

(PRC) with the final determination in the companion antidumping investigation.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 28, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sean Carey or Gene Calvert, AD/CVD Operations, Office 6, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone: (202) 482-3964 and (202) 482-3586, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

BACKGROUND:

On November 28, 2007, the Department initiated the countervailing duty and antidumping duty investigations on sodium nitrite from the PRC. *See Sodium Nitrite from the People's Republic of China: Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigation*, 72 FR 68568 (December 5, 2007) and *Sodium Nitrite from the Federal Republic of Germany and the People's Republic of China: Initiation of Antidumping Duty Investigations*, 72 FR 68563 (December 5, 2007). The countervailing duty and antidumping duty investigations have the same scope with regard to the subject merchandise covered. On April 11, 2008, the Department published the preliminary affirmative countervailing duty determination pertaining to sodium nitrite from the PRC. *See Sodium Nitrite from the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination*, 73 FR 19816 (April 11, 2008). On April 14, 2008, counsel for petitioner (General Chemical LLC) submitted a letter, in accordance with section 705(a)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), requesting alignment of the final countervailing duty determination with the final determination in the companion antidumping duty investigation of sodium nitrite from the PRC.

Therefore, in accordance with section 705(a)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(4), we are aligning the final countervailing duty determination on sodium nitrite from the PRC with the final determination in the companion antidumping duty investigation of sodium nitrite from the PRC. The final countervailing duty determination will be issued on the same date as the final antidumping duty determination, which is currently scheduled to be issued on June 30, 2008.

This notice is issued and published pursuant to section 705(a)(1) of the Act.

Dated: April 18, 2008.

David M. Spooner,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. E8-9224 Filed 4-25-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Permit Family of Forms

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 June 27, 2008.

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 Dianne Stephan, (978) 281-9260 or Dianne.Stephan@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Under the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is responsible for management of the Nation's marine fisheries. In addition, NMFS must comply with the United States' obligations under the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act of 1975 (16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*). NMFS issues permits to fishing vessels and dealers in order to collect the information necessary to comply with domestic and international obligations, secure compliance with regulations, and disseminate necessary information.

Current regulations at 50 CFR 635.4 require that vessels participating in commercial and recreational fisheries for Atlantic highly migratory species (HMS), and dealers purchasing Atlantic HMS from a vessel, obtain a Federal permit issued by NMFS. Current regulations at 50 CFR 300.182 require that individuals entering for consumption, exporting, or re-exporting consignments of bluefin tuna, southern bluefin tuna, swordfish, or frozen bigeye tuna obtain an HMS International Trade Permit (ITP) from NMFS. This action addresses the renewal of permit applications currently approved under Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control No. 0648-0327, including vessel permits for Atlantic tunas, HMS charter/headboats, HMS angling, swordfish (directed, incidental, and hand gear), sharks (directed and incidental); dealer permits for the purchase of swordfish, sharks, and Atlantic tunas from vessels; and the HMS ITP.

II. Method of Collection

Applications for Atlantic Tunas, HMS Angling, and HMS Charter/Headboat Vessel Permits may be submitted online at <http://www.hmspermits.gov>, mailed, or faxed. All other applications including dealer permits and other vessel permits must be mailed.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0327.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 40,810.

Estimated Time per Response: 5 minutes for the HMS ITP application, initial and renewal Shark and Swordfish Dealer Permit applications, and renewal Atlantic Tunas Dealer Permit application; 6 minutes for renewal application for the following vessel permits: Atlantic Tunas, HMS Charter/Headboat, and HMS Angling; 15 minutes for initial Atlantic Tunas Dealer Permit application; 20 minutes for initial and renewal shark and swordfish vessel permit applications; and 30 minutes for initial applications for the following vessel permits: Atlantic Tunas, HMS Charter/Headboat, and HMS Angling.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 8,571.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$1,239,374.

