

Changes Since the Preliminary Results

Based on our analysis of comments received, we have made certain changes in the margin calculations. We have also corrected certain programming and clerical errors in our preliminary results, where applicable. We discuss any alleged programming or clerical errors with which we do not agree in the relevant sections of the "Decision Memorandum," accessible in B-099 and on the Web at www.ita.doc.gov/import_admin/records/frn/.

Final Results of Review

As a result of our analysis of the comments received, we determine a final weighted-average margin of 1.24 percent for Aichi for the period February 1, 1998, through January 31, 1999.

The Customs Service will assess antidumping duties on all appropriate entries. The Department will issue appraisement instructions directly to the Customs Service. We have calculated an exporter/customer-specific assessment value for subject merchandise based on the ratio of the total amount of antidumping duties calculated for the examined sales to the total quantity sold.

Cash-Deposit Requirements

The following deposit requirement shall be effective upon publication of this notice of final results of review for all shipments of SSB from Japan, entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the publication date, as provided for by section 751(a)(1) of the Act: (1) The cash-deposit rate for Aichi Steel Corporation will be 1.24 percent; (2) for previously investigated or reviewed companies not listed above, the cash-deposit rate will continue to be the company-specific rate published for the most recent period; (3) if the exporter is not a firm covered in this or any previous reviews or the original less-than-fair-value (LTFV) investigation, but the manufacturer is, the cash-deposit rate will be the rate established for the most recent period for the manufacturer of the merchandise; and (4) if neither the exporter nor the manufacturer is a firm covered in this or any previous review, the cash-deposit rate will continue to be 61.47 percent, the "all-others" rate established in the LTFV investigation (59 FR 66930, December 28, 1994).

The deposit requirements shall remain in effect until publication of the final results of the next administrative review.

This notice serves as a final reminder to importers of their responsibility

under 19 CFR 351.402(f) to file a certificate regarding the reimbursement of antidumping duties prior to liquidation of the relevant entries during this review period. Failure to comply with this requirement could result in the Secretary's presumption that reimbursement of antidumping duties occurred and the subsequent assessment of double antidumping duties.

This notice also serves as a reminder to parties subject to administrative protective order (APO) of their responsibility concerning the disposition of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305. Timely notification of return/destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and the terms of an APO is a sanctionable violation.

We are issuing and publishing this determination in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i)(1) of the Act.

Dated: March 7, 2000.

Robert S. LaRussa,
Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

Appendix—List of Issues

1. U.S. Date of Sale
2. Model Match
3. Level of Trade
4. Duty Drawback
5. U.S. Credit Expenses
6. Home Market Credit Expense
7. Cost of Production and Constructed Value
 - A. Losses on Scrap Inventory
 - B. Understatement of Costs
 - C. General, Selling and Administrative Expenses
 - D. Interest Expense

[FR Doc. 00-6264 Filed 3-13-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[Docket No. 000218045-0045-01]

RIN 0648-ZA80

Sea Grant Minority Serving Institutions Partnership Program; Request for Proposals for FY 2000

AGENCY: National Sea Grant College Program, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of request for proposals.

SUMMARY: The National Sea Grant College Program (Sea Grant) is soliciting

proposals for innovative partnerships to strengthen the capacity of Minority Serving Institutions to foster student careers, research, and workforce competitiveness in marine and related sciences. Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) include educational institutions identified by the Department of Education as (i) Historically Black Colleges and Universities, (ii) Hispanic-Serving Institutions, (iii) Tribal Colleges and Universities, and (iv) MSIs located in U.S. insular areas (see Section III. Eligibility.) Marine sciences are defined as those fields relevant to the protection, management, and development of the Nation's ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources.

Beginning in Fiscal Year 2000, Sea Grant expects to make available about \$300,000 per year, depending on available funding, to support the Sea grant Minority Serving Institution (SG-MSI) Partnership Program. Up to \$150,000 will be reserved for proposals related to aquaculture in a cooperative effort with Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency. Sea Grant expects to fund four to six projects per year. Proposals may request up to \$75,000 per year in federal funds and projects may run up to three years maximum. Matching funds from non-federal sources must provide at least one-third of the total project costs, or in other words, for every \$2 in federal support, a minimum of \$1 in non-federal matching funds is required to be committed to the project.

