

Conservation Plan

The conservation plan prepared by the applicant describes measures designed to monitor, minimize, and mitigate the incidental takes of ESA-listed sea turtles. The conservation plan includes limiting sampling effort in areas and times where sea turtles are likely to be present; avoiding coral and rock habitats associated with hawksbills and areas of submerged aquatic vegetation associated with green turtles; using minimal tow durations; avoiding areas of high fishing vessel activity which may attract foraging sea turtles and may increase the chance of multiple captures.

All activities will be conducted under the direct supervision of scientific parties from Virginia Tech. Sampling will not be conducted when sea turtles are observed in the area. If a sea turtle is captured, all efforts will be made to release the turtle as quickly as possible with minimal trauma. If necessary, resuscitation will be attempted as proscribed by 50 CFR 223.206. Scientific parties will be familiarized with resuscitation techniques prior to surveys, and a copy of the resuscitation guidelines will be carried aboard the vessel during survey activities. In the event resuscitation is unsuccessful, the sea turtle will be transferred to the sea turtle stranding network of the appropriate jurisdiction. Other monitoring or mitigation actions will be undertaken as required.

The applicant considered and rejected three other alternatives: Not applying for a permit; conducting the research in an area where ESA-listed species do not occur; and using different sampling gear when developing their conservation plan.

Upon a review of the application, relevant documents, public comments, and further discussions with NCDMF, NMFS found that the application met the criteria for issuance of 50 CFR 222.307(c). Permit 1529 was issued on August 17, 2005, and expires on December 15, 2011.

Dated: August 26, 2005.

Thomas C. Eagle,

Acting Chief, Marine Mammal and Turtle Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 05-17343 Filed 8-30-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 080305C]

Endangered Species; File No. 1537

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Guam Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources (DAWR), 142 Dairy Road, Mangilao, Guam 96913, has been issued a permit to take green (*Chelonia mydas*) and hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) sea turtles for purposes of scientific research.

ADDRESSES: The permit 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, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)427-2521; and

Pacific Islands Region, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Rm 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4700; phone (808)973-2935; fax (808)973-2941.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrick Opay or Ruth Johnson, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On June 3, 2005, notice was published in the *Federal Register* (70 FR 32582) that a request for a scientific research permit to take green and hawksbill sea turtles had been submitted by the above-named organization. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226).

Researchers will annually capture 63 green and 30 hawksbill sea turtles by hand or by tangle net. Turtles will be measured, flipper tagged, Passive Integrated Transponder tagged, tissue sampled, and released. A subset of individuals of each species will also have a satellite transmitter attached to their carapace. The research will gather information on turtle population size and stratification, species distribution, and health status. This information will be used to develop conservation management measures for these species. The research will occur in the waters off of Guam. The permit is issued for a 5-year period.

Issuance of this permit, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such permit (1) was applied for in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of any endangered or threatened species, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: August 26, 2005.

Stephen L. Leathery,

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

[FR Doc. 05-17344 Filed 8-30-05; 8:45 am]

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COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Notice of Meeting

The next meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts is scheduled for 15 September 2005 at 9 a.m. in the Commission's offices at the National Building Museum, Suite 312, Judiciary Square, 401 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20001-2728. Items of discussion affecting the appearance of Washington, DC, may include buildings, parks and memorials.

Draft agendas and additional information regarding the Commission are available on our Web site: <http://www.cfa.gov>. Inquiries regarding the agenda and requests to submit written or oral statements should be addressed to Thomas Luebke, Secretary, Commission of Fine Arts, at the above address or call 202-504-2200. Individuals requiring sign language interpretation for the hearing impaired should contact the Secretary at least 10 days before the meeting date.

Dated in Washington, DC, 25 August 2005.

Thomas Luebke,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 05-17322 Filed 8-30-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6330-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Negotiation of a Reciprocal Defense Procurement Memorandum of Understanding With Argentina

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Request for industry feedback regarding experience in public (defense) procurements conducted by Argentina.

SUMMARY: DoD is commencing negotiation of a Reciprocal Defense Procurement Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Argentina. DoD is soliciting input from U.S. industry that has had experience

participating in public defense procurements conducted by or on behalf of the Argentine Ministry of Defense or Armed Forces. The contemplated MOU would involve reciprocal waivers of buy-national laws by each country. This would mean that Argentina would be added to the list of "qualifying countries" in the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) and that U.S. products and services would be exempt from "Buy Argentine" laws applicable to procurements by the Argentine Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces.

