

consumption of water and energy. By lowering U.S. companies' costs associated with water and energy consumption, Commerce Department programs can assist American firms to be more competitive in domestic and international markets, as well as advance U.S. Government objectives with respect to sustainability and climate change. A secondary purpose is to inform attendees of preparations for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations and for them to advise U.S. officials on the impact a new UNFCCC agreement could have on their respective operations and on associated commercial opportunities.

The conference will be held in Fresno, California at the Holiday Inn Downtown.

DATES: September 15, 2009.

ADDRESSES: To register for the conference, please visit the following Web site: <http://www.icwt.net/usdc.htm>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Selection Criteria

Participation is on a first-come-first served basis. A \$30 fee will be charged.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—The Mission of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is to understand and predict changes in Earth's environment and conserve and manage coastal and marine resources to meet our Nation's economic, social, and environmental needs.

A number of NOAA organizations offer data and services to assist agribusiness in responding to drought and the need to conserve water. These include the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC), which provides and ensures timely access to global environmental data from satellites and other sources, provides information services, and develops science products; the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS), which provides authoritative, reliable information for farmers, forestry professionals, urban water managers, and other decision makers who need to prepare for and mitigate the effects of drought; and the Western Regional Climate Center (WRCC), one of six such centers that produce and deliver useful climate data, information and knowledge in a timely manner for decision makers and other users at the local, state, regional and national levels.

International Trade Administration—The International Trade Administration (ITA) is charged with the mission of strengthening the competitiveness of U.S. industry, of promoting trade and

investment, and of ensuring fair trade and compliance with trade laws and agreements. ITA creates opportunities for U.S. workers and firms by promoting international trade opportunities and by fostering a level playing field for American business.

ITA's Manufacturing and Services (MAS) unit is dedicated to strengthening the global competitiveness of U.S. industry, expanding its market access, and increasing exports. MAS undertakes industry economic and trade policy analysis, shapes U.S. trade policy, participates in trade negotiations, organizes trade capacity building programs, and evaluates the impact of domestic and international economic and regulatory policies on U.S. manufacturers and service industries.

The U.S. Commercial Service is ITA's trade promotion unit. Commercial Service trade specialists in 107 U.S. cities and more than 80 countries work with U.S. companies to help them sell American goods and services in global markets.

National Institute of Standards and Technology/Manufacturers Extension Partnership

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is a non-regulatory Federal agency within the U.S. Department of Commerce. NIST's mission is to promote U.S. innovation and industrial competitiveness by advancing measurement science, standards, and technology in ways that enhance economic security and improve our quality of life. NIST's Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) is a national network of specialists who provide American companies with services and access to public and private resources to enhance growth, improve productivity, and expand capacity.

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)—The UNFCCC was signed in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and entered into force on March 21, 1994. Currently, 192 states have ratified the Convention, including the United States. The treaty requires national inventories of greenhouse gas emissions from developed countries and encourages national action to stem greenhouse gas emissions and slow climate change. Developed nations also pledge to share technology and resources with developing nations.

Negotiations under the UNFCCC are underway to formulate a successor agreement to the convention's Kyoto Protocol. The discussions have the goal of concluding an agreement in

Copenhagen this December. Potential impacts on U.S. industrial competitiveness will be discussed during the upcoming conferences include technology transfer, intellectual property, financing, and related commercial opportunities.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE

CONTACT: Padraic Sweeney, in the Office of Transportation and Machinery, at 202-482-5024, or by e-mail: Padraic.Sweeney@mail.doc.gov.

Dated: August 27, 2009.

Thomas Sobotta,

Acting Director, Office of Transportation and Machinery, U.S. Department of Commerce.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Public Telecommunications Facilities Program Application Form

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on continuing and proposed 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 November 2, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 7845, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Clifton Beck, NTIA, Room H-4888, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet cbeck@ntia.doc.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Under authority of 47 U.S.C. 390-394, 397-399, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) administers the

Public Telecommunications Facilities Program (PTFP). The purpose of PTFP is to assist, through matching funds, in the planning and construction of public telecommunications facilities in order to achieve the following objectives:

- Extend delivery of public telecommunications services to as many citizens in the United States as possible by the most efficient and economical means, including the use of broadcast and nonbroadcast technologies;
- Increase public telecommunications services and facilities available to, operated by, and owned by minorities and women; and
- Strengthen the capability of existing public radio and television stations to provide public telecommunications services to the public.

The application is used to collect the required information for NTIA to evaluate eligibility of applicants, including but not limited to, project and financial resources information, population that the project will service, and type of equipment requested. NTIA conducts a competitive review process. The award decisions are made by the Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information and are announced prior to the end of the fiscal year (September 30).

II. Method of Collection

Collection allows grantees to make all submissions either over the Internet or by mail. The information collection is required of all applicants who request funding from the Public Telecommunications Facilities Program.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0660-0003.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions, state or local government agencies.

Estimated Number of Total Respondents: 300.

Estimated Time per Response: 4 to 84 hours, depending on the required information.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 23,830.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to the Public: \$0.

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 will 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, e.g., 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 the information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: August 27, 2009.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E9-21121 Filed 9-1-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-60-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XR35

Endangered Species; File No. 1556

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application for modification.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, USA (CNMI), Division of Fish and Wildlife, [Sylvan Igisomar, responsible official] P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, Mariana Islands, 96950, has requested a modification to scientific research Permit No. 1556-01.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or e-mail comments must be received on or before October 2, 2009.

ADDRESSES: The modification request 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. 1556-02 from the list of available applications. These documents are also available 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) 713-0376; and Pacific Islands Region, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Rm 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4700; phone (808)944-2200; fax (808)973-2941.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this request should be submitted to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular modification 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.

Comments may also be submitted by e-mail. The mailbox address for providing e-mail comments is NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line of the e-mail comment the following document identifier: File No. 1556-02.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kate Swails or Patrick Opay, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject modification to Permit No. 1556, issued on May 24, 2006 (71 FR 31164) is requested under the authority of 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 (50 CFR 222-226).

Permit No. 1556 authorizes the permit holder to perform sea turtle surveys in the waters of the Northern Mariana Islands, USA. The project consists of shoreline/cliff line assessments, in-water tow dive assessments, and the hand capture of sea turtles. Turtles are handled, measured, photographed, carapace painted, tissue-sampled, flipper tagged, passive integrated transponder tagged, and released. A subset of the turtles are satellite tagged. The applicant captures up to 100 green and 40 hawksbill sea turtles annually. The permit is issued for five years.

The permit holder requests authorization to change their field season from April-October to year round and add shell etching and oral examination to their list of procedures.

Dated: August 27, 2009.

P. Michael Payne,

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

[FR Doc. E9-21182 Filed 9-1-09; 8:45 am]

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