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: April 23, 2008.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E8-9213 Filed 4-25-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XG96

Incidental Takes of Marine Mammals During Specified Activities; Shallow Hazard and Site Clearance Surveys in the Chukchi Sea in 2008

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

ACTION: Notice; proposed incidental take authorization; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS has received an application from the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation (ASRC) Energy Services (AES) for an Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) to take small numbers of marine mammals, by harassment, incidental to conducting shallow hazard and site clearance surveys in the Chukchi Sea between July and November 2008. Under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), NMFS is requesting comments on its proposed IHA for these activities.

DATES: Comments and information must be received no later than May 28, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the application should be addressed to P. Michael Payne, Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-

West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3225. The mailbox address for providing email comments is PR1.0648XG96@noaa.gov. NMFS is not responsible for e-mail comments sent to addresses other than the one provided here. Comments sent via e-mail, including all attachments, must not exceed a 10-megabyte file size.

A copy of the application containing a list of the references used in this document may be obtained by writing to the address specified above, telephoning the contact listed below (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**), or visiting the internet at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/permits/incidental.htm>.

Documents cited in this notice may be viewed, by appointment, during regular business hours, at the aforementioned address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Shane Guan, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 713-2289, ext 137.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Sections 101(a)(5)(A) and (D) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) direct the Secretary of Commerce to allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region if certain findings are made and either regulations are issued or, if the taking is limited to harassment, a notice of a proposed authorization is provided to the public for review.

Authorization shall be granted if NMFS finds that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s) and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for certain subsistence uses, and if the permissible methods of taking and requirements pertaining to the mitigation, monitoring and reporting of such takings are set forth. NMFS has defined "negligible impact" in 50 CFR 216.103 as "...an impact resulting from the specified activity that cannot be reasonably expected to, and is not reasonably likely to, adversely affect the species or stock through effects on annual rates of recruitment or survival."

Section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA established an expedited process by which citizens of the United States can apply for an authorization to incidentally take small numbers of marine mammals by harassment. Except with respect to certain activities not

pertinent here, the MMPA defines "harassment" as:

any act of pursuit, torment, or annoyance which (i) has the potential to injure a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild [Level A harassment]; or (ii) has the potential to disturb a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild by causing disruption of behavioral patterns, including, but not limited to, migration, breathing, nursing, breeding, feeding, or sheltering [Level B harassment].

Section 101(a)(5)(D) establishes a 45-day time limit for NMFS review of an application followed by a 30-day public notice and comment period on any proposed authorizations for the incidental harassment of marine mammals. Within 45 days of the close of the comment period, NMFS must either issue or deny issuance of the authorization.

Summary of Request

On March 25, 2008, NMFS received an application from AES for the taking, by Level B harassment, of several species of marine mammals incidental to conducting shallow hazard and site clearance surveys in the Chukchi Sea for up to 100 days from approximately July 1, 2008 until November 30, 2008. The marine surveys would take place in the Chukchi Sea covering the area involved in Minerals Management Service (MMS) Lease Sale 193. The exact locations of proposed surveys would be determined when Lease Sale 193 is final and leases have been awarded to successful bidders. The marine surveys will be performed from a seismic vessel.

Description of the Specified Activity

Shallow hazard and site clearance surveys involve geophysical data collection and interpretation that result in the characterization of potentially hazardous conditions at or below the seafloor. These data are vital not only when planning for the design and construction of a facility, but also to assure that all associated activities are completed safely. The proposed marine surveys are designed to identify and map hazards in the Chukchi Sea using the following methods: seafloor imaging, bathymetry, and high resolution seismic profiling.

Seafloor Imagery

Seafloor imagery would use a side-scan sonar, which is a sideward looking, two channel, narrow beam instrument that emits a sound pulse and listens for its return. The sound energy transmitted is in the shape of a cone that sweeps the sea floor resulting in a two dimensional image that produces a detailed representation of the seafloor and any features or objects on it. The sonar can