

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Panel, which consists of a balanced representation from academia, industry, state government and citizens groups, was established in 1976 by Section 209 of the Sea Grant Improvement Act (Public Law 94-461, 33 U.S.C. 1128). The Panel advises the Secretary of Commerce and the Director of the National Sea Grant College Program with respect to operations under the Act, and such other matters as the Secretary refers to them for review and advice. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

*Tuesday, April 6, 2004*

1 p.m.—6 p.m.  
1 p.m.—Welcoming and Opening Remarks  
1:15 p.m.—New Officers Election  
1:30 p.m.—Executive Committee Report  
1:45 p.m.—National Sea Grant Office (NSGO) Director Report  
2:15 p.m.—Panel Strategy Discussion  
3:30 p.m.—Break  
3:45 p.m.—Communications Review Report  
5:30 p.m.—Old Panel Business  
6 p.m.—Adjourn

*Wednesday, April 7, 2004*

8:45 a.m.—3 p.m.  
8:45 a.m.—New Panel Business  
9 a.m.—NOAA Research Assistant Administrator Update  
9:45 a.m.—NOAA Ocean Service Deputy Administrator Update  
10:15 a.m.—Break  
10:30 a.m.—Congressional Reports  
11:30 a.m.—Sea Grant Association Report  
12 noon—Lunch  
1 p.m.—NSGO Update  
1:30 p.m.—Consortium for Oceanographic Research and Education (CORE) Report  
2 p.m.—NSGO Update (continued)  
2:30 p.m.—Wrap-up  
3 p.m.—Adjourn

This meeting will be open to the public.

Dated: March 12, 2004.

**Louisa Koch,**

*Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research.*

[FR Doc. 04-6023 Filed 3-16-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-KA-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 031204C]

### Marine Mammals; File No. 350-1739

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Receipt of application.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Brendan Kelly, Ph.D., University of Alaska Southeast, 11120 Glacier Highway, Juneau, Alaska 99801, has applied in due form for a permit to take ringed seals (*Phoca hispida*) for purposes of scientific research.

**DATES:** Written, telefaxed, or e-mail comments must be received on or before April 16, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** The application and related documents are available for review 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 Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668; phone (907)586-7221; fax (907)586-7249.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application should be mailed 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 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 email comments is *NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov*. Include in the subject line of the e-mail comment the following document identifier: File No. 350-1739.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Amy Sloan or Ruth Johnson, (301)713-2289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216).

The applicant proposes to study site fidelity, behavior, and the ecological significance of home ranges of ringed seals in the Prudhoe Bay, Alaska region of the Beaufort Sea. This will be accomplished through capturing, genetics sampling, and tagging with

flipper and VHF tags up to 50 ringed seals per year. Of these, up to 15 seals would have satellite tags attached, 10 would have sonic transmitters attached, and 10 would have video cameras attached. The applicant requests a five-year permit.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an initial determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: March 12, 2004.

**Amy C. Sloan,**

*Acting Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*  
[FR Doc. 04-6050 Filed 3-16-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### 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:* Legal Processes.

*Form Number(s):* None.

*Agency Approval Number:* 0651-0046.

*Type of Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Burden:* 29 hours annually.

*Number of Respondents:* 157 responses per year.

*Avg. Hours Per Response:* The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 5 minutes (0.08 hours) to 1 hour to gather the necessary information, prepare the appropriate documents, and submit the required information to the USPTO.

*Needs and Uses:* This collection covers information requirements related to civil actions and claims involving current or former employees of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). The rules for these