional personnel assigned to 29  
associated units.

The USAF proposes conversion over  
a 5-year period starting in 2003. During  
this period, the total number of aircraft  
will increase from 78 to 105 at the peak  
(in 2008). From 2008 through 2012, the  
number of F-15s will be reduced to a  
single squadron of 28 aircraft. The total  
number of F-22s will remain constant  
after 2008 with 60 in two squadrons.  
This proposed action includes training  
of student pilots, instructor fighter  
pilots, and ground crews. It will also  
provide for construction, modification

and/or use of operational and training  
facilities (academic facility, simulator,  
etc.), base operating support (housing,  
commissary, etc.), logistics support  
(maintenance facilities, supply,  
transportation), and the necessary  
military airspace to conduct the  
required training.

Because of the increased maneuvering  
capabilities of the F-22 over the F-15,  
additional military airspace is needed  
for pilot training. Currently, Tyndall  
AFB's most frequently used military  
airspace is over water approximately 50  
miles southeast of the base near St.  
George Island. This area is called  
Warning Area-470, or simply W-470. A  
nonregulatory Warning Area (W) is  
airspace of defined dimensions  
designated over international waters  
that contains activity which may be  
hazardous to nonparticipating aircraft.  
The purpose of such warning areas is to  
warn nonparticipating pilots of the  
potential danger.

W-470 starts 3 nautical miles (nm)  
from land and extends south into the  
Gulf of Mexico approximately 100 nm.  
Less frequently, Tyndall AFB aircraft  
use the airspace called W-151 which  
lies over the Gulf of Mexico south of  
Eglin AFB that is approximately 100 nm  
out. Tyndall AFB aircraft also use over  
3,000 square miles of over-land military  
airspace for subsonic air-to-air training.  
The areas to the north, east, and  
southeast of the base are called the  
Tyndall Military Operating Areas  
(MOAs).

For supersonic training, the USAF  
proposes to maximize the use of W-470,  
to increase the frequency of use of W-  
151, and to add W-168 for unrestricted  
training. The W-168 airspace lies south  
and east of W-470, nearly 140 nm from  
St. George Island. It extends offshore  
from approximately Tampa to Ft.  
Meyers. For large-scale exercises and as  
an overflow training area, the USAF  
proposes use of the areas known as the  
Eglin Water Test Areas (EWTAs), which  
is airspace located further out in the  
Gulf, below W-151 and W-470.

The alternatives being considered  
include the mix of military airspace  
used for training and alternative  
locations for siting new facilities.  
Alternative airspace use includes: (1)  
Using the same airspace used by the F-  
15s (Tyndall overland areas, W-470,  
and W-151 on a limited basis),  
including recharting of the over water  
airspace to accommodate the larger area  
needed for the F-22s; (2) using the same  
airspace used by the F-15s, with regular  
use of W-168, increased use of W-151,  
and limited use of the EWTAs and W-  
155; and (3) using the same airspace  
used by the F-15s, with increased use

of W-151 and W-155. W-155 airspace lies over the Gulf of Mexico south of Pensacola, Florida, which extends for about 75 nm. All locations for the construction of new facilities will be on Tyndall AFB.

The USAF is planning a series of public scoping meetings on the following dates and times at the indicated locations:

1. Apalachicola—Community Center, No. 1 Battery Park, March 9, 1999, 7:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

2. Marianna—Chipola Junior College, Public Service Building, 4487 Long House Court, March 10, 1999, 7:30 p.m. Central Standard Time.

3. Tallahassee—Florida State University, Moore Auditorium in the Oglesby Student Union Building, March 11, 1999, 7 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

4. Panama City—Gulf Coast Community College, Gardner Seminar Room, March 12, 1999, 7:30 p.m. Central Standard Time.

The purpose of these meetings is to solicit comments relevant to the scope of issues to be considered in the EIS and to identify significant environmental issues to be analyzed in depth in the EIS from government agencies, private organizations, and the public. Questions or clarifications concerning the proposal, or any other information, will be answered as they relate to the scope of the effort anticipated. The Air Force will consider all reasonable alternatives offered.