The SG-MSI Partnership Project projects are intended to provide additional access for MSI students and faculty to research opportunities, career-related experience, and work-study or internships that enhance career opportunities and career growth in the marine sciences and related marine fields. Projects should establish partnerships between the MSI and Sea Grant programs or other universities, research institutions, industry, or organizations (public, nonprofit, or private) engaged in the marine sciences or related marine fields. Proposals must be submitted by the MSI and must identify partner institutions by name in their applications.

DATES AND ADDRESSES: Applicants are encouraged to submit their proposals to their state's Sea Grant program (contact the appropriate state Sea Grant Program from the list below to obtain the mailing address or the address may be obtained on the web site <http://www.nsgo.seagrant.org/SGDirectors.html>); or, if your state does not have a Sea Grant program, to an adjacent state Sea Grant Program.

Proposals must be received before 5:00 p.m. (local time) on May 15, 2000.

Direct submission to the National Sea Grant College Program Office in Silver Spring, MD, while not encouraged, is acceptable. The address is: National Sea Grant College Program, Attn: Mrs. Geraldine Taylor, SG-MSI Competition, Room 11732, NOAA (R/SG), 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Proposals submitted to the National Sea Grant Office must be received by 5:00 p.m. (EST) on May 15, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Francis Schuler, Executive Director, National Sea Grant College Program, R/SG, NOAA, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Tel. (301) 713-2445 ext. 158; e-mail: fritz.schuler@noaa.gov.

Sea Grant Programs

Alaska, University of Alaska (907) 474-7086
California, University of California, San Diego (858) 534-4440
California, University of Southern California (213) 812-1335
Connecticut, University of Connecticut (860) 405-9128
Delaware, University of Delaware (302) 831-2841
Florida, University of Florida (352) 392-5870
Georgia, University of Georgia (706) 542-5954
Hawaii, University of Hawaii (808) 956-7031
Illinois-Indiana, Purdue University (765) 494-3593
Louisiana, Louisiana Sea Grant (225) 388-6710
Maine, University of Maine (207) 581-1435
Maryland, University of Maryland (301) 405-6371
Massachusetts, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (617) 253-7131
Massachusetts, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (508) 289-2557
Michigan, University of Michigan (734) 763-1437
Minnesota, University of Minnesota (218) 726-8710
Mississippi-Alabama, Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium (228) 875-9368
New Hampshire, University of New Hampshire (603) 862-0122
New Jersey, New Jersey Marine Science Consortium (732) 872-1300, Ext. 21
New York, New York Sea Grant Institute, SUNY (631) 632-6905
North Carolina, North Carolina State University (919) 515-2454
Ohio, Ohio State University (614) 292-8949

Oregon, Oregon State University (541) 737-2714

Puerto Rico, University of Puerto Rico (787) 832-3585

Rhode Island, University of Rhode Island (401) 874-6800

South Carolina, South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium (843) 727-2078

Texas, Texas A&M University (409) 845-3854

Virginia, Virginia Graduate Marine Science Consortium (804) 924-5965

Washington, University of Washington (206) 543-6600

Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin-Madison (608) 262-0905

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Program Authority

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1121-1131. Catalog of Federal Assistance Number: 11.417, Sea Grant Support.

II. Program Description

Background

In an effort to address the underrepresentation of minorities in the marine sciences, Sea Grant established a pilot program in the mid-1990s to enhance the capabilities of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) nationwide in the coastal and marine sciences. The Federal investment in this program has been \$750,000 over three years. Awards of \$50,000 per year were made to HBCU institutions via Sea Grant College Programs in their states. The HBCU institutions were Clark-Atlanta University, Delaware State University, Hampton University, Savannah State University, and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

In accord with the Sea Grant mission and with the policy of the U.S. Department of Commerce and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to reach minority institutions, the goals of the SG-MSI Partnership Program are:

1. To significantly increase the exposure of undergraduate MSI students to the marine and coastal sciences and to increase the participation of underrepresented minorities in the marine sciences.

