

Needs and Uses: As a member of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), the U.S. is required to take part in the collection of biological statistics for research purposes. In addition to this requirement, the U.S. must abide by the specific quota assigned to it by the ICCAT. The mandatory catch reporting program provides current information on the vessel owners participating in the Atlantic tuna fisheries, thus facilitating the quota monitoring necessary to avoid exceeding the quota. It also aids the National Marine Fisheries Service in the enforcement of fishery regulations.

Frequency: On Occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, DoC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, Room 6066, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at lengelme@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: June 2, 2000.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-14672 Filed 6-8-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D.060100C]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Receipt of application for an enhancement permit (1258); Issuance of permits 1245 and 1231; Issuance of Amendment #1 to Permit #1178.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following actions regarding permits for takes of endangered and threatened species for the purposes of scientific research and/or enhancement: NMFS has received a permit application from the North Carolina Zoological Park (NCZP) (1258); NMFS has issued permit

1245 to Mr. J. David Whitaker, of South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) (1245); Amendment #1 to permit 1178 to Mr. Darryl Christenson, of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NMFS-NEFSC) (1178); and permit 1231 to Dr. Llewellyn M. Ehrhart, of University of Central Florida, Dept. of Biological Science (UCF) (1231).

DATES: Comments or requests for a public hearing on any of the new applications or modification requests must be received at the appropriate address or fax number no later than 5:00 pm eastern standard time on July 10, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on any of the new applications or modification requests should be sent to the appropriate office as indicated below. Comments may also be sent via fax to the number indicated for the application or modification request. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the internet. The applications and related documents are available for review in the indicated office, by appointment:

For Amendment #1 to permit 1178, and permits 1258, 1231 and 1245, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD, 20910 (Ph.: 301-713-1401).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For Amendment #1 to permit 1178, and permits 1258, 1231 and 1245: Terri Jordan, Silver Spring, MD (ph: 301-713-1401, fax: 301-713-0376, e-mail: Terri.Jordan@noaa.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority

Issuance of permits and permit modifications, as required by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) (ESA), is based on a finding that such permits/modifications: (1) Are applied for in good faith; (2) would not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species which are the subject of the permits; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA. Authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits. Permits and modifications are issued in accordance with and are subject to the ESA and NMFS regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 222-226).

Those individuals requesting a hearing on an application listed in this notice should set out the specific reasons why a hearing on that application would be appropriate (see

ADDRESSES). The holding of such hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. All statements and opinions contained in the permit action summaries are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

Species Covered in this Notice

The following species and evolutionarily significant units (ESU's) are covered in this notice:

The following species are covered in this notice: endangered shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*), endangered Green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), Endangered Kemp's ridley turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*), Endangered Leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*), Threatened Loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*).

New Applications Received

NMFS has received and application from the North Carolina Zoological Park has requested a five year permit to continue to maintain four (4) adult shortnose sturgeon in captivity for enhancement purposes. The applicant currently possesses four adult shortnose sturgeon received from the US Fish and Wildlife Service hatchery at Warm Springs Georgia in November 1996 under scientific research permit #986. Permit 986 will expire on December 31, 2000 and the permit holder does not wish to renew the enhancement aspects of the permit. As a result, the North Carolina Zoological Park is applying for an individual permit to continue maintenance of these fish.

Permits and Amendments Issued

Notice was published on March 21, 2000 (65 FR 15131) that Mr. J. David Whitaker, of South Carolina Department of Natural Resources applied for a scientific research permit (1245). The applicant has requested a three year permit to establish scientifically-valid indices of abundance for the northern sub-population of the threatened loggerhead turtle and the endangered Kemp's ridley, green and leatherback sea turtles which occur in the Atlantic Ocean off the southeastern United States. This study is intended to capture juveniles and adults, thereby providing a more comprehensive assessment of total population abundance and an assessment of the health of individual animals. Permit 1245 was issued on May 19, 2000, authorizing take of listed species. Permit 1245 expires October 31, 2002.

