

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Institute of Standards and Technology****Notice of Jointly Owned Invention Available for Licensing**

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce

SUMMARY: The invention listed below is jointly owned by the U.S. Government, as represented by the Department of Commerce, and the U.S. Navy. The Department of Commerce's interest in the invention is available for non-exclusive licensing, in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 207 and 37 CFR Part 404 to achieve expeditious commercialization of results of federally funded research and development.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Technical and licensing information on this invention may be obtained by writing to: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Office of Technology Partnerships, Attn: Mary Clague, Building 820, Room 213, Gaithersburg, MD 20899. Information is also available via telephone: 301-975-4188, fax 301-869-2751, or e-mail: mary.clague@nist.gov. Any request for information should include the NIST Docket number or Patent number and title for the invention as indicated below.

The invention available for licensing is:

[Docket Number 05-009US]

Title: Method of Stabilization of Functional Nanoscale Pores for Device Applications.

Abstract: The invention comprises a structure comprising a membrane of a compound spanning an aperture. The compound comprises a hydrophilic head group, an aliphatic tail group, and a polymerizable or polymerized functional group.

The invention further comprises a method of forming a structure comprising: providing a solution of a compound and a chamber comprising a partition having an aperture; placing a quantity of an aqueous liquid into the chamber, such that the liquid does not cover any part of the aperture; placing the solution on the top surface of the liquid; and raising the solution to a point above the aperture to form a membrane of the compound across the aperture. The compound comprises a hydrophilic head group and an aliphatic tail group and comprises a polymerizable functional group in an organic solvent.

Dated: September 13, 2006.

James E. Hill,

Acting Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. E6-15543 Filed 9-18-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; North Atlantic Right Whale Economic Benefit Study: Pre-test Data Collection**

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

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 November 20, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Dr. Kathryn Bisack, National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Science Center, 166 Water Street, Woods Hole, MA 02543; telephone: (508) 495-2324; or Kathryn.Bisack@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Abstract**

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) plans to conduct a pilot survey with the objective of testing a survey instrument that will be used to collect data for measuring the preferences U.S. residents have among the available management options to protect the northern right whale (*Eubalena glacialis*), which is a listed species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 35). NMFS is charged with protecting this species and has in the past and will continue to implement management actions to allow the

species to recover (69 FR 53040). Because available management options have potentially different socioeconomic impacts, it is important to understand the public's attitudes towards potential impacts on northern right whales and the fishing and shipping industries. This information is currently not available, yet is an additional socioeconomic component critical for improvement of the planning and evaluation of effective protection measures for northern right whales.

The pilot instrument will present the latest information on northern right whales, current population levels, probabilities of extinction, alternative management options, and likely impacts of management options. The survey is expected to ask respondents for information regarding their knowledge and opinions on northern right whale conservation, and on the potential impacts of management options available to protect the species. Additional standard social-demographic information needed to classify respondents will also be obtained. The pilot pre-test will gather a sufficient number of responses to evaluate the information, presentation, reliability, internal consistency, response variability, and other properties of a newly developed survey. The results from these pre-test activities will be used to make improvements to the survey instrument.

A second **Federal Register** Notice will appear when the final survey is to be conducted. Ultimately, final survey results may provide information on the economic benefits of right whale protection. These results may supplement other materials to allow one to evaluate alternative protection measures. Such information may be used in an analysis to determine whether the benefits of stronger protection measures (i.e., right whale benefits) are commensurate with the costs.

II. Method of Collection

Two modes are being considered, mail and the Internet; however, we are more likely to use mail as the method of collection.

III. Data

OMB Number: None.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 200.

Estimated Time Per Response: 35 minutes.