2. To enhance the quality of undergraduate majors and graduate studies to facilitate entrance into existing marine science graduate programs or marine careers.

3. To accelerate the development of strong partnerships and to encourage graduate research, student experiential internships, and faculty development opportunities between MSIs and Sea Grant programs or other universities, research institutions, industry, or organizations (public, nonprofit, or

private) engaged in the marine sciences or related marine fields.

4. To design and encourage the structuring and implementation of curricula and training opportunities for students interested in pursuing business careers as entrepreneurs in the field of aquaculture.

Rationale

The recruitment of minorities into the fields of science and engineering, and especially under-represented minorities, lags behind expectations. According to the National Science Foundation (Women, Minorities and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering: 1996) the percentage of minority scientists and engineers in the workforce ranges from 0.2% for American Indians to 3.5% for African-Americans and Hispanics. Although data are not available for marine sciences in particular, they are included in the general heading of science and natural sciences, and there is every reason to expect the percentages to be similar if not lower.

The quality and nature of academic experience at each step of the educational pipeline are crucial to bringing more minorities into marine science and engineering fields. Bachelors, Master's and Doctoral degrees are the underpinnings of science career achievement and employment. In both undergraduate and graduate levels, Hispanics, African Americans, and Native Americans complete fewer degrees than majority ethnic groups. At the Bachelor's level, National Science Foundation (NSF) data show that African Americans and Hispanics each receive about 4.5% of the bachelor degrees in natural science and engineering; native Americans receive 0.4%. At the Master's level African-Americans and Hispanics receive about 3% of the degrees (NSF Science and Engineering Indicators, 1996). There is additional evidence to suggest that MSI's are underserved in the proportion of grants that they receive from the U.S. Department of Commerce. In FY 1998, MSIs received only 5.8% of Department grants to institutions of higher education. In FY 1999, NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research provided 0.5% of its extramural grants to MSIs.

NOAA and Sea Grant share the commitment of the Department of Commerce to bring more under-represented minorities into marine science and engineering through working with MSIs. Sea Grant's authorizing legislation includes a strong educational mandate at institutions of higher learning.

SG-MSI Partnership Program

The intent of the SG-MSI Partnership Program is to increase the exposure of undergraduate and graduate students from MSIs to the marine and coastal sciences and, ultimately, to increase the capacity of MSIs to promote and launch more students into marine science careers. A SG-MSI Partnership project should develop strong partnerships between MSIs and Sea Grant programs or other universities, research institutions, industry, or organizations (public, nonprofit, or private) engaged in the marine sciences or related marine fields that will augment the capabilities of MSIs. Possible partnership mechanisms include: student research and/or experiential internship opportunities, faculty development opportunities, access to facilities and laboratories or field research, mentoring programs, or other enabling programs to increase interest and participation in marine sciences or related marine fields, including aquaculture. Projects using aquaculture as a tool to teach science, business and as a way to stimulate relationships between MSI's and industry or business are encouraged. These projects should aim at stimulating students' interest in and ability to enter the field of aquaculture as a business endeavor.

Proposals must be submitted from an eligible MSI and are expected to have a rigorous work plan, a strong rationale, and clearly identified and achievable goals. Roles, responsibilities and contributions of all partners must be clearly identified.

Proposals should emphasize innovative approaches to solving the problem of encouraging, preparing, and graduating MSI students into marine science career fields. Proposals should build creatively on existing expertise and research programs of academia, state and national efforts. Innovative, imaginative approaches to the issue are sought that take maximum advantage of the synergies of partnership.

Proposals may request up to \$75,000 per year in federal funds and projects may run up to three years duration. Matching funds from non-federal sources must provide at least one-third of total project costs, or in other words, for every \$2 in federal support, a minimum of \$1 in non-federal matching funds is required to be committed to the project. The required non-federal matching funds may be contributed by the MSI, by the partners, or any other non-federal source. Awards are contingent on Federal funding availability.

III. Eligibility

Minority Serving Institutions eligible to submit proposals include institutions of higher education identified by the Department of Education as (i) Historically Black Colleges and Universities, (ii) Hispanic-Serving Institutions, (iii) Tribal Colleges and Universities, on the "1999 United States Department of Education Accredited Post-Secondary Minority Institutions" list: (<http://www.ed.gov/offices/OCR/99minin.html>). Also, because of their unique dependence on marine resources, (iv) institutions of higher education located in U.S. insular areas that are on the "1999 United States Department of Education Accredited Post-Secondary Minority Institutions" are eligible to submit proposals. (United States' insular areas include the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the freely associated states of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.)

IV. Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation criteria for proposals submitted for support under the SG-MSI Partnership Program are weighted as follows:

(1) *Impact of Proposed Project* (40%): The contributions the project makes to enhancing the capability of the MSI to bring its student population, either undergraduate or graduate, into the marine sciences and related marine fields. The benefit accruing to a faculty from his/her participation in the SG-MSI Partnership Program, including exposure to research and opportunities for professional growth in the marine sciences and related marine fields.

(2) *Quality of Partnership Relationships* (30%): The strength, stability and quality of the proposed partnership. The demonstrated capabilities and interest in marine science or related marine field of the MSI and/or the partner. The degree to which the partners contribute time or in-kind match. Evidence that the partnership has been thought through carefully, with roles and responsibilities clearly identified. Evidence that the partnership can have long term sustainability and usefulness once established. The ability of the partnerships to provide enhanced career opportunities for faculty and students.

(3) *Innovativeness* (15%): The degree to which new approaches are developed to solve problems and exploit opportunities for student and faculty

engagement in marine science and marine resource management.

(4) *Project Personnel* (15%): The caliber of the principal investigators including special skills, past experiences of institutions and investigators, or training that renders the project especially qualified for the SG-MSI Partnership Program.

V. Selection Procedures

Reviews of the proposals will be conducted by an independent peer review panel consisting of university educators, scientists, administrators, and senior level individuals with expertise in academic partnerships and/or familiarity with MSIs and their students. Proposals will be ranked in accordance with the above evaluation criteria (Section IV) by the panel members. The panel members will provide individual evaluations on proposals, but there will be no consensus advice. Their recommendations and evaluations will be considered by the National Sea Grant Office in the final selection of proposals to be funded. The National Sea Grant Office may also consider programmatic or geographic balance and budget availability in the final selection of proposals to be funded. Hence, awards may not necessarily be made to the peer review panel's highest-scored proposals. Investigators may be asked to modify objectives, work plans, budget levels, or project duration prior to final approval of an award.

VI. Instructions for Application

Proposal Preparation

The National Sea Grant Office, NOAA, encourages applicants to discuss their proposal concepts with a local Sea Grant program. The state Sea Grant programs are a valuable source of information about marine issues in their state and region, and can advise applicants new to Sea Grant on the preparation of NOAA and Sea Grant applications.

Timetable

May 15, 2000—Proposals are due 5 p.m., May 15, 2000. (See Section VII. How To Submit for further details.)

July, 2000—Successful applicants can expect to be notified at the beginning of July 2000. Successful applicants may be asked to provide revised narratives and/or budgets which would be due in mid-July.

October 1, 2000—Funds will be awarded through a grant with an expected start date of October 1, 2000. Multiple-year proposals will be funded in annual increments.

Proposal Guidelines

Each proposal should include the items listed below. All pages should be single- or double-spaced, typewritten in at least a 10-point font, and printed on metric A4 (210 mm × 297 mm) 8½" × 11" paper. Brevity will assist reviewers and program staff in dealing effectively with proposals. Therefore, the proposals may not exceed 15 pages. Tables and visual materials, including charts, graphs, maps, photographs and other pictorial presentations are included in the 15-page limitation; literature citations are not included in the 15-page limitation. Conformance to the 15-page limitation will be strictly enforced. All information needed for review of the proposal should be included in the main text; no appendices are permitted. The following information should be included:

(1) Signed title page: The title page should be signed by the Principal Investigator and the institutional representative and should clearly identify the program area being addressed by starting the project title with "SG-MSI Partnership Program." The Principal Investigator and institutional representative should be identified by full name, title, organization, telephone number, e-mail and mailing address. The total amount of Federal funds and matching funds being requested should be listed for each budget period.