The scoping meetings will provide opportunities for clarification of the proposal. Written comments and questions submitted at the meeting or any time during the formal scoping period will be considered in their entirety and will carry the same weight as oral comments.

To ensure the USAF has sufficient time to consider public input in the preparation of the Draft EIS, comments should be submitted to the address below by March 15, 1999. For further information concerning the preparation of the F-22 Conversion EIS, or to provide written comments, please contact: Mr. Herman Bell, Tyndall Air Force Base, Public Affairs Office, 325 FW/PA, 445 Suwannee Road, Suite 129, Tyndall AFB, Florida 32403.

**Carolyn A. Lunsford,**

*Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.*  
[FR Doc. 99-3720 Filed 2-16-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army

#### Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for Pilot Testing Neutralization/Supercritical Water Oxidation of VX Agent at the Newport Chemical Depot, Indiana

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, DoD.  
**ACTION:** Record of decision.

**SUMMARY:** This announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) which documents and explains the Department of the Army's decision to construct and operate a facility to pilot test the chemical neutralization process followed by supercritical water oxidation (SCWO) as a potential disposal technology for agent VX stored at the Newport Chemical Depot (NECD).

**ADDRESSES:** To obtain copies of the ROD, contact Ms. Mona Harney, Newport Outreach Office, 140 South Main Street, Newport, Indiana 47966.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Catherine Herlinger at (800) 488-0648 or (410) 463-2583.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Army has determined that the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) adequately addresses the potential impacts of the Army's actions relating to the disposal of agent VX stored at NECD. The Army has also determined that the conclusions in the Final EIS establish that the decision to pilot test the chemical neutralization process followed by SCWO at the preferred site provides maximum protection to the environment, the general public, and workers at the pilot test facility. The Army plans to dispose of up to 615 tons of agent VX stored at NECD consistent with the terms of the ROD. The alternatives considered in this Final EIS are the proposed action and no action (continued storage of VX in ton containers). Although the no action alternative is not viable under Public Law 99-145, it was analyzed to provide a comparison with the proposed action. In addition, the no action alternative would not comply with Public Law 102-484, which specifies that Army must consider using a technological alternative to incineration.

At one time, the option of sending the neutralization hydrolysate to an off-site treatment facility was under consideration by the Army. However, technical and programmatic evaluations concluded that off-site treatment is not suitable at this time. Based on the results of these impact analyses, it is concluded that conducting pilot test operations at NECD is the preferred

environmental alternative for implementing the neutralization process, followed by SCWO.

Copies of the ROD can be obtained by calling the Newport Outreach Office at (765) 492-4445. Questions may be forwarded to the Office of the Program Manager for Chemical Demilitarization, ATTN: SFAE-CD-P (Ms. Herlinger), Building E4585, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland 21010-4005; or via e-mail at cherlin@cdra.apgea.army.mil.

Dated: February 10, 1999.

**Patrick J. Wakefield,**

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health) OASA (I,L&E).*

[FR Doc. 99-3849 Filed 2-16-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Submission of OMB Review; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Correction notice.

**SUMMARY:** On January 5, 1999, a 60-day notice inviting comment from the public was inadvertently published for the Vocational and Technical Education National Centers in the **Federal Register** (64 FR 484) dated January 5, 1999. This information collection is being submitted under the Streamlined Clearance Process for Discretionary Grant Information Collection (1890-0001). Therefore, this notice amends the public comment period for this program to 30 days. The Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, hereby issues a correction notice on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Since an incorrect public notice was published on January 5, the Department of Education is correcting the end date to the 30 days as required for discretionary grants instead of 60 days.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before March 19, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comment should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Danny Werfel, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW, Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503. Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request should be addressed to Patrick J. Sherrill, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW,