

between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Electronic AccessFor additional information on Atlantic coastal bottlenose dolphins, refer to the draft 2002 Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessment Reports (SARs). The reports can be accessed via the internet at: http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/prot_res/PR2/Stock_Assessment_Program/sars.html.

Background

NMFS intends to develop and implement a BDTRP pursuant to section 118(f) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). The purpose of the proposed action is to reduce the incidental mortality and serious injury of the Atlantic coastal stock of bottlenose dolphins in commercial fisheries to below the PBR level for the stock. The BDTRP will address mortality and serious injury of Atlantic coastal bottlenose dolphins incidentally taken in the following Category II commercial fisheries: Mid-Atlantic coastal gillnet; North Carolina inshore gillnet; Southeast Atlantic gillnet; Southeastern U.S. Atlantic shark gillnet; Atlantic blue crab trap/pot; Mid-Atlantic haul/beach seine; North Carolina long haul seine; North Carolina roe mullet stop net; and Virginia pound net.

Section 118(f) of the MMPA requires NMFS to convene a take reduction team to assist in the recovery and prevent the depletion of each strategic stock that interacts with Category I or II fisheries. The western North Atlantic coastal stock of bottlenose dolphins is a strategic stock. More information about the stock is available in the draft 2002 SAR, which can be obtained via the internet or by contacting Katie Moore or Emily Menashes (*see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT*). Strategic status was initially assigned because the stock is designated as depleted under the MMPA as a result of a large-scale mortality event that occurred in 1987–1988 (58 FR 17789, April 6, 1993). However, the stock also qualifies as strategic because mortality and serious injury of this stock incidental to commercial fishing exceeds the PBR level of the stock.

The immediate goal of a take reduction plan for a strategic stock of marine mammals is to reduce, within 6 months of plan implementation, the incidental mortality or serious injury of marine mammals taken in the course of commercial fishing operations to levels less than the PBR level. The long-term goal of the plan is to reduce, within 5

years of its implementation, the incidental mortality or serious injury of marine mammals taken in the course of commercial fishing operations to insignificant levels approaching a zero mortality and serious injury rate, taking into account the economics of the fishery, the availability of existing technology, and existing state or regional fishery management plans.

The Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) may establish a take reduction team to address mortality or serious injury of strategic stocks of marine mammals interacting with Category I or II fisheries. Not later than 6 months after the date of establishment of a take reduction team, the team is required to submit a draft take reduction plan for such stock to the Secretary, consistent with the other provisions of section 118 of the MMPA. The Secretary is required to take the draft take reduction plan submitted by the team into consideration and publish in the **Federal Register** a summary of the draft plan submitted by the team, any changes proposed by the Secretary with an explanation of the reasons therefore, and proposed regulations to implement such plan, for public review and comment.

Public Scoping Process

The Bottlenose Dolphin Take Reduction Team (Team) was established on November 7, 2001. A **Federal Register** notification announcing the convening of the Team and their first meeting was published on October 24, 2001 (66 FR 53782). The Team met a total of five times before delivering consensus recommendations for the BDTRP to NMFS on May 7, 2002. The dates of the five meetings were: November 7–8, 2001, January 23–25, 2002, February 27–March 1, 2002, March 27–28, 2002, and April 23–25, 2002. Team meetings were open to the public and a public comment period was held following each day of meetings. Additionally, NMFS held three public meetings with potential Team members and other interested members of the public on May 15–16, 2001, July 11–12, 2001, and November 6, 2001. An additional meeting of the Team, tentatively scheduled for January of 2003 and open to the public, will be held prior to development of the proposed rule implementing the BDTRP and completion of the draft EIS. This document provides additional opportunity for public involvement in the scope of the issues to be addressed in the EIS.

NMFS hired a commercial fisheries liaison to involve potentially affected sectors of the commercial fishing

industry in the Team process by providing information about the purpose of the Team, meeting dates and locations, and discussion topics for upcoming meetings. The liaison used dockside visits, commercial fishing publications, and a commercial fishing expo to disseminate the information. NMFS generated and distributed a fact sheet about the Team and upcoming Team meetings and used mail and electronic mail to distribute information about meeting logistics and summaries to over 200 interested persons.

Analysis of Alternatives

NMFS will be analyzing alternatives that are reasonably expected to reduce mortality and serious injury of Atlantic coastal bottlenose dolphins to less than the PBR level within 6 months of implementation of the BDTRP. NMFS will be analyzing all reasonable alternatives, which include a status quo alternative and the recommendations submitted by the Team. The Team's recommendations can be obtained by contacting Katie Moore or Emily Menashes (*see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT*).