(2) See Grant Project Summary Form (90-2): This information is very important. It is critical that the project summary accurately describe the essential elements of the project being proposed. The project summary should include: 1. Title: Use the exact title as it appears in the rest of the application. 2. Investigators: List the names and affiliations of each investigator who will significantly contribute to the project. Start with the Principal Investigator. 3. Funding request for each year of the project, including matching funds if appropriate. 4. Project Period: Start and completion dates. Proposals should request a start date of October 1, 2000. 5. Objectives, Methodology, and Rationale: This should include concise statement of the objectives of the project, the scientific or educational methodology to be used, and the rationale for the work proposed. (See below #10 Standard Application Forms.)

(3) Project Description (15-page limit).

(a) Introduction/Background/Justification: What is the problem or opportunity being addressed and what is its scientific, educational, or

economic importance to the region or nation?

(b) Technical Plan: What are the goals, objectives, and anticipated approach of the proposed project? While a detailed work plan is not expected, the proposal should present evidence that there has been thoughtful consideration of the approach to the problem under study. What capabilities does the partner possess that will benefit the project, faculty member and students?

(c) Output/Anticipated Benefits: Upon successful completion of the project, what are the anticipated benefits to the institutions, students, and the partner?

(d) Literature Cited: Should be included here, but does not count against the 15-page limit.

(4) Budget and Budget Justification: There should be a separate annual budget for each year of the project as well as a cumulative budget for the entire project. Applicants are encouraged to use the Sea Grant Budget Form 90-4 (see below #10 Standard Application Forms), but may use their own form as long as it provides the same information as the Sea Grant form. Subcontracts should have a separate budget page. Matching funds must be indicated; failure to provide adequate matching funds will result in the proposal being rejected without review. Each annual budget should include a separate budget justification page that itemizes all budget items in sufficient detail to enable reviewers to evaluate the appropriateness of the funding requested. Please pay special attention to any travel, supply or equipment budgets and provide details.

(5) Current and Pending Support: Applicants must provide information on all current and pending support for ongoing projects and proposals, including subsequent funding in the case of continuing grants. All current project support from whatever source (e.g., Federal, State or local government agencies, private foundations, industrial or other commercial organizations) must be listed. The proposed project and all other projects or activities requiring a portion of time of the principal investigator and other senior personnel should be included, even if they receive no Federal salary support from the project(s). The number of person-months per year to be devoted to the projects must be stated, regardless of source of support. Similar information must be provided for all proposals already submitted or submitted concurrently to other possible sponsors, including those within NOAA.

(6) Results from Prior Sea Grant Support.

If the Principal Investigator (or any co-PI identified on the proposal) has received Sea Grant funding in the past five years, the following information on the prior award(s) is required:

(a) The NOAA award number, amount and period of support;

(b) The title of the project;

(c) Brief summary of the results of the completed work;

(d) Brief description of the contribution the project has made.

(e) Publications resulting from the Sea Grant award.

Reviewers will be asked to comment on the quality of the prior work described in this section of the proposal. Please note that a PI with prior Sea Grant support may use up to two additional pages to describe the results.

(7) Vitae (2 pages maximum per investigator).

(8) Letter of commitment from the partnering organizations.

(9) A brief (less than one-page) description of the partnering organization.

(10) Standard Application Forms: Applicants may obtain all required application forms at website: <http://www.nsgo.seagrant.org/research/rfp/index.html#3> or from a state Sea Grant program: <http://www.nsgo.seagrant.org/SGDirectors.html>, or from Dr. Francis Schuler at the National Sea Grant Office (phone: 301-713-2445 x158 or e-mail: fritz.schuler@noaa.gov). For proposals selected for funding, the following forms must also be submitted:

(a) Standard Forms 424, Application for Federal Assistance, 424B, Assurances—Non-Construction Programs, (Rev 4-88). Please note that both the Principal Investigator and an administrative contact should be identified in Section 5 of the SF424 or Section 10, applicants should enter "11.417" for the CFDA Number and "Sea Grant Support" for the title. The form must contain the original signature of an authorized representative of the applying institution.