NMFS has amended permit #1178 issued October 19, 1998. The amendment removes three annual

reporting requirements and revises a permit special condition. The permit holder possesses a 5-year scientific research permit to take listed sea turtles incidentally taken in foreign and domestic commercial fisheries operating in state waters and the Exclusive Economic Zone in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean. The work will be conducted by scientific observers aboard commercial fishing vessels. This research supports the National Marine Fisheries Service's mission of assessing the impacts of commercial fisheries on marine resources of interest to the United States. Amendment #1 to Permit 1178 was issued on May 31, 2000, authorizing take of listed species. Permit 1178 expires December 21, 2003.

Notice was published on January 14, 2000 (65 FR 2381) that Dr. Llewellyn M. Ehrhart, of the University of Central Florida, Dept of Biological Science applied for a scientific research permit (1231). The Recovery Plan for the U.S. Population of Atlantic Green Turtle states that the foremost problem in management and conservation of sea turtles is the lack of basic biological information. This study proposes to capture turtles living in the Indian River Lagoon Estuary of central Florida in Brevard and Indian River counties. The data provided by the study will include information regarding habitat requirements, seasonal distribution and abundance, movement and growth, feeding preferences, sex distribution and the prevalence and severity of fibropapilloma. Permit 1231 was issued on May 31, 2000, authorizing take of listed species. Permit 1231 expires March 31, 2005.

Dated: June 5, 2000.

Wanda L. Cain,

Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 00-14673 Filed 6-8-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 051000A]

Marine Mammals; Permit No. 1004 (P595)

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

ACTION: Scientific research permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a request for amendment of scientific research no. 1004 submitted by the Whale Conservation Institute/Ocean Alliance, 191 Weston Road, Lincoln, MA 01773, has been granted.

ADDRESSES: The amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment, in the following offices:

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

Director, Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298 (508/281-9250).

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: February 11, 2000, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (65 FR 6997) that an amendment of permit no. 1004, issued June 21, 1996 (61 FR 33906) 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 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 endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226).

Permit No. 1004 has been amended to: (1) extend the expiration date of the permit to December 31, 2000; (2) increase the number of imported tissue samples from all species, except southern right whale (*Eubalaena australis*); and (3) increase locations from which samples may be imported.

Issuance of this amendment as required by the ESA of 1973 was based on a finding that the permit: (1) was applied for in good faith; (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species which is the subject of this permit; and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in Section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: June 5, 2000.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 00-14674 Filed 6-8-00; 8:45 am]

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COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Application of BrokerTec Futures Exchange, L.L.C. for Designation as a Contract Market in U.S. Treasury Note and U.S. Treasury Bond Futures Contracts

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the terms and conditions of proposed commodity futures contracts.

SUMMARY: BrokerTec Futures Exchange, L.L.C. ("BTEX" or "Exchange") has applied for designation as a contract market for the automated trading of futures contracts on short-term U.S. Treasury Notes (2 Year), medium-term U.S. Treasury Notes (5 Year), long-term U.S. Treasury Notes (6½-10 Year), and U.S. Treasury Bonds (15-30 Year) on an electronic trading system, the BrokerTec Execution Capability ("BTEC") trading system.

The Exchange has not previously been approved by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("Commission") as a contract market in any commodity. Accordingly, in addition to the terms and conditions of the four proposed futures contracts, BTEX has submitted to the Commission a proposed trade-matching algorithm; proposed bylaws and rules pertaining to BTEX membership, governance, trading standards and disciplinary and arbitration procedures; and various other materials to meet the requirements for a board of trade seeking initial designation as a contract market. BTEX's submission also includes various proposed bylaws and rules of the BrokerTec Clearing Company, L.L.C. ("BCC"), an affiliate that would be responsible for clearing and settlement functions for the Exchange.

Acting pursuant to the authority delegated by Commission Regulation 140.96, the Division of Economic Analysis and the Division of Trading and Markets have determined to publish the Exchange's proposal for public comment. The Divisions believe that publication of the proposal for comment at this time is in the public interest, will assist the Commission in considering the views of interested persons, and is consistent with the Commodity Exchange Act. The Divisions seek comment regarding all aspects of BTEX's application and addressing any issues commenters believe the Commission should consider.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before July 10, 2000.