Dated: September 13, 2002.

Chris Mobley,

*Acting Director, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 02–23840 Filed 9–18–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–S

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Proposed Information Collection; Payment of Patent and Trademark Office Fees by Credit Card

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), 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 the revision of a continuing information collection, 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 18, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Susan K. Brown, Records Officer, Office of Data Architecture and Services, Data Administration Division, USPTO, Suite 310, 2231 Crystal Drive, Washington, DC 20231; by telephone at

(703) 308-7400; or by electronic mail at susan.brown@uspto.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information should be directed to Michelle Picard, Director, Office of Finance, USPTO, Washington, DC 20231; by telephone at (703) 305-8360; or by electronic mail at michelle.picard@uspto.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

I. Abstract

Under 35 U.S.C. 41 and 15 U.S.C. 1113, the USPTO charges fees for processing and other services related to patents, trademarks, and information products. The provisions of 35 U.S.C. 41 and 15 U.S.C. 1113 are implemented in 37 CFR 1.16-1.28, 1.492, 2.6, and 2.7.

This information collection was previously submitted in November 1999 in conjunction with a proposed rule that would allow customers to pay any patent or trademark fee by credit card. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved this collection in January 2000. The USPTO published the final rule notice entitled "Changes to Permit Payment of Patent and Trademark Fees by Credit Card" in the **Federal Register** on May 24, 2000 (Vol. 65, No. 101). This rule amended the rules of practice under 37 CFR 1.23(b) to provide for the payment of any patent or trademark fee by credit card. Previously, credit card payments were limited to fees required for information products or for an electronic submission related to a trademark application.

Payments of fees made by credit card must specify the amount to be charged and other information that is necessary to process the charge, such as a billing address and an authorized signature. Persons submitting fee payments must also provide information concerning the

purpose of the fee so that the USPTO is able to (1) apply the fee to the particular application, patent, trademark registration, or other proceeding, service, or product; and (2) determine whether the person has submitted the appropriate fee(s) required by law or regulation.

This information collection includes the Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038), which provides the public with a convenient way to submit a credit card payment for fees related to a patent, trademark, or information product. The USPTO is adding the Electronic Credit Card Payment Form to this collection. Customers may use this electronic form to submit credit card payments when using online systems provided by the USPTO for paying fees related to patents, trademarks, or information products. These systems are accessible through the USPTO Web site.

In order to protect the confidentiality of the credit card information, the USPTO will not include the Credit Card Payment Form or Electronic Credit Card Payment Form among the records open to public inspection for a patent, trademark registration, or other proceeding. The USPTO does not require customers to use the Credit Card Payment Form when paying fees by credit card, but using this form is strongly encouraged. If a customer provides credit card information on a form or document (e.g. in correspondence related to a patent or trademark) other than a credit card payment form provided by the USPTO, the credit card information may become part of a patent or trademark file that is open to public inspection. If credit card information is submitted on a form or document other than a credit card payment form provided by the USPTO,

the USPTO will not be liable if the credit card information becomes public knowledge.

II. Method of Collection

By mail, facsimile, or hand delivery to the USPTO. Payments using the Electronic Credit Card Payment Form may be submitted electronically over the Internet.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0651-0043.

Form Number(s): PTO-2038.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; businesses or other for-profits; not-for-profit institutions; farms; the Federal Government; and state, local or tribal governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 269,580 responses per year.

Estimated Time Per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 12 minutes (0.2 hours) to gather the necessary information, prepare, and submit the Credit Card Payment Form or 10 minutes (0.17 hours) to prepare and submit the Electronic Credit Card Payment Form.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 48,154 hours per year.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Cost Burden: \$1,444,620 per year.

The USPTO expects that the information in this collection will be prepared by paraprofessionals or fee coordinators/administrators. Using the paraprofessional rate of \$30 per hour, the USPTO estimates that the respondent cost burden for this collection will be \$1,444,620 per year.

Item	Estimated time for response (in minutes)	Estimated annual responses	Estimated annual burden hours
Credit Card Payment Form	12	77,500	15,500
Electronic Credit Card Payment Form	10	192,080	32,654
Total		269,580	48,154

Estimated Total Annual Non-hour Respondent Cost Burden: \$7,194. There are no capital start-up or maintenance costs or filing fees associated with this information collection. However, customers may incur postage costs when submitting the Credit Card Payment Form to the USPTO by mail or recordkeeping costs related to the Electronic Credit Card Payment Form.