(b) Primary Applicant Certifications. All primary applicants must submit a completed Form CD-511, "Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements and Lobbying," and the following explanations are hereby provided:

(i) Non-Procurement Debarment and Suspension. Prospective participants (as defined at 15 CFR part 26, section 105) are subject to 15 CFR part 26, "Non-Procurement Debarment and Suspension" and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies;

(ii) Drug-Free Workplace. Grantees (as defined at 15 CFR part 26, section 605) are subject to 15 CFR part 26, subpart F, "Government-wide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)" and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies;

(iii) Anti-Lobbying. Persons (as defined at 15 CFR part 28 section 105) are subject to the lobbying provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1352, "Limitation on use of appropriated funds to influence certain Federal contracting and financial transactions," and the lobbying section of the certification form prescribed above applies to applications/bids for grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts for more than \$100,000, and loans and loan guarantees for more than \$150,000, or the single family maximum mortgage limit for affected programs, whichever is greater; and

(iv) Anti-Lobbying Disclosures. Any applicant that has paid or will pay for lobbying using any funds must submit an SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," as required under 15 CFR part 28, appendix B.

(c) Lower Tier Certifications. Recipients shall require applicants/bidders for subgrants, contracts, subcontracts, or other lower tier covered transactions at any tier under the award to submit, if applicable, a completed Form CD-512, "Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transactions and Lobbying" and disclosure form, SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities." ORM CD-512 is intended for the use of recipients and should not be transmitted to the Department of Commerce (DOC). F-LLL submitted by any tier recipient or subrecipient should be submitted to DOC in accordance with the instructions contained in the award document.

VII. How To Submit

Proposals must be submitted according to the Timetable outlined in Section VI, Instructions for Application. Although investigators are not required to submit more than three copies of the proposal, the normal review process requires 10 copies. Applicants are encouraged to submit sufficient proposal copies for the full review process if they wish all reviewers to receive color, unusually sized (not 8.5" x 11"), or otherwise unusual materials submitted as part of the proposal. Only three copies of the Federally required forms are needed.

Applicants are encouraged to submit their proposals to their state Sea Grant program, (see: <http://www.nsgo.seagrant.org/>

SGDirectors.html); or, if your state does not have a Sea Grant program, to a Sea Grant program in an adjacent state. Proposals must be received before 5 p.m. (local time) on May 15, 2000.

Direct submission to the National Sea Grant College Program Office in Silver Spring, MD, while not encouraged, is acceptable. The address is: National Sea Grant College Program, Attn: Mrs. Geraldine Taylor, SG-MSI Competition, Room 11732, NOAA (R/SG), 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Proposals submitted to the National Sea Grant Office must be received by 5 p.m. (EST) on May 15, 2000.

Applications received after the deadline and applications that deviate substantially from the format described above will be returned to the sender without review. Facsimile transmissions and electronic mail submission of applications will not be accepted.

VIII. Other Requirements

(A) Federal Policies and Procedures—Recipients and subrecipients are subject to all Federal laws and Federal and Department of Commerce (DOC) policies, regulations, and procedures applicable to Federal financial assistance awards.

(B) Past Performance—Unsatisfactory performance under prior Federal awards may result in an application not being considered for funding.

(C) Pre-Award Activities—If applicants incur any costs prior to an award being made, they do so solely at their own risk of not being reimbursed by the Government. Notwithstanding any verbal or written assurance that may have been received, there is no obligation on the part of DOC to cover pre-award costs.

(D) No Obligation for Future Funding—If an application is selected for funding, DOC has no obligation to provide any additional future funding in connection with that award. Renewal of an award to increase funding or extend the period of performance is at the total discretion of DOC.

