

explanation, keyed to the “otherwise contrary to law” standard of review, of the statutory interpretation underlying its approach of granting offsets for non-dumped sales in original investigations, while denying such offsets in administrative reviews. The panel directed Commerce to provide such explanation within 45 days of the date of issue of the panel’s Decision and Order (June 25, 2012).

Dated: May 15, 2012.

Ellen M. Bohon,

U.S. Secretary, NAFTA Secretariat.

[FR Doc. 2012–12174 Filed 5–18–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–GT–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Subsistence Fishery for Pacific Halibut in Waters Off Alaska: Registration and Marking of Gear

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

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.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before July 20, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at Jjessup@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Patsy A. Bearden, (907) 586–7008 or patsy.bearden@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

This request is for extension of information collection requirements that are part of the program for the Pacific halibut subsistence fishery. The program includes requirements for registration to participate in the fishery and the marking of certain types of gear

used in this fishery. Eligibility and requirements are codified in 50 CFR 300.65. The registration requirement is intended to allow qualified persons to practice the long-term, customary, and traditional harvest of Pacific halibut for food in a noncommercial manner. The gear-marking requirement aids in enforcement and in actions related to gear damage or loss. The registration information may be submitted by an individual or as a list of multiple individuals from an Alaska Native tribe.

II. Method of Collection

Applications may be submitted online or as email attachments; paper forms may be sent by mail or fax.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648–0460.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission (extension of a current information collection).

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions; state, local, and tribal government; and individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 27,963.

Estimated Time per Response: Subsistence halibut registration certificate (SHARC) application, 10 minutes; subsistence halibut gear marking, 15 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,206.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$17,663.

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: May 15, 2012.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2012–12177 Filed 5–18–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XC033

Marine Mammals; File No. 17157

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Stephen John Trumble, Ph.D., Baylor University, 101 Bagby Ave., Waco, TX 76706, has applied in due form for a permit to import, export, and receive marine mammal parts for scientific research.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before June 20, 2012.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review by selecting “Records Open for Public Comment” from the *Features* box on the Applications and Permits for Protected Species (APPS) home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting File No. 17157 from the list of available applications.

These documents are also available upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301) 427–8401; fax (301) 713–0376; and Southeast Region, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, Saint Petersburg, FL 33701; phone (727) 824–5312; fax (727) 824–5309.

Written comments on this application should be submitted to the Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, at the address listed above. Comments may also be submitted by facsimile to (301) 713–0376, or by email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Please include the File No. in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request to the Chief, Permits and Conservation Division at the address listed above. The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on these applications would be appropriate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laura Morse or Jennifer Skidmore, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 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 (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226).

The objectives of the proposed research are to chronologically profile anthropogenic and physiological data from whale earplugs and determine individual- through population-level exposure and stress. Up to 25 earplugs each of blue whale (*Balaenoptera musculus*), sei whale (*B. borealis*), minke whale (*B. acutorostrata*), humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), and gray whale (*Eschrichtius robustus*) will be imported from museums worldwide for analysis. The requested duration of the permit is 5 years.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an initial determination has been made that the activities proposed are categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of the application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: May 15, 2012.

Tammy C. Adams,

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

[FR Doc. 2012-12260 Filed 5-18-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC021

Notice of Intent To Terminate the Existing Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Prepare a New Environmental Impact Statement

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

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, NMFS, intend to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), related to the Makah Indian Tribe's (Tribe) request that we authorize treaty right hunting of eastern North Pacific gray whales in usual and accustomed fishing grounds off the coast of Washington State. This notice briefly describes the background of the Makah Tribe's request for waiver, terminates a prior draft EIS (DEIS), and identifies and requests comments on a set of new potential alternatives currently under consideration.

DATES: Comments and information regarding the proposed revisions must be received (See **ADDRESSES**) no later than 5 p.m. Pacific Time on August 10, 2012.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by [NOAA-NMFS-2012-0104], by any of the following methods:

Electronic Submissions: Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal eRulemaking Portal <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Mail: Send comments to: Steve Stone, Protected Resources Division, NMFS, 1201 NE Lloyd Blvd., Suite 1100, Portland, OR 97232.

Facsimile (fax) to: 503-230-5441.

Instructions: Comments will be posted for public viewing as soon as possible during the comment period. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted to <http://www.regulations.gov> without change. We may elect not to post comments that contain obscene or threatening content. All Personal Identifying Information (for example, name, address, etc.) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

We will accept anonymous comments (enter N/A in the required fields, if you wish to remain anonymous). You may submit attachments to electronic comments in Microsoft Word, Excel, WordPerfect, or Adobe PDF file formats only. If your submission is made via hardcopy that includes personal identifying information, you may request at the top of your document that we withhold this information from public review to the extent consistent with applicable law. However, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donna Darm, NMFS, Northwest Region,

206-526-6150; or Shannon Bettridge, NMFS, Office of Protected Resources, 301-427-8402. References used in this notice and related information are available via our Web site at <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/Marine-Mammals/Whales-Dolphins-Porpoise/Gray-Whales/Index.cfm>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On February 14, 2005, we received the Makah Tribe's request for a limited waiver of the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) take moratorium under Section 101(a)(3)(A) (16 U.S.C. 1371(a)(3)(A)), including issuance of regulations and any necessary permits. The waiver, regulations, and permit would allow the Tribe to continue treaty right ceremonial and subsistence hunting of eastern North Pacific (ENP) gray whales in its usual and accustomed fishing grounds (U&A). The Tribe made the request following the Ninth Circuit Court's decision in *Anderson v. Evans*, 371 F.3d 475, that the Tribe must comply with the process prescribed in the MMPA for authorizing take of marine mammals. On January 24, 2006, the Tribe requested that we also take any other necessary actions, including under the Whaling Convention Act (16 U.S.C. 916 *et seq.*), associated with a tribal hunt.

The Tribe's waiver request proposes to conduct treaty ceremonial and subsistence harvest in the Tribe's U&A of up to 20 gray whales from the ENP stock in any 5-year period with a maximum of five whales per year, corresponding with aboriginal subsistence whaling limits established by the International Whaling Commission (IWC) in response to a joint request from the United States and Russia. In addition, the waiver request states that tribal regulations would limit the number of gray whales that may be struck to no more than seven in any calendar year, and would limit the number of struck and lost whales to no more than three in any calendar year.

Other tribal regulations proposed in the waiver request include measures to target migrating whales and avoid the intentional harvest of whales that may be part of the Pacific Coast Feeding Aggregation (or Pacific Coast Feeding Group—PCFG). This small group of gray whales (approximately 200 animals) forages in waters from Northern California to Northern British Columbia, including waters in and adjacent to the Makah U&A during the summer. The measures include allowing hunting only from December 1 through May 30 (avoiding the summer, when PCFG whales predominate), restricting