

permit, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

December 4, 2002.

Eugene T. Nitta,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 120302B]

Marine Mammals; File No.782-1676-00

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that National Marine Mammal Laboratory, 7600 Sand Point Way N.E., BIN C15700, Seattle, WA, 98115 has been issued a permit to take Alaskan harbor seals and spotted seals 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, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)713-0376; Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668; phone (907)586-7221; fax (907)586-7249;

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 12, 2002, notice was published in the *Federal Register* (67 FR 46179) that a request for a scientific research permit to take Alaskan harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*) and spotted seals (*Phoca largha*) had been submitted by the National Marine Mammal Laboratory. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) and the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216).

Permit No. 782-1676-00 authorizes aerial surveys and live captures of harbor seals and spotted seals in Alaskan waters. Annually, 1000 seals of each species may be captured, sampled,

and released. Sampling includes measuring, weighing, flipper punch and tag, pulling vibrissae, and blood sampling. All seals will have a VHF tag applied either as a separate unit or, where possible, embedded in another type of tag. Subsets of the captured animals will also receive time-depth-recorders (TDR), satellite-linked TDRs, blubber/muscle biopsies, and/or still/video packages. The permit also authorizes the incidental harassment of an additional 3500 seals in association with capturing operations and scat collection. Over the course of the 5 year permit, 50 seals may be inadvertently captured a second time. Maximum accidental injury or mortality is three animals per species per year.

Dated: December 9, 2002.

Eugene T. Nitta,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice.

The Department of Defense has submitted to OMB for clearance, the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by January 13, 2003.

Title, Form, and OMB Number: Signature and Tally Record; DD Form 1907; OMB Number 0702-0027.

Type of Request: Reinstatement.

Number of Respondents: 130.

Responses per Respondent: 577.

Annual Responses: 75,000.

Average Burden per Response: 3 minutes.

Annual Burden Hours: 3,750.

Needs and Uses: Signature and Tally Record (STR) is an integral part of the Defense Transportation System and is used for commercial movements of all sensitive and classified material. The STR provides continuous responsibility for the custody of shipments in transit and requires each person responsible for the proper handling of the cargo to sign their name at the time they assume responsibility for the shipment, from point of origin, and at specified stages until delivery at destination. A copy of the STR, along with other transportation

documentation, if forwarded by the carrier to the appropriate finance center for payment.

Affected Public: Business or Other For-Profit.

Frequency: On Occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to Obtain or Retain Benefits.

OMB Desk Officer: Ms. Jackie Zeiher.

Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to Ms. Zeiher at the Office of Management and Budget, Desk Officer for DoD, Room 10236, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

DOD Clearance Officer: Mr. Robert Cushing.

Written requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Cushing, WHS/DIOR, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302.

Dated: December 4, 2002.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Defense Science Board

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of Advisory Committee meeting.

SUMMARY: The Defense Science Board Task Force on Seabasing will meet in closed session on December 11-12, 2002; January 27-28, 2003; February 25-26, 2003; and March 25-26, 2003, at Strategic Analysis Inc., 3601 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA. The Task Force will assess how seabasing of expeditionary forces can best serve the nation's defense needs through at least the first half of the 21st century.

The mission of the Defense Science Board is to advise the Secretary of Defense and the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology & Logistics on scientific and technical matters as they affect the perceived needs of the Department of Defense. At these meetings, the Defense Science Board Task Force will examine the broadest range of alternatives for seabasing of expeditionary forces and be guided by: The expected naval environment for the next 20-50 years; the role of naval forces in enabling access for joint forces through the world's littorals; assets and technologies needed to establish a robust and capable