DATES: Comments must be received by September 30, 2005.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments to Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, 3060 Defense Pentagon, Attn: Mr. Daniel C. Nielsen, Washington, DC 20301-3060; or by e-mail to barbara.glotfelty@osd.mil.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Barbara Glotfelty, OUSD(AT&L), Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Program Acquisition and International Contracting, Room 5E581, 3060 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3060; telephone (703) 697-9351.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Reciprocal Defense Procurement MOUs DoD has with 21 countries are signed at the level of the Secretary of Defense and his counterpart. The purpose of these MOUs is to promote rationalization, standardization, and interoperability of defense equipment with allies and friendly governments. It provides a framework for ongoing communication regarding market access and procurement matters that affect effective defense cooperation. Based on the MOU, each country affords the other certain benefits on a reciprocal basis, consistent with national laws and regulations. For 19 of the 21 MOU countries, these include evaluation of offers without applying price differentials under "Buy National" laws (e.g., the Buy American Act), and making provision for duty-free certificates.

Argentina was designated a Major Non-NATO Ally by the United States in January 1998, in recognition of its contributions to international security and peacekeeping.

The countries with which DoD has Reciprocal Defense Procurement MOUs are identified in DFARS 225.872-1. Should an MOU be concluded with Argentina, Argentina would be added to the list of qualifying countries. If, based on and in conjunction with the MOU, DoD determines that it would be inconsistent with the public interest to

apply the restrictions of the Buy American Act to the acquisition of Argentine defense equipment and supplies, Argentina would be listed in DFARS 225.872-1(a). If a determination will be made on a purchase-by-purchase basis, Argentina would be listed in DFARS 225.872-1(b).

MOUs generally include language by which the parties agree that their procurements will be conducted in accordance with certain implementing procedures. These procedures include publication of notices of proposed purchases; the content and availability of solicitations for proposed purchases; notification to each unsuccessful offeror; feedback, upon request, to unsuccessful offerors concerning the reasons they were not allowed to participate in a procurement or were not awarded a contract; and providing for the hearing and review of complaints arising in connection with any phase of the procurement process to ensure that, to the extent possible, complaints are equitably and expeditiously resolved between an offeror and the procuring activity.

While DoD has evaluated Argentine laws and regulations regarding public procurements, DoD would benefit from knowledge of U.S. industry experience in participating in Argentine public defense procurements. We are, therefore, asking U.S. firms that have participated or attempted to participate in procurements by or on behalf of Argentina's Ministry of Defense or Armed Forces to let us know if the procurements were conducted in accordance with published procedures with fairness and due process, and if not, the nature of the problems encountered.

Michele P. Peterson,
Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations System.

[FR Doc. 05-17348 Filed 8-30-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-08-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

National Security Education Board Group of Advisors Meeting

AGENCY: National Defense University.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given of a forthcoming meeting of the National Security Education Board Group of Advisors. The purpose of the meeting is to review and make recommendations to the Board concerning requirements

established by the David L. Boren National Security Education Act, Title VIII of Public Law 102-183, as amended. The National Security Education Board Group of Advisors meeting is open to the public. The delay of this notice resulted from the short time-frame needed to coordinate the schedules of the various officials whose participation was judged essential to a meaningful public discussion.

DATES: September 13, 2005.

ADDRESSES: The Academy for Educational Development, Conference Center, 8th Floor, 1825 Connecticut Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20009.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Edmond J. Collier, Director for Programs, National Security Education Program, 1101 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1210, Rosslyn P.O. Box 20010, Arlington, Virginia 22209-2248; (703) 696-1991. Electronic mail address: colliere@ndu.edu.

Dated: August 25, 2005.

Jeannette Owings-Ballard,

*OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer,
Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 05-17310 Filed 8-30-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Threat Reduction Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Department of Defense, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics).

ACTION: Notice of Advisory Committee meeting.

SUMMARY: The Threat Reduction Advisory Committee will meet in closed session on Thursday, November 3, 2005, at the Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA), and on Friday, November 4, 2005 in the Pentagon, Washington, DC.

The mission of the Committee is to advise the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) on technology security, combating weapons of mass destruction, chemical and biological defense, transformation of the nuclear weapons stockpile, and other matters related to the Defense Threat Reduction Agency's mission.

In accordance with Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix II), it has been determined that this Committee meeting concerns matters listed in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1), and that accordingly the meeting will be closed to the public.