Customers generally send the Credit Card Payment Form to the USPTO along

with other documents related to the fee or service being paid for by credit card, but some customers may submit just the Credit Card Payment Form without additional supporting documents. The USPTO estimates that roughly 5 percent of the Credit Card Payment Forms may be mailed in by themselves, for a total of 3,875 per year. The USPTO estimates that the first-class postage cost for a mailed Credit Card Payment Form will

be 37 cents, for a total postage cost of \$1,434 per year.

Customers using the Electronic Credit Card Payment Form may incur recordkeeping costs from printing a copy of the screen or electronic mail message confirming their successful transaction. Currently, a confirmation message may not be available for all transactions, but the USPTO is planning to implement an electronic confirmation receipt for all Internet transactions in

FY 2003 or FY 2004. The USPTO estimates that it will take 5 seconds (0.001 hours) to print a copy of the confirmation receipt and that approximately 192,080 submissions per year will use the Electronic Credit Card Payment Form, for a total recordkeeping burden of 192 hours per year. Using the paraprofessional rate of \$30 per hour, the USPTO estimates that the recordkeeping cost associated with this collection will be \$5,760 per year. The total non-hour respondent cost burden for this collection in the form of postage costs and recordkeeping costs is \$7,194 per year.

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, e.g., the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: September 13, 2002.

Susan K. Brown,

Records Officer, USPTO, Office of Data Architecture and Services, Data Administration Division.

[FR Doc. 02-23763 Filed 9-18-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

Title: Representative and Address Provisions.

Form Number(s): PTO/SB/81/82/83/121/122/123/124A/124B/125A/125B.

Agency Approval Number: 0651-0035.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Burden: 31,259 hours annually.

Number of Respondents: 338,280 responses per year.

Avg. Hours Per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 3 to 12 minutes (0.05 to 0.2 hours) to gather the necessary information, prepare the form, and submit a completed request involving a power of attorney, correspondence address, or Customer Number. The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes (1.75 hours) to submit a Customer Number Upload Spreadsheet, including the time for preparing the spreadsheet file on diskette, printing a copy of the spreadsheet, and producing a signed cover letter.

Needs and Uses: The public uses this collection to submit a request to grant or revoke power of attorney or authorization of agent in an application or patent, to withdraw as attorney or agent of record in an application or patent, and to designate or change the correspondence address for one or more applications or patents. The public also uses this collection to request a Customer Number and to designate or change the correspondence address or list of registered practitioners associated with a Customer Number. The USPTO uses the information collected from the public to determine who is authorized to take action in an application or patent on behalf of the applicant, patentee, or assignee, and to send correspondence related to the application or patent to the correct address.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, businesses or other for-profits, not-for-profit institutions, and the Federal Government.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

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

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Susan K. Brown, Records Officer, Office of Data Architecture and Services, Data Administration Division, USPTO, Suite 310, 2231 Crystal Drive, Washington, DC 20231, by phone at (703) 308-7400, or by e-mail at susan.brown@uspto.gov.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent on or before October 21, 2002, to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building,

725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: September 13, 2002.

Susan K. Brown,

Records Officer, USPTO, Office of Data Architecture and Services, Data Administration Division.

[FR Doc. 02-23764 Filed 9-18-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Air Force

HQ USAF Scientific Advisory Board

AGENCY: Department of the Air Force, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given of the forthcoming meeting of the Secretary's Advisory Group. The purpose of the meeting is to allow the SAB and study leadership to provide advice to the Secretary on short and long-term policy and strategy issues for the Air Force. Because classified and contractor-proprietary information will be discussed, this meeting will be closed to the public.

DATES: September 26, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Room 4E869, The Pentagon.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Major John Pernot, Air Force Scientific Advisory Board Secretariat, 1180 Air Force Pentagon, Rm 5D982, Washington DC 20330-1180, (703) 697-4811.

Pamela D. Fitzgerald,

Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-23792 Filed 9-18-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for Enhanced Training and Operations at the National Guard Training Center—Fort Indiantown Gap, PA

AGENCY: National Guard Bureau; Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The National Guard Bureau announces the availability of the ROD, which explains the decision to proceed with 11 construction and enhancement actions at the National Guard Training Center at Fort Indiantown Gap. Three of