(E) Delinquent Federal Debts—No award of Federal funds shall be made to an applicant who has an outstanding delinquent Federal debt until either:

(1) The delinquent account is paid in full,

(2) A negotiated repayment schedule is established and at least one payment is received, or

(3) Other arrangements satisfactory to DOC are made.

(F) Name Check Review—All non-profit and for-profit applicants are subject to a name check review process. Name checks are intended to reveal if

any key individuals associated with the applicant have been convicted of or are presently facing criminal charges such as fraud, theft, perjury, or other matters which significantly reflect on the applicant's management honesty or financial integrity.

(G) False Statements—A false statement on an application is grounds for denial or termination of funds and grounds for possible punishment by a fine or imprisonment as provided in 18 U.S.C. 1001.

(H) Intergovernmental Review—Applications for support from the National Sea Grant College Program are not subject to Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs."

(I) Purchase of American-Made Equipment and Products—Applicants are hereby notified that they will be encouraged, to the greatest extent practicable, to purchase American-made equipment and products with funding provided under this program.

(J) For awards receiving funding for the collection or production of geospatial data (e.g., GIS data layers), the recipient will comply to the maximum extent practicable with E.O. 12906, Coordinating Geographic Data Acquisition and Access, The National Spatial Data Infrastructure, 59 Fed. Reg. 17671 (April 11, 1994). The award recipient shall document all new geospatial data collected or produced shall document all new geospatial data collected or produced using the standard developed by the Federal Geographic Data Center, and make that standardized documentation electronically accessible. The standard can be found at the following Internet website: (<http://www.fgdc.gov/standards/standards/html>).

Classification

Prior notice and an opportunity for public comments are not required by the Administrative Procedure Act or any other law for this notice concerning grants, benefits, and contracts. Therefore, a regulatory flexibility analysis is not required for purposes of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

This action has been determined to be not significant for purposes of E.O. 12866.

This notice contains collection of information requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Sea Grant budget Form, 90-4, Sea Grant Summary Form, 90-2, and Standard Forms 424, and 424b have been approved under control numbers 0648-0362, 0648-0362, 0348-0043, and 0348-0040 with average responses estimated to take 15, 20, 45, and 15 minutes,

respectively. These estimates include the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments on these estimates or any other aspect of these collections to National Sea Grant College Program, R/SG, NOAA, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (Attention: Francis S. Schuler). Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

Louisa Koch,

Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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BILLING CODE 3510-KA-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 030700C]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of the joint New England Fishery Management Council/Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Monkfish Oversight Committee and Monkfish Industry Advisory Panels to consider actions affecting New England and Mid-Atlantic fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from the committee will be brought to the full Councils for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 29, 2000, at 9:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at The Yard Restaurant, 1121 South Mammoth Road, Manchester, NH 03109; telephone: (603) 623-3545.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The committee will review the current status of the fishery in the context of the fishery management plan implementation, including the partial-year implementation of Year 1 measures. The committee will identify problems and issues with the current plan and scheduled adjustments, including the plan's impact on the fishery in the deep-water canyons and the options for a Grand Banks fishery. The committee will also discuss the availability of scientific data and the timing of the assessment relative to the Year 3 fishery adjustments. At the end of the meeting, the committee will hold a closed session to review applications and select new industry advisors.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting dates.

Dated: March 8, 2000.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 00-6227 Filed 3-13-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 030600B]

Marine Mammals; File No. 455-1445-00

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Receipt of application for amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Waikiki Aquarium, 2777 Kalakaua Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96815, has requested an amendment to scientific research and enhancement Permit No. 455-1445.

DATES: Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before April 13, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The amendment request 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, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 (562/980-4001); and

Pacific Area Office, Southwest Region, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Honolulu, HI 96814-4700 (808/973-2935).

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this request should be submitted to the Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular amendment request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301) 713-0376, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period. Please note that comments will not be accepted by e-mail or other electronic media.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ruth Johnson, 301/713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject amendment to Permit No. 455-1445, issued on May 26, 1998 (63 FR 30201) is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species.

Permit No. 455-1445 authorizes the permit holder to continually hold three